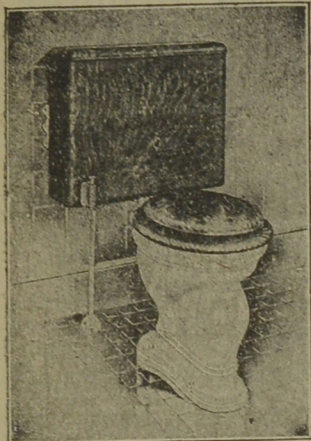


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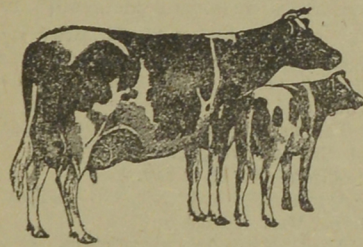
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GRAFT EXPOSED IN THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

(Special Correspondence.)

Ottawa, April 5.—Grace charges involving allegations of extensive graft in the Post Office Department under the administration of Hon. Mr. Pelletier were brought up in the House on Tuesday by Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, ex-postmaster general. So serious were these charges that in introducing them Hon. Mr. Lemieux declared: "It is clear we are this evening in the presence of a huge graft, of a mammoth boodler." This he stated was on a purchase of 350,000 mail-bags locks and keys for the Post Office Department, at \$1 a set. Hon. Mr. Lemieux showed that this single purchase more than doubled the entire number of local locks bought by the Department since Confederation, and said he was informed that the deal involved a syndicate of Mr. Pelletier's political friends, including his nephew, and concluded by demanding a thorough investigation.

This was plainly distasteful to the government and Premier Borden in reply refused to grant an investigation until what he styled "intelligible charges" were made. That the charges were intelligible was shown by Hon. Mr. Lemieux's statement.

When the Post Office estimates came up on March 19th, Hon. Mr. Pelletier was informed by Mr. Lemieux that 350,000 of these locks and keys had been bought for the use of his department for \$1.00 per set and that they were to be made by an Ottawa firm who were the lowest tenderers.

Later the story of this transaction was partially ventilated in the press and on April 1st, Hon. Mr. Lemieux gave it out in full detail in parliament, remarking "I say that this is one of the worst boodling cases that has ever come before parliament."

The ex-postmaster general showed that during his term of office the number of such locks purchased had averaged about 9,000 per year. But within a few months of the Hon. Mr. Pelletier's assuming the department an order was given the Ontario Equipment Company for 11,162, and on October 26th, 1912, a further contract with the same firm for 350,000 was made. Although the old style of locks had been doing such good service that no complaints were heard, and mail robberies were practically unknown, the new postmaster general suddenly discovered that the old locks were "rotten" and could be opened with a jack-knife or railway switch key and that the public safety demanded that they be replaced by a new patent lock. These locks, said Hon. Mr. Lemieux, were purchased from a firm alleged to be composed of political friends of the Hon. Mr. Pelletier without any tenders being called.

The Hon. Mr. Pelletier had to admit that he was wrong in his previous statement, that the Ontario Equipment Company were the lowest tenderers, since no tenders had been called for.

The Hon. Mr. Lemieux showed that the average number of such locks bought per year, since 1897, was only 5,813, while he declared that since Confederation itself, not 150,000 had been bought. At that rate the Hon. Mr. Pelletier was arranging for a supply for a half century ahead. It was evident that his friends were to be guarded against all contingencies.

In giving this story to the deal, Mr. Lemieux said that the new patent lock was the invention of a poor mail carrier, Alonzo Grenier, at Quebec, who, he said, "was obliged to sell his invention to three or four party hirelings who banded together

with the Ontario Equipment Company. They took out the patent. They sold to the government at \$1.00 per lock without any expert passing judgment upon the lock and they shared huge profits. This syndicate said Mr. Lemieux, he was informed, included Hon. Mr. Pelletier's nephew.

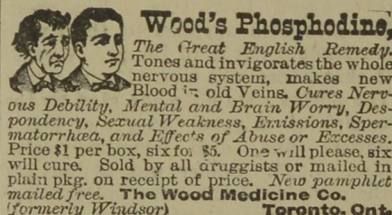
Hon. Mr. Pelletier's defence was that he did not know all the members of the firm, and that anyway the price had been fixed by Mr. Lemieux in 1907—ignoring the fact that this price was for 5,000 while he was demanding 70 times as many. When the matter came up a second time Hon. Mr. Pelletier produced the contract and declared that under it the government was not bound to buy one lock—although it was a special patent for mail bags, and the company before it could get the contract had to put up \$10,000 bonds.

The effect of Mr. Pelletier's declaration that the old style of lock was "rotten" was ruined by interruption from Mr. MacKenzie who declared that last fall he had defended a mail carrier in a strenuously contested criminal case in which the leading officials of the Post Office Department were concerned, and although the main matter at issue was whether the mail bag was opened or not he never heard any intimation that there was anything the matter with the locks.

Apparently the whole thing sifts itself down to this: For sixteen years a form of lock had been found satisfactory to the department and no complaints were heard. The needs of the department average about 4,000 locks per year until 1911. Then Hon. Mr. Pelletier became postmaster general in the Borden government. Suddenly the old style of lock became "rotten"; without securing any tenders an agreement was made for the purchase, Mr. Pelletier himself said, of 350,000 new locks at the same price as was paid for small orders of the old.

It was stated in the House by the ex-minister that his information was that the whole thing had been engineered by a syndicate of party friends of the postmaster general including his nephew and that this unprecedented order involved enormous graft. Yet, when the ex-minister, from his seat, made such grave charges and offered to produce his evidence if an investigation were granted, he was denied it by Mr. Borden who demanded production of evidence to make an "intelligible charge."

The opposition had not forgotten what happened between the time Mr. Gauthier made his charges in connection with Hon. Mr. Coderre's by-election and the time when he was allowed to bring it up in parliament. They wisely refused to place their evidence in the hands of the government except on oath before a properly constituted investigation committee.



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COLONEL O'GRADY ON CANADIAN BORROWING

London, April 7.—Colonel O'Grady, a Canadian banker said on the Campania today after two months' financial negotiation here. The Colonel was rather indignant over some of the recent pessimistic talk regarding Canada's borrowings, a lot of which came from people who had missed great chances in Canadian finance. Municipalities are obliged to borrow he declared and the country won't continue to prosper unless the city's make improvements. It may be hard lines on London having to find so much money but Canada must have it and should be ready to pay fairly but not extravagantly.

(Col. O'Grady is a son-in-law of the late Col. Maunsell of this city)

Charlotte Walker, now touring in "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine," expects to appear in a new play next season, not to be written by her husband, Eugene Walter.

George M. Cohan has appeared for the last time on the New York stage in "Broadway Jones," and after a short tour will retire to his farm near Providence, Rhode Island.

A novel performance is to be given in New York at the benefit for Jerome Eddy, when a scene from "Julius Caesar" will be acted by a cast made up of dramatic critics and newspaper men.

David Belasco has another promising pupil whom he is going to present in a leading role. Her name is Helen Freeman, and she has been an understudy in various of the Belasco companies.

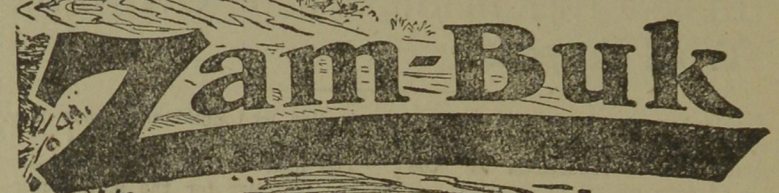
SPRING Skin Troubles

Mothers who have used Zam-Buk know how it cures Spring Skin Troubles in Children or Adults. Mothers who have not yet tried it should note these facts:—Zam-Buk was unknown ten years ago, yet such is its merit that to-day it has become the standard salve in the homes of four continents! Zam-Buk is purely herbal; contains no poisonous coloring matter; is used by leading medical men; used in the British Army and Navy; used by all best fitted to know the needs of the skin. Make it your family balm!

Mr. J. C. Bates, of Burks Falls (Ont.), says:—"Zam-Buk cured my three children, who were all broken out in sores to such an extent that it was pitiable to see them. These sores had defied all remedies previously applied, but I am glad to say Zam-Buk healed them."

Miss S. G. Hamilton, of Alliston (Ont.), says:—"My face and hands were one mass of pimples and blotches. These would itch, and when rubbed, broke out into sores. Whenever I put water near the affected parts it caused a stinging sensation and much pain—just as if I had been scalded. Nothing that I applied seemed to do me any good until I tried Zam-Buk. That gave me relief, and a few weeks of the Zam-Buk treatment resulted in a perfect cure."

Zam-Buk cures pimples, skin eruptions, cuts, burns, bruises, piles, festering sores, ulcers, blood-poisoning, eczema, ringworm, bad leg, diseased ankles, and all skin diseases and injuries. Rubbed well into the parts affected, it cures neuralgia, rheumatism, and sciatica. All Druggists and Stores sell at 50c. box, three for \$1.25, or post free from Zam-Buk Co., Toronto, for price.



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YOUNGEST BISHOP IS A BRITISH BORN

"The Canadian" published at Toronto, speaking of Bishop Richardson says:

"The youngest Anglican bishop ever consecrated in the Dominion is the Right Reverend John Andrew Richardson the Anglican bishop of Fredericton, who was born in 1868 and consecrated in 1906.

"Bishop Richardson who is one of the most profound scholars and fluent and eloquent orators in the Church of England in Canada, had the honor of preaching before the late King Edward VII in 1908 and later was presented to His Majesty and Queen Alexandra. Bishop Richardson was born at Warwick, England, the son of an English rector, but went West when young and was educated at St. John's College, Winnipeg, and Manitoba University.

"He was engaged deacon in 1895 and priest in 1896, and up to 1899 was engaged in parochial and mission work in the diocese of Rupert's Land. The usual order of things has been reversed in his case, as he came from the West to New Brunswick to speak in aid of home missions, and was adopted by the Eastern Province being inducted rector of Trinity Church.

BENCH SHOW

San Francisco, Cal., April 3.—With an entry list larger than ever before the fourth annual bench show of the Golden Gate Kennel Club was opened at the Auditorium today and will be continued until Friday. The show is also said to contain a greater variety of breeds than were exhibited in previous shows. The exhibits of Pomeranians, Russian wolfhounds, Boston terriers and American foxhounds are especially notable. All the best known kennels of the Pacific coast are represented.

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wick to speak in aid of home missions, and was adopted by the Eastern Province being inducted rector of Trinity Church.

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