

The Daily Mail

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Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 5, 1910

OUR MINERAL WEALTH

How great are the mineral resources of New Brunswick?

In days gone by there seems to have been a tendency in this province to hold lightly our mineral wealth. A great deal has been heard of the mines of Nova Scotia, but very little of New Brunswick's mineral possessions. Yet it is clear that this province does enjoy considerable wealth in minerals. And it is not at all certain that the whole extent of these mineral deposits is yet known.

The coal mines of the province are not to be despised by any means. Indeed, the years to come may prove them of even far greater value than we have thought them to be hitherto. In Albert county there is mineral wealth of another kind. In that county there are deposits which promise to yield thousands on thousands of dollars. In the northern portion of the province are iron ore areas which have been estimated by experts to be among the most valuable in the entire Dominion.

With these resources, and with the possibility of the existence of similar resources yet undiscovered, there should be in force a progressive policy in respect to the development of our mineral and allied deposits. Every reasonable encouragement should be given capitalists to invest their money in enterprises intended to develop New Brunswick mineral resources. If provincial capitalists are willing to make such investments they of course, should be given first opportunity and all possible encouragement. If, however, our own men of wealth cannot or do not undertake the work and capitalists from other provinces or other countries are willing to do so, they should receive the fullest possible measure of assistance from the province.

While this is so it is also imperative that the government, whatever its political complexion, should bear in mind that development obtained at the sacrifice of any of the people's interests is not worthy of praise but rather deserving of the severest condemnation. It is regrettable that this fact does not seem to have been fully recognized by the present ministry to which, admittedly, the Mail is politically opposed. We make this reference to our attitude toward the government simply that our readers may weigh our statements well and judge for themselves the facts adduced. The government is entitled to a fair show. If its course is not what it should be, the ministry is deserving of censure. If it is all that can rightly be asked for, the ministry is deserving of praise.

It cannot be disputed that the government has adopted no progressive policy looking toward increased development of the coal fields of Queens and Sunbury. Surely, something ought to have been done in this direction. The former government, and that government had its faults, benefited New Brunswick greatly by its course in aiding in the opening up of the coal fields of Queens and Sunbury. Today there is greater opportunity than ever to hasten the development of those areas yet the present administration does nothing. These are statements of absolute fact which cannot be controverted. They are not merely expressions of opinion. Readers of the Mail themselves know them to be true.

In the case of the gas, petroleum and shale deposits of Albert County, what has the government done? It is true that the Surveyor-General went to England this summer at the same time as did Senator Domville, who is interested in the shale beds, but it has not been announced that he accomplished or endeavored to accom-

plish officially anything designed to further the development of this one of Albert county's resources. As a matter of fact, the only action which the government has taken in regard to the Albert county deposits was calculated to discourage provincial men from undertaking to develop our natural resources. A company in which Mr. F. W. Sumner, of Moncton, was heavily interested had certain rights in Albert County and claimed other rights. A rival company—one, by the way, in which Canadian Pacific Railway men are supposed to have an interest—disputed the claims of the other company. The dispute was to be settled at law. What did Premier Hazen do?

He forced through the Legislature at the last session a bill which summarily settled the dispute in favor of the second company, and, more than that, took away from the company in which Mr. Sumner was interested the right to appeal to the courts. It is not for the Mail to suggest what influenced the government in this action. We do not insinuate that the great railway corporation's hold upon the government was again evident in this case. What the Mail would point out, however, is that the action of the premier in driving this bill through the House, despite the fair, earnest protests of Hon. Mr. Robinson, and several of his Westmorland followers who were familiar with the case, almost provoked an open revolt among the government members. It would be an easy matter to make public some of the comments of these government members had those comments not been made in private conversations. It may also be pointed out that Mr. Sumner, one of Premier Hazen's strongest supporters prior to this bit of manoeuvring, was plainly angered by the turn given the matter by the government. It may further be said that such a step as was taken by the ministry in this case was a deliberate blow in the face for provincial men earnestly desirous of aiding in the development of New Brunswick's mineral resources. Such action by the government is not of the kind to encourage any capitalists, who play the game of business fairly, to invest their money in enterprises intended to develop our resources.

More noteworthy, perhaps, than this unfortunate affair has been the government's course in regard to the iron deposits of Gloucester county. Here are deposits which are declared by experts to be among the most valuable in all Canada. A strong corporation, an Upper Canadian corporation, took hold of them and was prepared to develop them. The opportunity of gaining benefit for the province from the development of these deposits was great indeed. Yet what arrangement did the Hazen government make with the Drummond corporation? Did it make an arrangement fair alike to the people of New Brunswick and to the corporation?

It made an arrangement which is one-sided in the extreme. The corporation has the right to operate for eighty years. What must it pay in royalty to the people of New Brunswick, the people who own the deposits? Must it pay a reasonable sum? The powerful corporation will pay the province, under the arrangement made by Premier Hazen, the pitiful sum of five cents per ton of ore mined. Five cents a ton in return for the great money-making property placed in the hands of the corporation for eighty years! And more than this. The company does not have to manufacture the ore in this province. Election times bring talk of great development on the north shore that will be due entirely to the public-spirited efforts of Premier Hazen. But the fact remains that under the existing arrangement there is nothing whatever which guarantees the New Brunswick laboring man a chance to earn a dollar through the development of the great bed of natural wealth which belong to the laboring men, the farmers, the business men, the professional men, who are citizens of this province. Five cents a ton in royalty—this and nothing else the people of New Brunswick are guaranteed under the agreement which places the control of the great iron beds in the hands of an Upper Canadian corporation for eighty years.

Comment on these facts is entirely unnecessary. Fair minded men, not shackled by partisan ties, binding them blindly to one political chariot or the other, will judge them for themselves.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Baird of San Francisco, Cal., are at the Queen. Mr. Baird is manager of the Witter Medical Springs Hotel.

ENJOYABLE TEA SOCIAL AT FREDERICTON JUNCTION

Col. H. H. McLean, M. P. For Queens-Sunbury Entertains His Constituents to Supper and Afterwards Delivers an Address on the Naval Question.

Fredericton Junction, Dec. 5.—The agricultural hall was the scene of a most enjoyable gathering on Saturday evening, when upwards of two hundred people assembled, as the guests of Col. H. H. McLean, the popular and energetic representative for Queens-Sunbury, and were entertained at a tea social. The affair was a decided success in every way. The ladies of the Baptist church had charge of the catering and it is scarcely necessary to say that they entered heartily into the spirit of the occasion and made a thorough job of it. The long and neatly arranged tables fairly groaned under the weight of good things and young and old ate heartily.

The hall was tastefully decorated with flags and bunting, and presented a most inviting and attractive appearance. The Fredericton Junction Brass Band was in attendance and rendered a program of patriotic airs during the progress of the supper. While a comparatively new organization the Fredericton Junction band has already attained a high state of efficiency and the people of this place are deservedly proud of it.

The arrangements for the supper were carried out by an energetic committee, of which Coun. David Mersereau was the leading spirit and all details were carefully looked after. Col. McLean never does things by halves. He feels that it is a great honor to represent Sunbury and Queens in the Dominion parliament, and his object in holding a series of suppers throughout the constituency is that he may have an opportunity of getting better acquainted with the people, and ascertaining their needs in order that he might be in a better position to serve their interests at Ottawa. When Col. McLean accepted the Liberal nomination in Sunbury and Queens a little more than two years ago it was felt on all sides that he had tackled a pretty stiff proposition. The Tories were strongly entrenched in the constituency and were beginning to get the idea into their heads that they owned it. They were inclined to scoff at the Colonel's candidature at first, but it was not long before the more level headed men of the party awoke up to the fact that they were up against the hardest kind of a proposition. Weeks before the tiffin of war had sounded the Colonel and his hosts had invaded the constituency. He inaugurated a series of political picnics, which never failed to attract large crowds. He completed a perfect organization in every parish and as a result of his labors it was found on the night of polling day that a majority of the electors had cast their ballots in his favor. Has Col. McLean proved himself worthy of the confidence reposed in him by the electors of Sunbury and Queens? Go into the constituency and ask this question and four out of every six men will tell you that as a representative he has made good. They will also tell you that the constituency never had a representative in parliament who devoted more of his time and more of his talents for the advancement of its interests. His pre-election promises have been faithfully carried out and there is a feeling manifested on all sides that the people of the united counties are at last coming into their own, and that they have in Col. McLean, a representative who has "proved his faith in the heritage by more than the word of mouth."

The people are only too glad to do him honor on every occasion that offers, and it is but natural that the gathering here on Saturday evening should have been largely attended. People of all shades of politics were invited and readily accepted the invitation, in most cases being accompanied by their wives and families. In addition to providing an excellent repast the Colonel distributed boxes of confectionary and miniature flags among his guests.

At the conclusion of the repast, Coun. Mersereau was voted to the chair and in a neat speech in the course of which he warmly praised Col. McLean as a representative, called upon that gentleman for an address.

Col. McLean, who was warmly applauded, spoke for over an hour and was listened to with the closest attention. He congratulated the leaders on the excellent supper they had provided and complimented the band on the fine music it had rendered. After a casual reference to the great progress Canada had made under Liberal rule, he launched out upon a discussion of the naval question. He strongly denounced the agitation being carried on in Quebec by the so called Nationalists and exposed the inconsistency of the Tory leaders at Ottawa on the naval question. He quoted from speeches delivered by Borden and Foster when the naval question was before parliament in March 1899, and contrasted them with their more recent utterances, which showed a complete change of front on this important question.

At the conclusion of the Colonel's able speech he was tendered a hearty vote of thanks, on motion of Rev. Mr. McLeod, and gracefully acknowledged it. While upon his feet he was called upon to accept a neat little present, on behalf of Mrs. McLean from the Ladies' Sewing Circle.

On Friday evening the Colonel was the host at a most successful social in the Orange Hall at Tracy Station. A big crowd attended and at the close of the repast were addressed by the Colonel on the political issues of the day.

BRITISH ELECTIONS

(Continued from page one)

Some of the stiffest fights in the campaign took place in this constituency. Mr. Balfour personally took part in the speaking in behalf of the Unionist candidate, while Home Secretary Churchill went down to help the Liberal candidate.

Two seats, West Bromich and Gloucester, are held by the Unionists by a bare majority of five and four votes, respectively. In each case there will doubtless be a recount.

On the whole there is an extraordinary similarity in the majorities as compared with the election in January, although fewer persons voted. The weather was very cold and wet, which might have acted against a large and also prevented the lively scenes usually witnessed on election night. A few hardy enthusiasts gathered in Fleet Street but rain drove them to the shelter of the music halls, where the returns were shown on screens.

Some of the halls were crowded to the doors with cheering masses.

BOTH SIDES DISAPPOINTED.

London, Dec. 4.—If the Liberals are disappointed the Conservatives are not altogether satisfied with yesterday's pollings. The latter did not expect to lose the cathedral cities of Exeter and Rochester, and they narrowly missed losing Gloucester, while the government's losses in Lancashire are not fully compensated for by the defeat of Bonar Law and winning of Southwest Manchester. Still the opposition have the satisfaction of knowing that proportionate gains daily throughout the election will put them well above the ministerialists with the exception of Irishmen, which will bring about an indecisive result.

The loss of Grimsby rankles in the ministerial breasts but their successors in London are found very consolatory.



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LIBERALS HOPEFUL.

Taking the polling as a whole, there was some decrease as compared with the abnormally high percentage of votes last January, but it is remarkably good, considering the election was fought on the old register and the fact that removals in some constituencies totalled thousands.

In addition to losing seats in Lancashire, the Liberal majorities there were reduced in several cases, on which the Unionists are building high hopes, but taking all the contests, there was a considerable equality in this connection. In West Bromwich the Liberals are claiming a scrutiny on the ground that good papers were discarded as spoiled.

Lord Rosebery, at Edinburgh, declared if the government lost five seats on the balance they could not proceed with their proposals.

The state of the parties is:

...Unionists, 62.

Liberals, 49.

Labor, 7.

Nationalists, 5.

In London the Tory vote decreased 15,596, and the Liberal vote, 5,873.

The total vote "against the peers" is 348,740, and "for the peers," 306,489. This does not include the many uncontested seats.

The Liberal press attribute the defeats in Lancashire to the announcement that tariff reform would be referendum.

The results in the cathedral cities are inducing hopes that the counties will do better, while the fact that Scotland and Wales are yet to poll is emphasized. When the prospects of further Unionist victories are considered, they point out that there are only 175 Liberal and Labor seats in England to be decided, and here, alone, can the Conservatives make substantial headway.

PURE GROUND SPICES

Allspice, Cassia, Cloves, Cayenne Pepper, White Pepper, Black Pepper, Jamaica Ginger, Mace, Nutmegs, Mixed Spice, Curry Powders. These spices are put up in 1-4 lb. Tins by Lyman's Ltd., Montreal. They are guaranteed absolutely pure

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Druggist

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