

THE DAILY MAIL

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MONDAY, MARCH 24, 1919

THE POTATO SCANDAL.

The St. John Globe, an independent paper, in commenting on the shocking disclosures made in connection with the potato scandal, roundly condemns the strong-arm methods and trickery of the late government and its emissaries. It says:

"An outstanding, an all-important fact to keep uppermost in mind in all discussion of the patriotic potato and Valley Railroad investigation reports is that the heavy financial loss incurred by careless and bad, if not actually dishonest business methods pursued in sending New Brunswick's gift of food to the people of Belgium, produced a financial loss. To conceal this loss, to permit the people learning how carelessly, how incompetently this gift had been dealt with, and to conceal as well personal financing between the responsible minister and his department agent, a plan was evolved to cover up the whole matter, to hide the loss, to falsify the records, to deny the truth and to explain, if explanations were demanded, with statements that were misstatements. Those responsible for the admitted loss were not called upon to make good, nor did they make good. THE MONEY THAT WAS TO COVER UP THE LOSS, CONCEAL THE FACTS AND PREVENT THE TRUTH EVER BEING KNOWN, CAME DIRECTLY OUT OF THE PUBLIC TREASURY THROUGH A BARGAIN WITH A CONTRACTOR'S AGENT THAT HE WOULD PAY IF GIVEN A PUBLIC CONTRACT. He and his partners got the contract, the loss was paid before even a dollar of money had been earned on that contract. When the searching probe of a royal commission threatened exposure of this arrangement, the contractor boldly went to a friend in the government and not only demanded, but received money for a second and further concealing operation. He got the money. Some of it has since been paid off. As bold as the money demand is his declaration that those who made the advance better refrain from any attempt to recover until he is ready to pay. These are sworn facts of the potato and Valley Railroad scandals. They are not in situations, innuendoes, partisan conclusions or anything of that kind. They are the solid basic facts, the facts to remember. They show that a dirty despicable transaction the government of the day had not the moral courage to admit was concealed by another and equally dirty agreement, which, when exposure again threatened, forced a second concealing bargain. In the face of these revelations, all talk of the province having lost nothing is the veriest claptrap. The province lost actual money. The honor of the province was dragged through the mire, and the good name of the province made a by-word. Any and all discussion of other features of the investigations, any and all insinuations of partisanship, of unfairness by the commissioner, are merely camouflage to detract attention from the admissions made by the parties concerned in their sworn testimony. It is the sworn evidence of Daggett and Tennant and Murray and Jones and Sumner and Baxter which establish the three facts THAT THERE WAS A POTATO LOSS, THAT IT WAS COVERED BY THE VALLEY RAILROAD BARGAIN AND AGAIN COVERED BY THE ADVANCES TO TENNANT."

The Globe's article contains nothing but the absolute truth, and no amount of bluster and camouflage on the part of the Opposition politicians and their organs can becloud the issue. Abuse of Commissioner McQueen will not restore the sum of \$61,500 wrongfully taken from the provincial treasury.

The St. John Standard believes "that the Conservative party throughout New Brunswick will unitedly support the men now libelled by the shameful miscarriage of justice which the McQueen report represents." The Standard in 1917 was firmly of the opinion that the Conservative party of New Brunswick would condone the acts of political rascality pulled off under the auspices of the old government, but it

had a rude awakening when the votes were counted. There are thousands of men in the Conservative party who do not relish the idea of being led by men whom they should drive.

The St. John Standard, several of whose directors were badly involved in the potato transaction, does not think that there is any disposition among members of the Conservative party throughout the province to censure these gentlemen for the part they have taken in the potato transaction. Of course not. The gentlemen who are so roundly condemned by Commissioner McQueen all lent a hand in whitewashing Flemming after he had been condemned by a royal commission, and one good turn deserves another.

Many people who have read the evidence in the potato enquiry and the report of Commissioner McQueen based upon the same, must wonder what would have happened had the old government succeeded in obtaining a new lease of power.

THROUGH OUR SIEVE

A can for every Spartan seems to be the German policy.

Nobody knows why men live long; if it could be known, everybody would.

An American soldier at Coblenz reports the first robin. Anyhow it made him feel at home to spring that one.

Neglect is bad enough, but the solicitude of those one dislikes is infinitely worse.

To find a valuable pearl in an oyster would be an excellent example of shell shock.

A woman will forgive a man almost anything—except the fact that he outwitted her at her own game.

Recipes for making carrot marmalade are still going the rounds of the press. But there is no law that compels you to even try it once.

There is generally a family in every neighborhood which furnishes all the amusement for the others—and does not know it.

Your best friend may believe a story against you, but being your friend he thinks you're "just all right, anyhow."

An ardent suffragist on a farm is as rare a sight as a chum in town. Farm women usually submit to letting pa run things.

No girl is happy in the traditional way if she continues to say her prayers during her engagement. After marriage she begins again.

It is not pleasant to solicit contributions to any kind of fund, charitable or otherwise. That is why it so much resembles duty in its most familiar form.

Just explain to the hens that they must not give up making shells just because the war is over.

PERSONAL

Major H. H. Donnelly spent the week end in St. John.

Mr. E. A. Bell of Halifax is at the Queen Hotel.

E. J. Ross of St. John is at the Barker House.

Mr. P. A. Edington who accompanied the body of his wife here from Edmonton left this morning for Moncton where he will visit his home before returning to the west.

Mr. John M. Wiley is confined to his home by a severe cold.

Mrs. Lydia J. Walter the Boston hygiene operator of Caribou, Me., who has been in the city left Saturday morning for Woodstock and will return later.

Death of Aged Citizen

The death occurred last evening at his home in this city of James Peacock aged eighty-two years. The deceased was a native of Ireland coming to this country in his youth. He is survived by three sons James of Keswick, Samuel of Stanley, and Elias W. of this city, and by two daughters, Mrs. D. D. Hossack and Mrs. Walter Gallagher of this city. The remains will be taken to Stanley by C. N. R. tomorrow morning interment being made at Williamsburg tomorrow afternoon at three o'clock.

Rev. Mr. McPherson will conduct the service. A short service will be conducted tonight at 8.30 by Rev. J. S. Sutherland at the late residence of the deceased 337 Aberdeen Street.

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LOCAL NEWS

Two Drunks Fined

One drunk was brought before the Police Magistrate and on making a deposit was allowed to go. A second man was brought up charged with being drunk and having liquor in his possession. He was fined five dollars or twenty days in jail for being drunk and fifty dollars or three months in jail for having intoxicating liquor in his possession.

Conducted Inspection

Major George Keefe, Inspector and Organizer of the New Brunswick Cadet Corps, inspected the students of the Provincial Normal School on Saturday in physical training. Major Keefe spoke very highly of the work of Mr. A. S. McFarlane in preparing the students for their examination and stated that the examination had been very successful.

To Reopen the Church

The congregation of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church which has been using the Fraser Memorial Hall for divine service during the winter will return to the church proper on Sunday next. This announcement was made by Pastor Sutherland from the pulpit yesterday and he also announced that the new hymn books would be used on the first Sunday in May.

At Clifton Springs

Wodstock Press: Hon. J. K. Flemming, Mrs. Flemming and their daughter Mildred H. Stairs are spending a month or more at the Sanitarium, Clifton Springs, New York. Hon. Mr. Flemming is under the doctor's care on account of the recurrence of his old trouble, anaemia, but he has hopes that he will find help there, as he did on a former occasion.

Has Removed to Fredericton

Mr. John F. Timmins has removed from Springfield to this city and has taken up his residence at 304 Regent Street. Mr. Timmins held the office of Deputy Sheriff of York County for several years and is well known in this city and throughout the county. Prior to being appointed Deputy Sheriff he was a member of the County Council for several terms. His health which was very bad for a while has considerably improved.

Cook's Cotton Root Compound.

A pure, reliable regulating medicine. Sold in three degrees of strength—No. 1, \$1; No. 2, 50¢; No. 3, 25¢ per bottle. Sold by all druggists, or sent prepaid on receipt of price. Free pamphlet. Address THE COOK MEDICINE CO. TORONTO, ONT. (Formerly Windsor)

THE REVOLUTION IN HUNGARY.

London, March 24.—The revolution in Hungary caused great excitement in Vienna, but did not surprise those who were aware of the true condition of affairs, says the Vienna report of the Telegraph. He says the communists of Hungary have long been the real masters of the country and have been only awaiting an opportunity to get rid of Count Karolyi, who is considered to have been never more than a figurehead.

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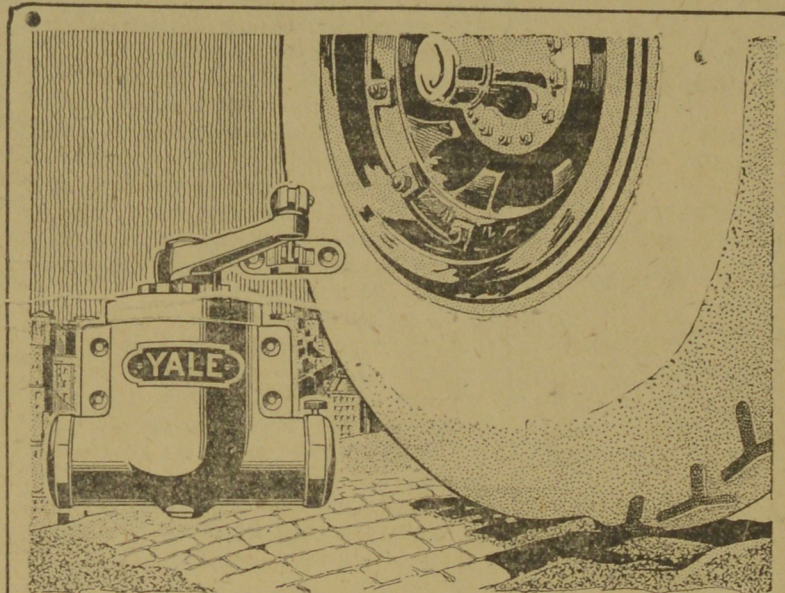
Capt. John S. Scott, of this city who has been serving in France with the Railway Construction Corps cabled yesterday that he would take passage today for home. Capt. Scott went overseas three years ago with the 115th Battalion and was transferred to the Railway Construction Corps. About the time the war ended he was promoted to the rank of captain. He sent his trunk home last week by the S. S. Corsican and it arrived in safety. This trunk has a rather interesting history. During the big Hun drive a year ago when Capt. Scott's Corps was compelled to fall back he buried his trunk to prevent it from falling into the hands of the enemy. When the British force recovered the ground last fall Capt. Scott recovered his trunk and found its contents intact.

"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.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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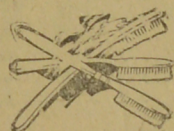
Methodist Sunday School,
 Tuesday, at 7.45 p. m.

Songs and recitations by the Children.
 Drills and Drama by the young people.
 TICKETS 25 CENTS.

LOST—A sterling silver mesh bag with sum of money, between the Parliament Buildings and Charlotte street. Finder kindly leave at the Daily Mail Office.

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."

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