

## The Daily Mail

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## MR. FRIEL'S DISMISSAL

Discussing the dismissal of Mr. James Friel of Dorchester, from the offices of registrar of probates and clerk of the peace for Westmorland, The Moncton Transcript says editorially:

Messrs. Humphrey, Black, Melanson and Mahoney certainly owe an explanation to the public of Westmorland County for their action in permitting the dismissal of Mr. James Friel from the offices of registrar of probates and clerk of the peace. Mr. Friel has certainly been admittedly a competent officer. From the public no complaints have been made respecting the manner in which he discharged the duties of the offices, from which he was dismissed this week, and which dismissals will be gazetted. The offices are worth from \$1,200 to \$1,500 a year in fees and Mr. R. W. Hewson has been appointed to the positions.

"It is useless for the four local members for the county to deny responsibility for the dismissal, because under the practice which prevails no provincial office is filled or vacated in this county, excepting by their consent.

"The dismissal is said to be for cause, the cause being an alleged interference in local politics. Not one particle of evidence was submitted to prove that statement. It is true that there were some affidavits filed in the court but which are now admitted to have been forged to that effect. If the commissioner, Mr. Grimmer, was not influenced by the affidavits which are said to be forged, then upon what testimony outside of those affidavits did he justify his recommendation for this dismissal?

"Mr. Grimmer is the attorney general of this province but as a partizan he holds an unenviable position. There is a suspicion that his mind may be made up before he holds an investigation. That was illustrated elsewhere than at Dorchester.

"At Dorchester there were brought before him, as attorney general, documents which are alleged to be forged and these documents were filed by a gentleman who is reputed to have been an applicant for the succession to Mr. Friel, but who was not appointed.

Does not Mr. Grimmer owe it to the people of this province when this matter was brought to his knowledge under the circumstances reported, to take proceedings against the alleged offender?

"The Transcript has regarded the four local members for this county as gentlemen, although dissenting from them in politics and it would like to hear from them whether they endorse the alleged forged affidavits, which were presented at Dorchester, or not.

"If they have sanctioned the dismissal of Mr. Friel upon testimony contained in forged affidavits, what do they propose to do with Mr. J. W. Doull, the magistrate at Sackville, and Mr. Fawcett, another magistrate in Sackville parish, who, it is said, openly took part in a political meeting?"

Mr. O. M. Melanson, M.L.A., of explain that Messrs. Pinder, Morehouse and Young, M.L.A.'s, moved over to the opposition side of the House because there was not room for them on the right of the Speaker. With all due respect to the St. John organ of Toryism, that is a very good story for the marines. The three members for York were in the last House and were entitled to hold their seats on the Speaker's right. All three are very accommodating gentlemen but nobody is foolish enough to believe that they made the shift merely to please some of the new members who might want to be in full view of the ladies' gallery. Possibly The Standard might be interested in knowing that immediately after the last election one of the York trio made the statement in public that if the govern-

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ment did not dismiss a certain official of its own appointment he would go over to the opposition. The official in question is still holding down his job.

The Canada Cement Company Limited, one of the biggest corporations in Canada, is endeavoring to secure a satisfactory property in New Brunswick with a view of establishing a plant. They have examined properties in the vicinity of St. John but find none there that will serve their purpose. Here is a chance for the Publicity Committee of the Fredericton Board of Trade to get in its work. There ought to be properties along the newly opened railway lines in this province that will justify the erection of a cement mill.

The debate on the address in the Legislature yesterday was finished in record time. It began with the speech of Mr. Tilley at 3.15 o'clock and was all over at five, the address passing without division. The speeches of Mr. Tilley and Mr. Hachey were moderate and business-like, with an absence of partizan spirit and both made an excellent impression. Having disposed of the address it will be the fault of the executive if the Legislature does not at once get settled down to business.

Hon. George J. Clarke is to be heartily congratulated on his unanimous election for a second term to the Speakership of the Legislature. Hon. Mr. Clarke was the brainiest man in the last House and it is doubtful if there are any in the present House who can measure up to his standard in point of ability. He is a fair-minded man, genial and courteous, and deserves the high honor which has come to him a second time.

Mr. O. S. Melanson, M.L.A., of Westmorland, has been longer in public life than any other member of the Legislature. He was first elected in 1890 along with the late Hon. D. L. Hannington, H. A. Powell and E. T. Stevens. He sat continuously until 1899, when he suffered defeat. Mr. Pinder of York, first entered the House in 1892 and sat until 1899. He was re-elected in 1908 and 1912.

Carleton County farmers need a larger market. The Woodstock Press on it it was explained away. This is (Tory) says: "The produce buyers here are paying 80 cents a barrel for potatoes and quite a few are being hauled in, although the roads are in a poor condition. Hay is worth \$8 a ton and very little is being shipped."

A despatch from Ottawa says that the Public Accounts Committee who are dredging for Liberal government scandals have been "baffled" They thought they had discovered a \$200 scandal but before they got a line on it was explained away. This is too bad altogether.

Mayor Stewart of Truro says: "That a man should be taxed for his improvements, in making his home more comfortable, beautiful and attractive is wrong, and tends to discourage a spirit that should rather be encouraged."

The Tory jingoes and the Nationalists stood together yesterday and put the naval bill through the House of Commons.

Premier Borden did not find it necessary to apply the gag to Mr. O. S. Crockett, M.P., during the naval debate. Mr. Crockett became speechless when the personnel of the Borden cabinet was announced in October, 1911. Prior to that he was the champion marathoner of the House of Commons.

Hon. Mr. Fleming has introduced a bill in the Legislature to provide for a sinking fund to redeem the public debt. This is simply carrying out the policy laid down by Hon. C. W. Robinson when he was leader of the government.

Having failed after fighting to the last ditch, to keep Ex-Governor Tweedie's portrait out of the Assembly Chamber, Mr. Pinder, M.L.A., crossed the floor of the House in order that he might have said portrait constantly in his eye.

If men like Blair, Pugsley, Emerson and Tweedie were unable to convert that long-standing fisheries claim into coin of the realm, the prospects of Premier Fleming and Attorney General Grimmer realizing upon it are not overly bright.

## MUCH IMPRESSED

(Continued from page 1)

### ELECTRICAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Pierce is interested in the electrification of the short line across the State of Maine which is to connect the St. John Valley line with the City of Quebec and practically forecasts the electrification of the entire line, but states that such must be accomplished gradually. The street railway system which is to be built in Houlton, Me., and vicinity has Mr. Pierce's interest and with regard to Fredericton he states that this city and its suburbs is much more advantageously situated for the operation of a similar system by the use of self-propelled cars equipped with storage batteries.

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