THE DAILY MAIL, FREDERICTON, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1928.

AMAZING CAREER OF THE LATE MR. DAVID RUSSELL

and fantastic plan; but Russell be-(Continued from page two) we told: The building of the National lieved he could carry it thorugh. Cer-Transcontinental, as the Government's, tainly he started off with lots of Mr. Blair had come to Ottawa he felt contribution to the Grand Trunk Paci- money ,as I can say from personal fic scheme, meant an expenditure of observation.

that rich pie. The only way they A. G. Blair was given out to the press to purchase the St. John Telegraph to get control of the Government by La Presse newspaper in Montreal had proper about this. David Russell was to do this was in the last degree dar. by Russell; but it was clearly under- own name. He had Mr. Blair's confid-(which he failed to do.)

and stump the country. Certain in- back to Mr. Berthiaume. fluential and independent French Canadian newspapers in Montreal and elsewhere were to be bought up and

others of the Liberal faith were also never took the platform. David Rus- the paper. to be acquired. A chain of papers was sell wrote out Mr. Blair's resignation to be formed from coast to coast, and in his own hand, and gave out the was through fear; and my own im- sell knew this and traded upon it. Fur- yearned to do it in vindication of my at a given signal were to turn their announcement to the press. Mr. pression is that keeping his mouth thermore, Mr. Blair had given Rus- old chief. guns against Laurier. A number of Blair, however, remained silent and shut, then and subsequently, had a sell a purely friendly and non-com-Liberal candidates were to be bought in seclusion. Why he did not repudiate great deal to do with his death a few mital letter to aid him in selling to thorw up their hands on nomina- the statement given out remained a years later. Mr. Blair knew Russel, Abbey's Salt stock. The letter had tion day when it would be too late to mystery to many of Mr. Blair's and it must have been the supreme been misused, and there again the facprevent Conservative acclamations. friends; but I can throw light on the humiliation of his life to read the daily tor of fear came in. Mr. Blair wished Campaign funds were to be on an un matter, and in justice to a really great announcements in 1904 of what he to avoid any unpleasant revelations. precedental scale and it was assumed and honorable man, my old and es- was going to do without being able v/ Everything could have been quite that this suggestion of a Liberal de- teemed chief, I take this, my first open his lips. I am convinced that easily explained, but Mr. Blair had Chestnut, city clerk and treasurer bacle would stampede the country. opportunity of doing so. I could not he would have thrown personal con- political enemies. Finally, he was who was a very painstaking official. From the very start this was a wild while David Russell was alive.



Mr. Blair was afraid of . Russell capable of being exceedingly vind-

the need of an adequate political or

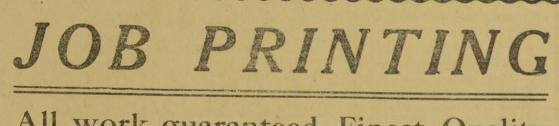
an operators who wanted a finger in days before the resignation of Hon. them they made up a sufficient sum could make sure of the contract was by Russell, the purchase of the La There was nothing unusual or im- in a favorable position to know. standing with the Conservativ party, The negotiations were carried out by Blair thought it was a mere prank; friends, and of which he was the trus- been cleared up.

tee. Of course, the Minister could not

truth; but he had to think of his loyal and exposures by Russell would have political friends and how Russell's disclosures would affect them. Mr Blair therefore stands out as a set sacrificing hero and my chief object in writing this sketch is to clear his letter of introduction in connection name of the suspicions which may have arisen in 1904 because of 1

Something Went Wrong

to put up several million dollars. apart from the money necessary for the purchase of the newspapers; but



What Actually Happened

when Russell was unable to obtain other incidents in his meteoric life. And for very good reasons. While the required political assurance from He undoubtedly had the genius of bebig-hearted and kindly, Russell was the man, or men, who alone could ing able to make money, and that is give it, the American schemers quite a considerable gift. What he seems cative; and in such a mood he had no naturally held back the cash. They to have lacked with the genius of bescruples. The story of the St. John must have put up a lot before reach- ing able to keep it. I should say with-Telegraph will make that plain. After ing that decision; for the general out hesitation that between 1898 and election of 1904 is still talked about in 1908, the ten fatal years to which New Brunswick as the most expensive Mr. Blair had alluded in his prognosis, gan in New Brunswick. His friends in the history of the province. As a more than a million of money had \$165,000,000. There were big Ameri- As a matter of fact, just a few came to know of this, and among matter of fact, the so-called "Russell passed through his hands which he money" was both stolen and wasted could have called his own.

Yet David Rusell died poor. During right and left. I was on the spot, and that busy decade he had emerged What happened in Kent County is from obscurity into national prominwinning the election. Russell's plan actually taken place. This was done made the trustee of the stock in his an illustration. A well-known St. ence. He had hobnobbed with big men John man was sent up by Russell here and elsewhere. He had achieved ing, and it seemed to some of my far- stood by Mr. Treffle Berthiaume, the ence. One day the manager telegraph- with \$7,000. Two or three days be- what the world would call success. seeing friends doomed to failure un- owner, that the paper should remain ed Mr. Blair that Russell had taken fore the election the long distance How he did it was always a mystery less he succeeded in getting an under- independent. The price was \$750,000. possession of the paper. At first Mr. wire grew hot with calls to know when to me; for outside of sharp business the promised money was coming. The ideas he had the mind of a fifteen year or at least with Sir Robert Borden Mr. Arthur Dansereau, who received but when he sent for Russell that gen- go-between swore he had delivered it. old schoolboy. One forgot that, howa commission of \$25,000. Mr. Berth- tleman showed his teeth. He produced to the Tory leader in Kent; but this ever, in his sunny presence and in iaume received the first payment of a statement of claim equalling the was rigorously denied. The cash had contact with his good-heartedness. He Be that as it may, his scheme was \$250,000, but before the second in- capital stock of the company, every therefore to be sent up a second time, was one of the most likeable men I as foilows: Hon. A. G. Blair was to stalment came due, Sir William Mac- item of which was made up of the con- and to this day the matter of what be- ever know. I think his weak spot resign from the Railway Commission kenzie bought La Presse and sold it tributions from Mr. Blair's political came of the first payment has not should be identified as his lack of lovalty; for it was Mr. Blair who made

There were other reasons why my him, and it was Mr. Blair's heart he fight, and he threw up his hands. Rus- old chief remained silent. In the first ruthlessly broke in the end. The cynic Hon. A. G. Blair did resign; but he sell kept the stock, and ultimately sold place, he was always exceedingly will be disposed to say he paid for it. sensitive as to the feelings of his fam- Poor Dave! While he lived I could cil would mean a saving of \$1800 per This explains Mr. Blair's silence. It ily. He did not want a scandal. Rus- not tell this story, even though I year

LAST REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

(Continued on page seven) siderations to the wind and told the much attached to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, The city had been fortunate in securing in Messrs. Haviland and Colter efficient men to take his place.

He wanted the retiring aldermen I have said that Mr. Blair had given Messrs Davidson and Richards to Russell a perfectly innocent general accept his best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year with the sale of Abbey stock. I have Ald. Currier.

also said that Russell was a business Ald. Currier regretted that Ald his skill. There were two brothers Davidson had found it necessary to John L. Foster, son of the late Elias wizard. A little story will illustrate who had tendered on a large govern- retire from the ranks. As a member and Anne Foster, occurred at his home Moreover, something happened at ment contract. Russell went to see of the roads and streets committee at North Lake, York County, Friday. the American end of this audacious them, and found that one of them was Ald. Davidson had always stood for Mr. Foster was 76 years of age and scheme to capture the National in Montreal. He convinced the brother what was best in the interests of had been a resident of North Lake Transcontinental contract. It was at home that the fate of the tender the city. He (Currier) had confisaid that the New York syndicate was hung on his taking a generous allot dence in the new men who had been a blacksmith and repair shop. For ment of stock, and sold him a block chosen and felt sure that they would of \$10,000 worth. Then he hurried take their places in the family, with back to Montreal, looked up the other reference to the roads and streets brother, without saying anything department he would say that while Mrs. Joseph Whitcomb, Boston; Mrs. about what had already been done the assessment had been reduced by Harve Boone, Mrs. William Boone, and sold him another \$10,000 worth. \$8,000 they had found it impossible Russel told me this himself, and was because of conditions over which of North Lake, and Mrs. Harry Lound-

These things came to Mr. Blair's without incurring a deficit of be- Sedence and Elias, at home. ears and he was naturally timid, estween \$4000 and \$5000. A report pecially after the St. John Telegraph It was in that state of mind from the city engineer on what had he had to face Russell's high-handed been done would soon be available tactics in 1904, and to such a main, to the citizens. He hoped that the thinkin first of his family and next city would be able to carry on with-

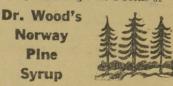
PAGE THREE

She Coughed **Night and Day Could Not Sleep**

Mrs. Leonard Haywood, Victoria Corner, N.B., writes:--- 'Last fall I took an awful cold which I caught while driving in an open car on a cold

"I coughed night and day, could not sleep at night, and my eyes ran water so that I could hardly see a thing.

"My husband got me a bottle of



and before I had taken the whole of it my cold had disappeared."

"Dr. 'Wood's" has been on the market for the past 29 years; price 35c. a bottle, large family size 60c.; put up only by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

Ald. Davidson.

Ald. Davidson in acknowledging the vote of thanks stated that the reduction in the cost of street lighting brought about by the late coun-

It was decided that the new council should meet on Monday evening next to be shown in and elect the sanding committees for the ensuing

On motion of Ald. Mitchell the council adjourned sine die.

Prior to the regular meeting the council met in committee and passed the monthly accounts.

J.L. FUSIER OF PASSES AWAY

Canterbury, Jan. 1-The death of many years he was connected with the school board, and also was justice of the peace for that parish

He is survived by six daughters Mrs. Frank Wood, Mrs. Emery Farrell, they had no control to carry on er Vanceboro, Maine, also two sons



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of his frien that it could be done by adopting a course to take.

Success and Failure.

operated adversely to the Liberal

chieftain in the political sense.

very proud of it.

policy of pay as you go. Ald. Goodspeed.

Ald. Thompson.

Soon after Rusesll had begun his Ald. Goodspeed endorsed the sentioperation in Abbey's Salt, Mr. Blair ments expressed in regard to the said to me one day. "Within ten years retiring aldermen. They were both Dave will be either one of Canada's good men and would be greatly big moneyed men or a pauper." I missed at the board. The street lightasked him which he thought it would ing service had been improved at a be. He paused, and then said: "Ap-plying the standard tests, I fear it will be the latter." He was both right done on the roads and streets and and wrong. Russell died in compara- no citizen would find fault if there tive poverty; but he had reached a were an overdraft in that departbig place in the business scheme, and ment. He thought that conditions had made a lot of money. His Water- were much better than was the case loo came when he was on the road to two years ago and Ald. Currier and new heights. Somewhere in his make- the city engineer were deserving of much credit for the change up there was a defective part.

He did not love money, as I have said. He threw it about as if it had Ald. Thompson said that he was no value. He was generous to a fault. sorry that two aldermen were retir-But he loved the game. He was in ing but good men had been chosen toxicated by success, although suc to succeed them. In his opinion a cess did not change his nature. It lot of credit for the improvement merely intensified his fatal confidence brought about in the administration in himself. And in the final issue his of civic affairs was due to His Wor weak spot brought about his ruin. ship the Mayor, the man at the the heart to try a comeback. Yet in Once down, he seems to have lacked some of his recent letters to me he preciated the work of His Worship. revealed all that acuteness of mind Ald Hay also regretted the retirewhich had enabled him to master big ment of Alds. Richards and Davidproblems and carry out large under. son whom he thought had done good work. He wished to congratulate His takings. Worship the Mayor and the alder-

Went to Smash.

He never told me why he left Mont- men who had been returned by acreal and settled down in Toronto; but clamation. He was inclined to think think I know. The Abbey's Salt that it had been a surprise to his business had gone to pieces, and, in colleague, Ald. Michell who had exother hands than Russell's, was repected t obe opposed. On his motion organized by wiping out 95 per cent a vote of thanks was extended to of the old stock. Russell had had the retiring aldermen. large transactions with Messrs. Mac- His Worship in putting the motion Kenzie & Mann, and when he fell on remarked that thanks was the only

evil times I fancy his old friends took remuneration that the aldermen recare of him. If so, the fact explains ceived for their services,

harmonize with the occasion" Beau Brummell If your wardrobe does not contain the correct clothes for evening wear you will have to remain

a w a y from functions where evening dress is being worn. Let us tailor your formai clothes at once. "Tailors Of Quality" Walker Bros., hone 276-41. Ltd. TAILORS SOS QUEEN STREET