

THE DAILY MAIL

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FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1919

MR. SMITH'S DENIAL.

In the Legislature late on Thursday afternoon, Mr. B. F. Smith, one of the heroes of the patriotic potato scandal, rose to a question of privilege and gave a denial to certain statements published in the Daily Mail in connection with the McQueen report. He said that the statements that he had twice been paid for potatoes sold to the government and that he owed the province \$2,375, were untrue and he considered them a reflection on his character. It might be explained that the statements published in the Mail were in effect the finding of Commissioner McQueen, based upon evidence taken under oath. As there was no motion before the House yesterday in regard to the McQueen report, Mr. Smith did not attempt to discuss that report, but merely gave a denial to the Commissioner's findings as set forth in the Mail.

It is perhaps only fair to Mr. Smith to say that the denial that he owes the province \$2,400 on account of a shortage of potatoes on the overturn of cars at West St. John, was quite in keeping with statements he made during the Carleton county by-election of September, 1916, when he was seeking election as Minister of Public Works. At a convention in the Hayden-Gibson theatre on August 31st, 1916, when his candidature was endorsed, he was reported by the Fredericton Gleaner as saying:

"Hon. Mr. Smith explained that he had secured a large contract from the Department of Agriculture to furnish potatoes for the gifts to the mother land and Belgium, and had them furnished by the farmers of Carleton and Victoria counties. The potatoes had been purchased at \$1 per barrel and he had been allowed ten cents for loading and shipping them to West St. John. In many cases the shortage after shipment amount to 5½ cents per barrel and when he learned the exact number of cars and had figured the total amount of the shortage he had refunded the money to the Department of Agriculture. * * * Potato dealers are always responsible for the shortages, said Hon. Mr. Smith, and in the case of the shipments to Belgium and Great Britain he was responsible to the Department for any shortages that occurred and rightly refunded \$2400."

Speaking at Centreville, Carleton County, on September 7th, 1916, Mr. Smith again dealt with the potato transaction, reiterating his former statement that he had refunded the money. Here is what the Gleaner reported him as saying:

"Continuing, Hon. Mr. Smith explained that the potatoes had been purchased at a cost of \$1 per barrel, the usual ten cents commission having been allowed him by the Department of Agriculture. "I never received a cent improperly through this transaction," declared Hon. Mr. Smith amid great cheering. "When I learned that certain shortages had resulted when the potatoes were culled and sorted at St. John, I immediately sent the Department a check for \$2,400, being the amount due them for such shortages at the rate of 5½ cents per barrel. It was a purely business transaction, the same kind that I have entered into with firms in Upper Canada, and I defy anyone to show where I secured one dollar that did not rightfully belong to me. * * * This is the potato transaction in brief, and I do not feel that I have anything to be ashamed of through my connection with it."

The language used in both of his speeches was very plain and could not very well be misunderstood. At Centreville, it will be noted, Mr. Smith went a step further than in his Woodstock speech, and declared that "he sent the Department a check for the \$2,400." When testifying under oath on the witness stand before Commissioner McQueen, he frankly said: "I did not pay it back and I do not intend to pay it back." Now, this being so, the people have a right to know what became of the check for \$2,400 which he told the people of Centreville he had sent to the department.

THE WOMAN SUFFRAGE BILL IN LEGISLATURE

(Continued from page 5)

School Debentures by St. Stephen and Milltown.

It being six o'clock hon. Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Upon the House resuming after recess.

MR. HUNTER presented the petition of the municipality of York and the town councils of Marysville and Devon for the passage of an Act to establish a municipal Home.

The House went into committee with Mr. Leger (West) in the Chair, and took up consideration of the Bill to assist the Soldiers' Settlement Board.

MR. BAXTER on Section 2, which has to do with providing truck farms for disabled soldiers, wanted to know why the provision was not extended to all soldiers. He thought that the Federal Government should offer just as great inducements for the settlement of soldiers on land in the east as in the west.

HON. MR. TWEEDDALE went fully into the provisions of the bill explaining that the government was merely co-operating with the Federal authorities as represented by the Soldiers' Settlement Board. The original Act providing for assistance for returned soldiers to settle on the land, was applicable only to the West, but he had represented very strongly to the Federal authorities that New Brunswick should be included and had succeeded in having the Act amended. He said the Federal Act was being administered by a commission of three men who had their headquarters in St. John.

Mr. Mayor, the Chairman of the Board had visited the province and conferred with members of the Provincial Government. He explained that the Board wanted to protect the public against loss in connection with the settlement of soldiers and also wanted to protect the soldiers. It had been suggested that two committees be appointed to act with the Board, one composed of practical farmers who could judge of his ability to make a success of farming, and another to see that the farm selected was good value for the money. The Board had asked the Agricultural Department to consult with them in regard to conditions in the province, and to assist in carrying out the arrangements. While the bill was drafted along lines of similar legislation being enacted in other provinces, it was more explicit and comprehensive. The Saskatchewan legislature practically relegated all the authority to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. He wanted it understood that the Bill embodied a Dominion Government proposal, to aid in settling on land the men who had fought for the Empire. In his opinion the greatest benefit the Federal Government was conferring on soldiers was by assisting them to settle upon land. The men could settle down to farm life, and while they might not become wealthy, they would be pretty sure of an independent livelihood. In order to assist disabled soldiers to occupy small farms, the province was appropriating \$50,000 for the purchase of 2,000 acres of land. It was proposed to select land in the vicinity of towns and cities, and encourage the men who have been placed upon it to raise poultry, keep a few cows, and engage in truck farming.

MR. YOUNG wanted to know if the men would be given the land or if it was to be sold to them.

HON. MR. TWEEDDALE said that the applications for the land would be made to the Soldiers' Settlement Board, and the Board in turn would apply to the Government. The land would be transferred gratis, but the government would retain an equity in the same. Should the farm be abandoned after ten or twenty years, and sold by the Settlement Board, the government would then realize on its lien.

MR. TILLEY wanted to know how long the soldier had to occupy the land before he would actually own it.

HON. MR. TWEEDDALE said that the Provincial government provided the land and the Soldiers' Settlement Board did the rest. The Federal government would loan the soldier \$2,500 for twenty years at 5 per cent interest to enable him to equip his farm. In regard to Crown Lands, the Soldiers' Settlement Board would make the selection through the Department of Lands and Mines. The soldier would apply for the lots he required and make his application to the Soldiers' Settlement Board for assistance to settle upon them. If a soldier had applied for 100 acres of land before going overseas it would be only necessary for him, upon his return, to prove his status as a soldier, when the land would be turned over to him by the Department without any conditions attached. He would then go to the Soldiers' Settlement Board and ask for assistance to enable him to clear the land and build a house. In cases of that kind no deposit would be asked by the Department of Lands and Mines. In the case of a man who had made an application for Crown Land and had died overseas, his widow would be given the grant.

MR. BAXTER said that while the hon. minister had spoken at considerable length, he had failed to convey the information that he (Baxter) had asked for. What he had asked for was information as to why the land to be granted for truck farming was limited only to disabled soldiers. He would like the hon. Premier to give him the information.

HON. MR. FOSTER said that the terms of the bill had been fully explained for the benefit of the Committee by the Minister of Agriculture. There were three ways to assist the returned soldiers, by granting land, giving him money, or loaning money. A gift of money was out of the question, and the Dominion government was making loans, and the provincial government proposed to provide land. They had felt that they should go a little farther in the case of the disabled soldier. He (the Premier) felt that the disabled soldier was deserving of more consideration than the man who was well and strong, but the Dominion government thought that only one principle could be applied. He had pointed out the different conditions prevailing in the east and of the necessity of retaining our young men. That was one of the reasons why in the proposed legislation they were going further than the other provinces. The Government was purchasing improved land, and would give it to Returned Soldiers absolutely free.

Affirmative Won Debate

The March meeting of the Older Boys C. S. E. T. groups took place Wednesday night at Brunswick Street Baptist Church. The programme consisted of a debate followed by refreshments and music. The subject debated was: "Resolved that Canada should have a national education system in place of the present provincial systems." The affirmative was argued by Messrs Booth, Roberts and Donovan of Brunswick Street "Les Etoiles" group while Messrs Williams, Hobkirk and Lee of St. Anne's "Pioneers" supported the negative. The judges Dr. Jones, Mr. C. D. Richards and Prof. Stiles gave a decision in favor of the affirmative. Mr. Alden Clark was chairman and Messrs Gregg and Tennant time-keepers. The April meeting will be held at the Methodist Church when the older boys' group of that church will be hosts.

The Legislature has settled down to the real work of the session. Yesterday a number of important bills were put through the committee stage, including one to provide for the settlement of returned soldiers on land, and a bill to amend the Highway Act. The bill to grant the franchise to women, one of the most important pieces of legislation since Confederation, was introduced by Hon. Mr. Byrne and given its first reading.

Why such strong talk about POST TOASTIES They're different from other corn flakes More meaty, more delicious! Why, I could fairly LIVE on them



HEART PALPITATED COULD COUNT EVERY BEAT.

When the heart begins to palpitate it will beat fast for several seconds, then slow, then start to flutter, and a feeling of utter depression will come over your whole system, accompanied by weak, fainting and dizzy spells.

When the heart gets into this condition, you become weak, worn and miserable, and are unable to attend to either social, business or household duties.

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills will give prompt and permanent relief to all sufferers from any heart weakness or nerve derangements.

Mrs. Walter Grieves, Apsley, Ont., writes:—"I had been run down, and doctors told me I was anaemic, but did not help me with their medicines. I could not sleep nights, my heart palpitated so, and I could count every beat."

I used to have such dizzy spells I would have to go to bed. I was not able to do any work for eight months. A cousin of mine had taken Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills and told me what they had done for her. I took eight boxes of them, and now I am able to help every day with the work I am so thankful to tell others what they have done for me, so that they may try this great and wonderful remedy. I hope this may prove good to some one who is suffering the way I did."

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, are 50c. a box at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

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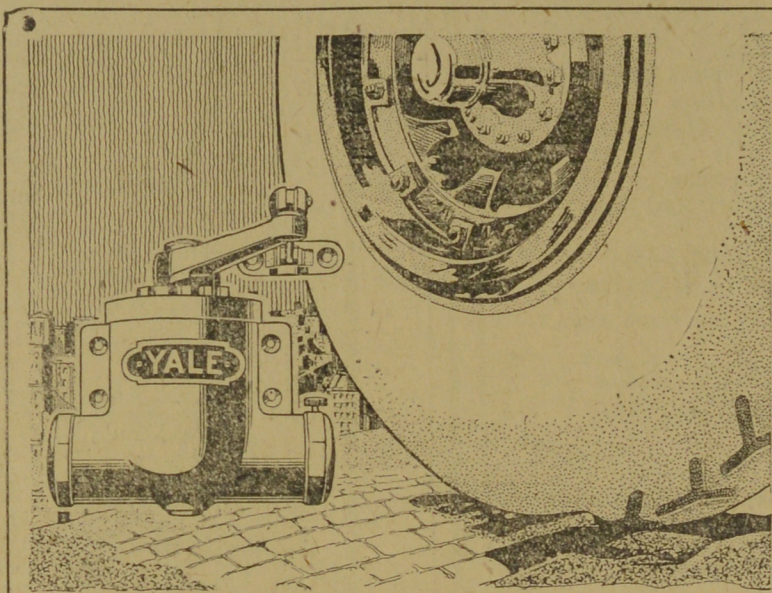
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"LEST YOU FORGET"

We wish to remind you that we are ready with a large assortment of your Housefurnishing Requirements New Scrim and Marquisette Curtains New Curtain Materials in piece goods, New Oilcloth and Linoleums, all widths. "Lino Shine" is to linoleum etc, what paint is to a house, it adds years to the wear, See our new "Anchor" Flat Curtain Extension Rods, also round Brass and Wood Poles, all sizes. Very Handsome New Cretonnes, Denims, Art Sateens, Figured Tapestries etc.

Blinds in Plain or Combination Colors. All of above lines at Rock bottom Prices. Be sure and see our lines.

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A Shock Absorber for the Door

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Simple and compact in design, the Yale Closer needs practically no attention once installed.

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INTERCOLLEGIATE DEBATE

U. N. B. vs. MOUNT ALLISON OPERA HOUSE

Friday, March 21st at 8 o'clock

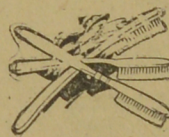
RESOLUTION: "Resolved, that our Dominion Government should nationalize all Canadian Railways."

ADMISSION—35 cents to all.

FOOD SALE

The Ladies' Aid of the Methodist Church will hold a sale of food, home-made candy and aprons on

SATURDAY, MARCH 22nd, in the building on Queen street two doors below the Queen Hotel. Everybody come.



Says the moralist, "Clean Habits."
Says the Doctor "Clean Mouths."
The dentist says, "Clean teeth."
And we say—
A GOOD TOOTH BRUSH
All shapes and sizes at

STAPLES' PHARMACY

ALONZO STAPLES, Prop.
Agency for Miller Standard Rubber Goods.

It is understood that Hon. Mr. Murray, Provincial Secretary-Treasurer, will bring down the budget in the Legislature on Tuesday of next week.

SPECIAL SALE

of Men's Shoe Packs with Soles and Heels

The Shoe House of Bargains - Regent St.

Shepherd & Haining

Shoe Repairing of all kinds

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LUNCHES AT ALL HOURS. OYSTERS IN SEASON

Orders Taken for Home Cooking.

GERTRUDE A. YOUNG Prop

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HOT WATER BOTTLES, SYRINGES, RUBBER TUBING, Parts for FOUNTAIN SYRINGES—Everything in SURGICAL RUBBER GOODS.

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