

## BOURKE WANTS ACCOUNTS CONSIDERED IN SECRET

Thinks Reporters Should be Excluded from the Meetings of the Accounts Committee and Business done in Secret.

A few days ago, Mr. Jones of Kings blossomed out in the public accounts committee as a humorist. Today Mr. Woods of Queen's, went Mr. Jones one better by perpetuating this mirth provoker: "We haven't a Conservative government at Fredericton."

As far as one could see Mr. Woods cracked the joke in the effort to condone the large road expenditures made in the fall of 1908 in the vain effort to secure the return of the Conservative candidates for Ottawa. Something better than Jones-Woods humor is needed to explain why thousands on thousands of the people's money should be spent by Premier Hazen for the benefit of his fellow Conservatives seeking political advancement.

This morning, as yesterday, revealed the fact that hundreds of dollars were spent by road commissioners or superintendents without authority, most of it in the fall of 1908 when the Dominion elections were held. What was far worse was that in Carleton county, the home of that economical, proper soul, Hon. Mr. Flemming, money was over-expended for road work on the authority of the members alone. It will be remembered that Mr. B. F. Smith, formerly a Conservative M. P., was the federal candidate in Carleton in the fall of 1908.

A letter was read in the committee from Mr. D. B. Winslow, deputy commissioner of public works, to Hon. Mr. Morrissy pointing out that Mr. Henry Smith had over-expended more than \$300 in Brighton Parish, Carleton. Mr. Winslow said that Mr. Smith stated that the over-expenditure was made on the authority of the Carleton members. Another letter was from Mr. Smith to Mr. Morrissy and was to the effect that he had been advised to make the outlay by the Carleton members.

Mr. LaBilloy quite properly pointed out that this expenditure was not made necessary by any emergency. It was made solely in the effort to help secure the election of a Conservative candidate. The Restigouche member criticized strongly the action of the government members of the committee, who, he claimed, instead of trying to find out things which are wrong and making recommendations, which would lead to improvement, are in a spirit of partisanship, trying to bolster up the cause of commissioners and others who made improper expenditures. Such expenditures of money for road purposes in the

fall of the year, as were made in the fall of 1908 were never before known in the history of the province. There was no money available for road work in the summer of 1908, but as soon as the call for the federal elections was given in the fall, New Brunswick post offices were flooded with orders for work to be done. Where the orders did not seem broad enough to men in different counties, the work was done without order. Incidentally, Mr. LaBilloy touched upon the action of the government in transferring improperly to permanent bridge account the expenditure of \$15,679 in the effort to shelve off a deficit. He showed that the debt is filling up under the unprecedented carnival of expenditure brought on by the Conservative administration. It was at this stage that Mr. Woods turned joker.

In Carleton there were several other cases of over-expenditure on the roads in the fall of 1908. One case was in Richmond Parish and another in Wicklow Parish. While these were declared by Mr. Winslow to have been unauthorized, it was noteworthy that they were all paid despite Mr. Morrissy's frequent protestations in the house that his department was conducted in a model way.

Sunbury, Gloucester, York, Northumberland and Westmorland all told the same story of heavy expenditures in the fall of 1908. In York some of the vouchers were not complete. One man in York neglected even to give the month in which the work was done. It was noticeable that pretty good figures were given for work in York. Mr. Pinder was the authority for the statement that both work and figures were all right, so they must be. In Westmorland, Mr. Albany Bourque of Moncton, Parish of Moncton, over-expended about \$170, according to the statement of Mr. Winslow to Mr. Morrissy. Mr. Winslow wrote that the amount was to be charged against this year's appropriation as requested by Mr. F. W. Sumner. So part of Westmorland's road money for this year is known to have been expended already and there may be other expenditures of the kind not yet brought to light.

In the course of the discussion, Mr. LaBilloy casually drew attention to the fact that government papers had been putting statements in his mouth which he never uttered. This led Dr. Bourque to put forward the opinion that reporters should be kept out of the committee meetings.

## THE NICARAGUAN PRESIDENTIAL MUDDLE

Managua, Nivarragua, March 18.—The original proposition submitted by General Estrada to President Madriz having been rejected by the latter, Estrada has now made another proposal looking to a peace settlement in Nicaragua. He suggests that he himself and Madriz each name five Nicaraguans, and that from these the government of the United States shall designate a provisional president, who shall call an immediate election, Madriz and Estrada withdrawing their candidacy. General Estrada also proposes that he shall retain possession of the coast until after the election.

President Madriz will reply in the negative to these proposals.

General Estrada is awaiting the reply of Madriz to his proposals, which are based on the request that the government of the United States be empowered to name a provisional president pending a regular election and that neither Madriz or Estrada shall be a candidate for this office.

Pedro Chomorro has just sailed from here on the steamer Imperator for the United States. He will proceed to Washington to confer with Dr. Salvador Castrillo, the representative of the provisional government at Washington.

Rev. A. A. Rideout returned from Moncton last evening and is being warmly congratulated on his election as Grand Master of the L. O. L.

Mr. W. E. Heffernan of Truro, is at the Barker House.

## PREPARING TO ARGUE NEW YORK BRIBERY CHARGE

Albany N.Y., March 18.—The attorneys employed by Senators Allis and Conger began today the preparation of the arguments with which they will sum up their testimony next week and close the trial of Allis on Congers charge of demanding and accepting the bribe. Only a few fragments of evidence remain to be presented before the closing speeches next Tuesday morning. This leaves the lawyers four days including Sunday in which to make a last review of the 800,000 words of testimony that have been taken in the six weeks since the trial began.

### PARSON DID NOT RUN AWAY

New York, March 17.—Rev. C. Canfield Jones, pastor of the Presbyterian church of the Redeemer, Paterson, N.J., who was reported missing yesterday and against whom it was said a suit for divorce had been filed denied today that he had disappeared and that he had any knowledge of a divorce suit. The pastor returned home Monday night following a visit to New York for an operation.

### GRAND LAKE COAL

Mr. H. P. Timmerman of the C.P.R., arrived in the city last night. He will proceed to St. John tonight. To a representative of The Mail Mr. Timmerman said that the tests of Grand Lake Coal made by the C.P.R., have been completed and have proven satisfactory.

## SUICIDE EPIDEMIC IN ST. PETERSBURG

Three Young Women One an Heiress to Ten Millions have all Drunk Poison

New York, March 18.—A St. Petersburg cable despatch received here today says:—

"Something like an epidemic of suicide due to neusthenia and melancholia was recently remarked here and further attention was called yesterday by the suicides of three girls of social status, one of them an heiress to \$10,000,000. The three met and after one of them had played Chopin's funeral march all drank poison and died. They left letters saying they were tired of life.

Fifteen other suicides mostly girls were reported during the day.

The Russian law severely punishes attempted suicide but a bill has been proposed by some members of the council of the Empire abolishing the penalties on the ground that life is an individual's private property and he should be allowed to dispose of it accordingly.

## WOMAN CRUSHED TO DEATH IN HOSPITAL

New York, March 18.—Miss Anna Forsell, who had just undergone an operation in the Seney Hospital in Brooklyn, was crushed to death last night while being carried on an operating cart in the elevator from the basement to the first floor of the building. Arthur Taylor, an orderly and a trained nurse, were wheeling the cart with the half-conscious woman on it from the elevator to the first floor when the elevator shot upward and caught the cart and the patient between the car and the ceiling, crushing out the woman's life. Taylor was arrested and held on a technical charge of homicide.

## NO COMBINE TO RAISE RIVER STEAMER RATES

A meeting of the St. John river steambot men was held last night in St. John, in the offices of Currey & Vincent to discuss an advance in the passenger and freight rates. Those present were Capt. Weston, representing the May Queen; J. Willard Smith, of the Star Line; L. A. Currey, of the St. John River Steamship Company; D. J. Purdy and Jarvis Purdy, of the Sincennes and R. S. Orchard, of the Majestic Steamship Company.

George R. Vincent said after the meeting that no decision had been arrived at. The St. John River Steamship Company, he added, refused to enter into any arrangement with the Star Line or any of the other companies, as they believed that the proposed increases were unjustifiable. In answer to a question as to what would be done next, Mr. Vincent replied that he supposed the St. John River Steamship Company would continue to run their own business as usual.

## OLD ST. JOHN BUTCHER DEAD

(Special to The Mail.)  
St. John, N. B., March 18.—Cornelius Kane, aged 87, died today. He was long a familiar figure among the country market butchers. He leaves a wife, one daughter and four sons. One son is Christopher J., of Kane & McDonald.

## LIPTON GIVES PERPETUAL YACHTING TROPHY

Boston, March 18.—A perpetual trophy, an honor shield on which will be inscribed all the championship winners in every class beginning with the year 1896, has been presented to the Yacht Racing association of Massachusetts by Sir Thomas Lipton, according to an announcement made at the headquarters of the association today.

## TYPHOID FEVER EPIDEMIC

Toronto, March 18.—Typhoid fever is so bad at Port William and Port Arthur that places of amusement in Port William have been closed, and the citizens threaten to stop the running of the electric railway unless Port Arthur takes similar steps. The Port Arthur authorities say there is no epidemic in their town and after discussing the question of closing the schools, decided it was unnecessary.

## MILLIONAIRE SHOWMAN WILL SELL PAPERS

Former Toronto Newsboy is to aid others by Selling Papers on Street.

(Special to the Mail)

Toronto, March 18.—Al. Reeves, millionaire showman and former Toronto "newsie" who is in Toronto this week will sell papers in the streets again to help little "newsies" of today to establish a home. The corner chosen by Mr. Reeves, Yonge and Adelaide streets, where he struggled thirty-five years ago to make enough money to keep his mother and himself provided with necessities of life.

## INTERNATIONAL SWINDLERS HAVE NEW METHOD

New York March 18.—Charles M. Meeker and Albert Thompson, the former of Brooklyn and the latter of South Orange, N.J., are under arrest here charged with a new international swindle. The police say Thompson deposited in the People's bank of South Orange a draft for £107 sterling drawn to Meeker's order on the London Commercial banking company. The draft was good, it was found, by cable inquiries, but it is alleged that after payment on it had been advanced, Meeker cabled to London ordering payment stopped. The bank is therefore out the amount of the advance approximately \$535.

## OPTIMISTIC YANKEE LUMBERMAN ON TARIFF

Toronto, March 18.—United States lumber dealers with stocks in Canada are becoming very nervous because of threatened tariff war and are moving all the lumber they possibly can to their own side of the line. So reports Mr. J. P. Johnson, of the firm of Campbell and Johnson who returned yesterday from a visit to Buffalo, Niagara Falls and Tonawanda. Johnson says one large dealer, however, was optimistic claiming he had been assured by a member of the congressional ways and means committee that there would be no tariff war. Even if a maximum tariff were imposed he was satisfied it could not last more than six months.

## THE COAL MINE FIRE

Stellarton, N. S., March 17.—Workmen engaged in building the isolation wall in the Albion mine of the Acadia Coal Company at Stellarton to cut off the fire, have completed the structure closing up one of the entrances. They have two other openings yet to seal in the same way, which will take several days to complete.

## WANT TO END NIGHT WORK

Toronto, March 17.—A deputation from the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen has left for Montreal, to interview Canadian Pacific officials in an effort to obtain an increase of wages for night work. The effort is being made not so much for an increase in wages as to discourage night work as much as possible.

## A SUCCESSFUL SHOW.

Mr. W. H. Allen, the celebrated guide of Penniac, who had charge of the N. B. exhibit at the New York Sportsman's Show, returned home today. He was successful in disposing of the two young moose to a New York man and the baby bear was bought by a man from Morristown, N. J. The log cabin was also disposed and New Brunswick undoubtedly Allen says the show was well attended and New Brunswick undoubtedly received a large amount of splendid advertising from it.

## EASTER MILLINERY OPENING.

Tuesday, March 22nd, will be an interesting day for the ladies of Fredericton, when Miss Morgan will hold her Easter millinery opening. The distinguishing feature about her spring millinery is the variety. There is a smartness, style, cleverness in designing, about our spring millinery that appeals to the lover of the chic and beautiful. All are cordially invited.

## TOBIQUE DAM BILL UNDER CONSIDERATION

The Objects of the Bill Explained by Mr. Tweeddale to the Corporations Committee—Much Opposition to the Bill.

The corporations committee met this morning in the assembly chamber and took up the consideration of the Tobique Pulp and Company's bill.

Mr. Tweeddale, who was in charge of the bill, in outlining its object, said the bill had been stood over from last year for further consideration. The objection which was put forward to its proposal, was on the ground that it would injure the lumbering and fishing industry, but it would be found that both these interests were carefully safeguarded. Some of the promoters were large holders of limits on the Tobique and it was not likely that they would do anything to injure the lumber interests. The benefits which would be derived from the establishment of the industry contemplated would be very great and the proposal met with the sympathy of the great majority of the people in the district. The principal opponents of the bill were the Tobique Salmon Club, who controlled the Salmon fishery on a large portion of the river for which they paid \$50 a year. The proposed company had no desire to interfere unnecessarily with the operations of the fishermen and although their rights in the matter were entitled to the consideration they should not be allowed to interfere with the industrial development of the district which would be enormously enhanced by the establishment of the mill proposed.

Mr. R. B. Hanson said he appeared for the Tobique Salmon Club which had expended some hundred and fifty thousand dollars in the course of their operations and annually some twelve or fourteen thousand dollars were distributed locally through the working of the club.

F. R. Taylor also opposed the bill and said no further plans had been furnished nor any other data provided for the information of the committee. He doubted that the proposal was a bona fide one or they would have had some plans to produce. The interests which would be affected by the carrying out of the proposal would be considerable. The amount of money expended by the proposed company would not be more than two-thirds of that spent by lumbermen.

J. Hunter White, of the St. John Board of Trade, strongly opposed building a dam and said that the fact that any fishway would have to be subject to the approval of the department of marine and fisheries in no way lessened his objection. The St. John Board of Trade thought the matter a serious one, and although they would welcome any accession to the manufacturing industries of the province, still the damage which would be done to the fishing interests were too serious to be passed over. The people in the district affected did not appear to be greatly in favor of it, the fact that a petition signed by 147 persons against the proposal showed the general feeling on the subject. He read numerous extracts from various reports and letters on the subject all designed to show the objectionable character of the proposal.

## COL. ROOSEVELT PLEASSED WITH SOUDAN RAILWAY

Abu Hamed Soudan, March 18.—Col. Roosevelt and his party arrived here this forenoon after a comfortable journey in a special car over the Soudan government railway. Most of the trip thus far from Kharatoum which was left at 9 o'clock last night was made in the night but the early hours of today afforded a sight of considerable stretches of country. Col. Roosevelt expressed himself as astonished at the luxury of railway travelling through a desert and spoke of the railroad system as a monument to British enterprise in colonization which was able to conquer all difficulties.

Mr. John B. Grant, a former resident of Millville, who has been in California the past six years, is here, the guest of Mrs. I. W. Purvis. It is unlikely that he will return to the west.

Mr. Seely said that the fishing interests involved were of much greater value than was generally supposed, and he was led to put himself on record as stating that the erection of the dam as proposed would result in the total extinction of salmon fishing in the Bay of Fundy.

Mr. Flewelling agreed with previous speakers and explained the enormous damage which the salmon fishery would have to undergo if the proposals of the bill were carried out.

Mr. C. E. Oak said he was somewhat of an expert in fishculture, and his experience would perhaps help the committee. The construction of a fishway was no guarantee that the objectionable features of the dam would be overcome, because it had been shown many times that fish were not always able to use them. The loftiest fishway he had ever had to do with was over a 20-foot dam, and in that case the salmon were entirely prevented going up the river.

Mr. H. A. Powell, K. C., in replying for the promoters, said there appeared to be some misapprehension on the part of the gentlemen opposing the bill and it might be well for him to outline what were the rights of riparian owners in respect to the waters of streams running through their lands under the common laws of England, which governed the situation in this province. Every riparian owner had the right to erect a dam on the river for the purpose of carrying on his business, provided he left means for water to flow down to owners lower down the river.

He was willing to have any reasonable provision incorporated in the bill which would protect their interests. It was also said that the proposed dam would enormously damage the lumber interests of the St. John River. As to the petition to which he referred to, which had been signed by 147 persons, he had a petition signed by upwards of 300 persons in favor of the proposal, many of whom said they had signed the petition against the bill in error.

The Fraser Co. cut of ten or twelve million is stopped at their mill. J. D. McLaughlin cuts ten or twelve million feet and manufactures six or seven million at his mill on the Tobique. Next year Mr. McLaughlin contemplates cutting at least twenty million feet and he authorized the statement that he was not opposed, but approved of this legislation.

Much of the cut on the Tobique never reached the St. John River. Mr. McLaughlin said his drive of six or seven millions would be in no way affected by the dam and next year his cut would be twenty millions and he had no objection to the dam at all. The mill all told, would cause an expenditure of \$1,000,000 and this had to be put against the \$150,000 paid out by the Tobique Salmon Club.

Mr. F. R. Taylor asked if any further information had been received on the matter since the bill was postponed last year.

Mr. Slipp said that all the information they had was before the committee.

The further consideration of the bill was adjourned.

## NO SETTLEMENT YET IN PHILADELPHIA STRIKE

Philadelphia, Pa., March 18.—Although yesterday's many conferences were apparently fruitless, all hope of an early settlement of the street car strike has not been abandoned. The principal hitch in bringing the Philadelphia Rapid Transit directors and the men together is over the question of reinstating all the strikers, including the 175 men who were dismissed before the strike was called. If an agreement can be reached on this question, it is believed the union will instruct all its men to return, and then appoint committees to take up grievances with the company.

Rev. H. C. Fraser and Mrs. Fraser of Grand Falls were in the city yesterday, and returned this morning.

Dr. W. H. Irvine of Fredericton, was at the Royal yesterday.—Telegraph.