

## 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 22, 1913

## ECONOMICAL MINISTERS

The claim is made by Premier Flemming that this province has a progressive government. Judging by the way in which the travelling expenses of the ministers are increasing each year we should say that there is something in the claim. Here is what the birds of paradise composing the administration extracted from the public treasury last year for travelling about the country:

Hon. J. K. Flemming, .....	\$1,085.00
Hon. W. C. H. Grimmer, .....	1,005.00
Hon. John Morrissey, .....	675.00
Hon. H. F. McLeod, .....	670.00
Hon. Dr. Landry, .....	527.55
Hon. J. A. Murray, .....	200.00
Hon. Robert Maxwell, .....	130.00
Hon. J. E. Wilson, .....	55.00

Total, .....

These are the men who were such great sticklers for economy when in opposition. They howled so loudly over the travelling expenses of the members of the old government that the average ratepayer must have thought that when entrusted with the reins of power they would surely "bite the kittle" on the side of the road. How Premier Flemming must have chuckled over the gullibility of mankind when he was drawing that \$1,085 check last year and what a broad smile must have flitted over the sombre countenance of Attorney General Grimmer as he pocketed that \$1,005 and charged it up to travelling expenses. Then there are those other great economists, Hon. John Morrissey and Hon. Harry McLeod. Why, one could almost have heard them swapping winks as they recouped themselves from the public treasury—to the extent of \$675 and \$670 respectively—for travelling about and living on the fat of the land. The Hon. John and the Hon. Harry are as far apart on some questions as the north and south poles, but when it comes to dipping into the public treasury they can get so close together that only a five dollar bill separates them. What great statesmen and illustrious patriots they are, to be sure.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer's first year as attorney general cost the province a little more than six thousand dollars. It is difficult to believe that this is the same Mr. Grimmer who, when in opposition a few years ago, put up such a howl because the then attorney general drew from the provincial exchequer an amount in excess of his salary and indemnity.

The Hon. Harry McLeod, provincial secretary, gathered in the sum of \$670 for travelling expenses last year. This is not too bad considering the fact that he lives at the seat of government and therefore does less travelling than some of the other members. It is fortunate for the province that he does not reside in Madawaska or Campbellton.

The Board of Works expenditure pamphlet issued during the last provincial campaign and secretly distributed among millions of the government, cost the province the sum of \$104. We would like to see Premier Flemming or Hon. John Morrissey get up in the Legislature and defend this expenditure.

If the Tory majority in the House of Commons really wanted to punish Miller, the state prisoner, they should have compelled him to listen to Mr. O. S. Crockett's speech on the naval question. Instead of doing that they let him down easy by sending him to jail.

The local hack organ was last year paid the enormous sum of \$11,281.61 of the people's money for singing the praises of the Flemming government. It also did a fair country trade with the federal government. Wait till you see it next year.

The Hon. John Morrissey does not appear to have participated in the numerous junketing expeditions to Ottawa in connection with the Valley Railway contract.

The new members of the Legislature, instead of seeking an increased indemnity, should carefully study the auditor general's report and make an effort to curb the extravagance of the government and its subordinates.

The Fredericton hack organ, in which one or more members of the Flemming government have a financial interest, got the lion's share of public printing last year. It was a case of the hack organ first and the rest nowhere.

There is one thing to the credit of Hon. John Morrissey, he paid his own expenses when he went on that business trip to the west last fall. Premier Flemming's land purchasing expedition was made at the expense of the province.

As The Mail predicted at the opening of the session, more has been heard about the ancient fishery claim through the medium of the auditor general's report. It ought to be good for a lot more junketing expeditions to the federal capital.

## MORE OFFICIALS

(Continued from page eight.) appointed and present in every way possible any impersonation or attempt to vote by any voter who is not duly qualified or entitled to vote. Before entering upon his duties each scrutineer and poll clerk shall take and subscribe before the presiding officer the oath of office required by this act.

3. The room in which each poll is held shall contain a screened compartment containing a table with hard, smooth surface, to be kept supplied with a black lead pencil, with which each voter shall mark his or her ballot.

4. The only persons permitted in the room where such vote is being taken shall be the presiding officer, poll clerk, the scrutineers and constable appointed as aforesaid.

## SECRET BALLOT.

A secret ballot is to be used, each being placed in an envelope and sealed before being deposited in the ballot box.

## STOCK MARKET

New York, N. Y., Feb. 24—Another dull and uninteresting market was evidenced towards the end of the first hour by a decline in American Canadian. The decline was accompanied by rumors that no large payment on account of back dividends on preferred would be made at the forthcoming meeting of directors. Possibly the reports circulated last week to the effect that the government intended to conduct an inquiry into American Canadian affairs are now regarded more seriously than they were at first.

	Open	Noon
Copper, .....	68 1/2	69 1/2
Smelters, .....	68 1/2	69 1/2
American Tobacco, .....	235	239 1/2
C.P.R., .....	231 1/2	230 1/2
Great Northern, .....	116 1/2	125 1/2
Lehigh Valley, .....	155 1/2	154 1/2
Northern Pacific, .....	115 1/2	114 1/2
Pennsylvania, .....	118 1/2	117 1/2
Reading, .....	158 1/2	156
Union Pacific, .....	156	154 1/2
U. S. Steel, .....	61 1/2	60 1/2

## MONTREAL MORNING SALES.

Merchants Bank, 81 @ 190.  
261 1/2.  
Royal Bank, 2 @ 223, 4 @ 223 1/2.  
Brazilian, 160 @ 95, 50 @ 95 1/2.  
C.P.R., 37 @ 231 1/2, 25 @ 230 1/2.  
Crown Reserve, 925 @ 365, 125 @ 366.  
Quebec Rails, 20 @ 19.  
Cement, 50 @ 28.  
Steel of Canada, 20 @ 53 1/2, 35 @ 53.  
Detroit, 17 @ 75.  
Montreal Power, 550 @ 223, 25 @ 222 1/2, 10 @ 224, 40 @ 222 1/2.  
Shawinigan, 150 @ 137 1/2, 125 @ 137.  
Bell Telephone, 5 @ 149 1/2.  
Winnipeg Street, 10 @ 214, 75 @ 215, 10 @ 216.  
Iron Pfd., 25 @ 101, 5 @ 101 1/2.  
Iron Com., 50 @ 101 1/2, 10 @ 101 1/2.  
Locomotive, 5 @ 94.  
Cannons, 10 @ 72.  
Paint Pfd., 50 @ 102.

## GIBSON NEWS

Gibson, Feb. 24—The pulpit of the United Baptist Church was occupied at both services yesterday by the Rev. C. P. Wilson, secretary of the Home Missions for New Brunswick. His discourse was very interesting and instructive.

At the evening service in the Methodist Church, the pastor, Rev. Mr. Flemming, preached a special sermon on "Church Union." The collection was for missions.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dickson were the guests at the noon hour yesterday of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Dickson, and their family at the Barker House.

## GRAFT AND EXTRAVAGANCE

(Continued from page 1)

## HACK ORGAN'S GRAFT

The amount expended on public printing last year is set down in the auditor general's report as \$17,549.31, an increase of \$3,650.39, over last year. But this is not the whole story as there are other items scattered through the report which bring the total well over \$18,000. The Fredericton Gleaner is as usual the sponge, which absorbed the greater portion of the amount and at last accounts it was still in the absorbing business. Hitherto the local hack organ had to be content with an average of about \$8000 a year, but in 1912 it took on a spurt and would you believe it actually gathered in the enormous sum of \$11,281.61. Ye gods and little fishes! Think of a government which would pay the sum of \$11,281.61 for the support of one newspaper organ. This bears out Commodore Stewart's statement made in the Chatham World, that the public printing went to newspapers in which members of the government are stockholders. Hon. Harry McLeod, who as provincial secretary handles the public printing, is a stockholder and director of the Gleaner, Limited. Let the Commodore repeat his statement on the floors of the Legislature, and see if he cannot put a stop to this flagrant case of favoritism and graft. What do the fair minded non-grafting Conservatives in the Legislature think of this scandalous business anyway?

The list of payments to the hack organ occupy a page and a half of the auditor's report, and there are other payments totalling about \$600 scattered all through the book. It was paid \$1,765.39 for printing the Royal Gazette; \$2,235.10 for printing the agricultural report, \$1,157.06 for printing the laws, \$796.81 for printing "orchard opportunities," \$703.24 for printing the horticultural report, and \$404 for printing the celebrated Board of Works expenditure pamphlet for the use of Tory speakers during the last election.

In addition to the gigantic scoop made by the Gleaner, we find that Mr. J. D. Black, a member of staff of that newspaper, was paid \$2080 for reporting the debates of the Legislature, in 1912, a balance of \$323.33, for published the debates 1911, an extra allowance of \$200. \$20 for postage making a total \$2,543.33. It is only fair to say that out of this amount he paid part of the telegraph tolls on reports sent to the newspapers, and also paid assistants and for printing the debates in book form. Is it any wonder the Gleaner sings the praises of Flemming regime and scolds and denounces as grafters those who do not see eye to eye with it.

## NEW RINK FOR ST. JOHN.

It is stated that parties are contemplating the building of a large, new skating rink in St. John West. It is expected that the site where the rink will be erected will be near the city line on Prince street and the plans will call for a covered rink with skating space for ten laps to the mile. The building will have most comfortable dressing rooms and all the conveniences that a skater wishes. It will be on the car line and easy to reach from both sides of the harbor.

The main line is being shoveled out in order to allow trains to run, as they expect to take the sleepers over today for the bridge.

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