

## The Daily Mail

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at No. 613 Queen Street, Fredericton, by THE MAIL PRINTING COMPANY.  
Telephone No. .... 67

Fredericton, N. B., February 21, 1913

## MR. CROCKET'S EMERGENCY

Mr. Oswald Smith Crockett, M.P., has made the discovery that the empire is in danger and he has done bravely to its defence with one of his justly celebrated Marathon speeches. In order that his friends and supporters here might be warned of the peril which confronts them, the member for York lost no time in wiring a full report of his utterances to this city and the same was reproduced by the Tory organ in large type, double column measure. To make the warning more impressive the organ trotted out a picture of Mr. Crockett which had been in cold storage since the federal campaign of 1911. What ever doubts the people of this section may have had in regard to the existence of an emergency must now be banished forever. Mr. Crockett tells us there is an emergency and it must be so. The fact that he has broken his sphinx-like silence of fifteen months is in itself proof that something out of the ordinary is on the carpet. Happily the watchfulness and patriotism of our representative at Ottawa has saved us this time but it was a mighty close call.

There has long been a suspicion even among Mr. Crockett's political friends that he was harboring a grudge against his political leaders and mankind in general because of a certain notable omission on the part of Premier Borden when selecting his cabinet timber in the month of October, A. D., 1911. The omission meant much to Mr. Crockett but time has shown that it was not a matter of great concern to the rest of the country, as the cabinet portfolio which he courted went to a man more competent and more deserving. On that occasion Mr. Crockett did not detect the presence of an emergency until a telegram from a friendly source on the North Shore notified him that one J. D. Hazen had been summoned to Ottawa by Premier Borden on an important mission. Upon receipt of this alarming intelligence Mr. Crockett rushed for home, packed a grip and boarded the first train for the Dominion capital. Upon arrival there he drove post haste to Premier Borden's residence, only to find that Mr. Hazen had preceded him by about two hours and had landed the prize. Talk about emergencies. That was a real, genuine emergency of the bob-tailed sort and it struck Mr. Crockett squarely amidships, knocking the breath out of him. He was probably the most astonished man in all Canada for the time being. He was so overcome at the Premier's error of judgment that he crawled over the back-yard fence into political oblivion and firmly resolved never to smile again. In August last he crawled meekly out and extended an olive branch to Hon. J. D. Hazen in the form of a note congratulating him on the success of his junketing expedition to the Old Country. About this time came rumors of the early retirement of Chief Justice Barker from the New Brunswick Supreme Court Bench, and Mr. Crockett decided that it would be good policy for him to bury his grudge and work his way back in the favor of his leaders. He remembered that it was an emergency that put him in parliament and he reasoned it out that another emergency might land him on the Supreme Court Bench. He has been diligently searching for this emergency for weeks and has at last succeeded in locating it. A more selfish man might have kept his find a secret but not so Mr. Crockett. True patriot that he is, he promptly notified his fellow-countrymen of the impending danger. Premier Borden will fall in his duty if he does not reward such a heroic act. The country has forgiven him for having in a moment of weakness overlooked Mr. Crockett's claims to a cabinet position but retribution will surely overtake him if he errs a second time. We want men on the Bench who are capable of locating and grappling with emergencies and Mr. Crockett has given ample proof that he can

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## MARYSVILLE

Marysville Lodge No. 18. Knights of  
Pythias Entertain Their Friends---  
Looking For a Mayor

Marysville, Feb. 21.—The forty-ninth anniversary of the Knights of Pythias Order and the fifteenth anniversary of Marysville Lodge No. 18, was fittingly observed last evening when members of the local organization entertained their friends to a social in honor of the occasion. Nashuaak Lodge No. 72, I.O.O.F., and Amethyst Rebekah Lodge were included among the guests, of which there were a large number present. As the Hon. H. F. McLeod, who is a member of both societies was unable to accept an invitation to speak, Major W. H. Gray, chairman of the committee opened the entertainment with a very interesting and instructive address and extended a hearty welcome to those present. The program consisted of selections by a male quartette composed of Messrs. Staples, Bailey, Burpee and McLean, solos by Miss Minnie Titus and Rev. J. W. Williams, Miss Eva Smith presided at the piano. Mr. W. A. Walsh, the well known Fredericton elocutionist and director of the Marysville K. P. Dramatic Club was also present and gave three excellent readings. Mr. Geo. A. Tapley made a pleasing speech on behalf of Nashuaak Lodge I.O.O.F. and thanked the Knights for their kindness in extending the invitation. At intermission refreshments were served and a social hour spent in conversation. A vote of thanks was moved by C. D. Clayton seconded by E. G. Merritt, to all those who had so ably assisted in the entertainment. The affair came to a close about 10.30 with all present singing the National Anthem.

The common street talk now is, "Who is to be Marysville's next mayor?" No one seems to want the job, as it is now the town is without a mayor at all, as the present one has disqualified himself by not attending the regular council meetings. Mr. Charles H. Hatt has decided not to run again, and as no other person is in sight, it is beginning to look serious. The saying among the ratepayers now is "Wanted, a Mayor." It is too bad that matters have arrived at such a stage where it is hard to get men to ace on the council board. Some rare fun is promised on the day of the next civic election. There may be some dark horses in the field.

Miss Nellie Parker is visiting friends in Marysville.

## MILLER, STATE PRISONER

(Continued from page 1)

Middleboro moved, after considerable uproar as to the order of proceedings, that the answer of the prisoner was practically in contempt of parliament and that he should be delivered on the Speaker's warrant to the custody of the Carleton county jail till prorogation.

## PUGSLEY ASKS FOR FAIR PLAY

Hon. Dr. Pugsley, in opposing the motion, prefaced his remarks by the statement that he did not know Mr. Miller and he never heard of him till the matter came before the Public Accounts Committee. He was not personally concerned in the matter, but he was concerned that proper regard should be had for the liberty of the subject. He did not think it was consonant with the dignity of parliament or British fair play to deal thus summarily with the case without giving the members time to look into the evidence or considering the statement just made by the prisoner's counsel or the right which parliament had to commit any man to the common jail.

Dr. Pugsley noted that the question put by the Speaker to the witness did not correctly summarize the evidence taken before the Public Accounts Committee. Miller, according to the printed evidence, had never sworn that he had paid out the \$41.26 to secure government business. All he had sworn was that he had received this sum from the company to get business and that he had never paid it to any member of parliament or to any government official either directly or indirectly. It was not a party question and members on both sides were equally concerned in seeing that justice was done.

Apparently a tortured and false statement had been submitted to the House and the members were asked to accept it without further examination. There was not one word in the evidence which justified placing the witness in custody. He was to be condemned for not answering a question which stated as a fact something which was not a fact.

Mr. Crockett thought that the real issue was contained in the simple statement that Miller had refused to answer the question. That was the only thing the House had to consider. The refusal constituted contempt.

## RUSSIAN METHODS.

Mr. Carvell drew the attention of the House to the fact that all Miller had sworn to was that he had received the money. He had never said that he had paid it out to any one. The whole matter had been railroaded through the Public Accounts Committee and now a similar attempt was being made to railroad it through the House. It was beneath the dignity of parliament to force a man off to prison like a common felon on improper or inadequate evidence.

"We are not living in Russia now" said he, "we are supposed to live in a civilized country. The member for North Grey has quoted precedents from the Family Compact days. No wonder! It was a small thing one hundred years ago for the Family Compact to send any old plebeian to jail."

Mr. Carvell also thought that while parliament might have the right to keep him in custody he could be liberated on habeas corpus proceedings the minute he was transferred to a provincial jail. Furthermore, he thought it was not proper to deprive the prisoner of the few liberties he had enjoyed during the first day of his duress and to keep him, as at present, closely confined to his room in the building.

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## VALLEY RAILWAY ROUTE.

Some of the members of the Fairville Board of Trade are organizing a delegation to come to Fredericton and urge the government to bring the Valley Railway down the Nerepis, through Fairville and across by way of Navy Island to St. John. Mr. F. deL. Clements of St. John, is here today lobbying in the same interests. Alteration in the route of the railway is opposed by the Boards of Trade of Fredericton, Woodstock, Gagetown and other places.

## VISITING CARDS

You will have a lot of social engagements to fill during the next few weeks and will need visiting cards. We will supply them neatly printed for fifty cents a pack. Send in your order without delay.

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