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NOT SIR WILFRID'S FAULT

The Vancouver News-Advertiser expresses the opinion that the Liberal party has been too long in office. "A long continuance in office seems to rob a party of its power of initiative, to deprive it of the energy it displayed on its accession to office, and to bring about a slackness in administration that is fatal to good government," is the reason which prompts that journal to come to the conclusion referred to.

It is difficult to see how the present government is to be blamed for being in office. The people put them there, so short a time as a year and a half ago only, well knowing that the same party with the same leader had already been in office for twelve years. Sir Wilfrid Laurier laid the record of his administration before the country and asked it to approve or condemn, just as it felt his conduct deserved. The result, as all the world knows, was that his policy was heartily endorsed and his methods of conducting the affairs of the country universally approved.

And this result was not achieved because the people had no opportunity of hearing the other side of the question. Never since Confederation was such a vigorous campaign carried on by the opponents of a government as that waged by the Conservative party in 1908. From one end of the Dominion to the other, their stump orators were unceasingly active, sparing no effort to bring about the defeat of the government. Never was such a campaign of scandal and utter disregard of the most elementary principles of decency in political life ever carried on as by the opponents of the Laurier regime then put up. But it was all to no purpose; its very virulence destroyed much of its effect. The people of Canada are by this time sufficiently well educated in political matters to know that a government which could bring the country to such a pitch of prosperity as it at present enjoys, could not possibly be so utterly bad, as the party of Mr. Borden sought to make out. The result was that the people gave Sir Wilfrid a very strong mandate to go on with his work, turning his opponents, with their tales of scandal and slander, ignominiously down.

It does not look as if the people as a whole are of opinion, as The News-Advertiser says, that the Liberal party has been too long in office; though no doubt a small and misguided section of them would like to see a change. But such a change would be simply in their own interests and not those of the country at large.

THE BROWN TAIL MOTH

It is satisfactory to learn on the authority of Mr. Wm. McIntosh, the expert entomologist employed by the Provincial Government to investigate the Brown Tail Moth situation in the province, that so far he has not been able to find any indications that this dreaded pest has established itself in our borders down to the present time. In the course of his investigation, he has come across solitary specimens of this insect, but these were in all cases, of the male persuasion. The absence of any general find however, does not for one moment mean that there may be any cessation of vigilance on the part of agriculturists and others, for it is known that the moth has established itself within a comparatively short distance of the boundaries of the province, on both sides, and its appearance here may be announced any day.

Should it make its appearance in New Brunswick, it would be one of the greatest calamities that could happen to the province, for its capacity for doing damage both to fruit

and other trees is unlimited. Money to the amount of millions of dollars have been spent in the New England States in an attempt to eradicate the pest, with only some measure of success. The systematic campaign which was inaugurated by the Provincial Department of Agriculture under the late Deputy Commissioner, against this moth is being continued by the present Secretary of the department, and should meet with the hearty co-operation of every one, whether engaged in horticulture or not. There is too much at stake for the matter to be treated with indifference.

Mr. Lemieux, the Dominion Postmaster-General, can be assured of public approval of his efforts to improve the mail service between Canada and the United Kingdom. The arrangement for three mails weekly would be a considerable improvement on the present service if the sailings could be arranged so as to have the despatch of the mails fall on different days. If this could be arranged there would be a mail every other weekday, and the delay caused at present by there being no departure for several days would be avoided. Such an arrangement would in practice frequently save five or six days in the time occupied in the despatch of a letter from Canada to the United Kingdom and the receipt here of the reply. This would be a great advantage to merchants and others, and would tend to an increase in the business between Canada and Great Britain. With the Canadian Pacific and the Allan line carrying the mails jointly by their vessels and the White Star-Dominion, and Canadian Northern steamers, the facilities for the improvement of the Canadian mail service across the Atlantic are much better than they have ever been in the past. Mr. Lemieux has undoubtedly done a good deal to improve the services which his department can render to the country, and it is a branch of the administration that comes more into touch with the public than any other in the Federal Government.

NO TRACE IN N. B. OF BROWN TAIL MOTH

Mr. William McIntosh, curator of the Natural History museum at St. John, who was detailed by the Provincial government to make a lengthy search of the province for any signs of the dreaded Brown Tail Moth, has now presented the following report—

Hon. D. V. Landry,
Commissioner for Agriculture,
Fredericton, N.B.

Sir:—Acting upon instructions received from your department that a "reasonably careful search be made for the Brown Tail moth in this province" early in April I began the search. It was thought best to examine those sections where the moth may be expected to appear, namely the City of St. John and vicinity and the parts of Charlotte county bordering on the infected area in the state of Maine and the railway and highway roads leading from the state of Maine. All fruit trees within one hundred yards of the road or railroad were searched and a sharp lookout kept for nests on the forest trees. All schools passed en route were visited, and a short talk given on the Brown Tail moth, actual specimens were shown and a colored plate illustrating the life history of the mother, left in each school. Your inspector found it necessary to return to St. George and found the school children had thoroughly searched the trees in the vicinity and a number of summer nests of the cherry tortrix, which are very much like the Brown Tail nests, were removed and examined and one sent to St. John for identification. Since the inspection was made the teachers and school children of a number of the schools visited have been sending insects for examination showing that a watch is being kept for dangerous insects.

BEGUN AT ST. JOHN

The search was commenced in St. John city and suburbs, this area was most carefully gone over. Nearly every year male brown tail moths are taken in the city of St. John; this is not surprising for each summer large numbers of persons come from the infected districts in Massachusetts and moth are probably brought on clothing and baggage.

The search in Charlotte county was commenced at St. George and continued along the main road to St. Andrews. The section bordering the St. Croix river was inspected, St. Stephen and Milltown were visited and the highway road and railroad from Welsford to St. John.

Sixteen days were devoted to the search and we are pleased to say no traces of the brown tail moth were found in the districts visited.

Though the brown tail moth has not yet become established within the province, a number of adult male

MANY SETTLERS HAVE VERY HEAVY LOSSES

Some Lose Everything They Owned as Result of Forest Fires—Mills and Schools go up in Smoke, and Crops are gone for this Season.

Port Arthur, June 18.—Damage to tanding timber that cannot be estimated with any degree of accuracy, ut which will reach into the hundreds of thousands, dozens of settlers rendered homeless, and the fields scorched so that there is little likelihood of any crops being raised thereon this season, is in brief to date the result of the forest fires surrounding Port Arthur in every direction.

Telephone messages received tonight from Hymers and Kakabeka Falls are hat there is no sign of the fires abating. As the message was received in Port Arthur a light rain had begun to fall, but there was no sign of any at Kakabeka, where the families of every settlement for miles around have congregated for shelter and protection. Every family in the district has buried its valuables in the ground, and many have lost everything else, while others have so far saved their property only by ceaseless efforts. The principal sufferers are in Connec, O'Connor and Papiconge townships.

Among those who have lost their homes are E. K. White, Levi Scarrett and W. Barker. The school at O'Connor was burned. John Jacobs and Peter Liard lost all their outbuildings. William Muir and Winslow Bros. lost several thousands in cut timber. Greer Bros.' mill on the G. T. P. was burned, with a large quantity of timber. The families of G. Nordstrom and R. Neilson, totalling nine persons, were elieved to be lost today, but found heir way through the flames after a desperate battle in Kakabeka. Many sufferers are in dire need, and will require assistance from the outside world.

Charles Scorratt, who for years has oiled hard to make a home in which o house his family, now in the old country, is missing. Near midnight he awoke to find the sky reflecting the brilliancy of fire. His first thought was of the danger of the family of his nearest neighbor, whose home was situated in the thick forest two miles away. He had long since cut down and removed the timber for a considerable distance on either side of his home, and had slight misgivings for the safety of his own premises. Clad only in a pair of overalls, boots and an undershirt he ran to warn his distant neighbor. He has not since been since heard of, and it is feared that he has perished. Within twenty minutes from the time he departed his home and its contents were in ruins. That his family would not have to wait years to join him he had worked by day for the Kamistiquia Power Company at Kakabeka Falls, and spent the evening hours in the construction of his home.

MARYSVILLE TOPICS

Mr. Frederick Rowley, manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia at Kingston, Jamaica, accompanied by Mrs. Rowley, three children and nurse arrived in town on Thursday to visit Mr. Rowley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Rowley.

Miss Aggie Boyd injured her hand on Friday morning while at work in the weave room of the cotton mill.

Mr. McLeod Mills, organizer of the Canadian Order of Foresters, was in town last week. Twelve joined the order.

Miss Minnie Arnold entertained her young friends on Monday evening. The young folks enjoyed the games provided. During the evening light refreshments were served.

There was no service in the Methodist Church on Sunday as Rev. Mr. Berrie was in Sackville attending the Conference.

"Dunay!"
"What?"
"Night falls, but never breaks!"
"Uh, huh!"
"And day breaks, but never falls!"

moths have been taken as previously stated and we may reasonably expect it to appear as it is found in large numbers in the State of Maine, and also occurs in Nova Scotia. The moth was first noticed in Somerville, Mass., about sixteen years ago. It is a European insect which doubtless had been introduced into this country by accident.

Since its introduction it has spread rapidly and has proved one of the most dangerous insect pests known. Last year a half million dollars was spent in the State of Massachusetts for the suppression of Brown Tail and Gipsy moths, this included the state's annual appropriation of \$165,000. The State of Maine makes an annual grant of \$17,000 for the suppression of these pests. Wherever these insects have obtained a foothold and have been allowed to increase without being recognized, they have occasioned great loss and the expenditure of large sums for their suppression. Therefore, it is desirable that we should take measures to recognize and deal with them before they become established in any section of the province.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) WM. MCINTOSH.

ATTEMPT TO POISON BY AN EMPLOYEE

Several Attempts to Poison Ontario Merchant Led to a Watch Being Kept, with Result that Employee was Seen Putting Powder in His Tea.

Brockville, June 18.—Charles Landon, a well-known tinsmith, is in custody here, charged with the offence of attempting to poison Mr. Thomas Sheridan, of the firm of Sheridan & Power, one of his employers. The facts are that three weeks ago Mr. Sheridan, who took his lunch at his place of business, discovered a peculiar taste to his tea and threw it out. The same thing happened the following day and on two or three later occasions when it was decided to investigate, Henry Dyer, a constable, was placed in concealment in the building and through an opening, claims he saw Landon take from his pocket a paper and shake its contents into the tea. The two following days warm water alone was left in the tea bottle and Landon's arrest follows.

Samples have been sent to Prof. Ellis, of Toronto, but as yet no report has been received, and Landon is in jail. He was a quiet, inoffensive man with a highly respectable family, and his friends are at a loss to account for the strange action with which he stands charged.

MR. BORDEN'S ATTACK ON HON. DR. PUGSLEY

(Montreal Herald)

Mr. Borden's third picnic speech was dedicated to the shortcomings of Hon. Mr. Pugsley. He continues to take one topic at a time and to make in each case the argument of the counsel for the prosecution. The case against Mr. Pugsley consists of a collection of items gleaned from the inspection of the public accounts and from the interminable crossfiring that goes on while the estimates are under review. All these matters were fought out face to face with Mr. Pugsley during the session, and if the opposition had really had anything to produce of a nature to effectually discredit Mr. Pugsley they would have driven it home to him. It was not the will that was lacking. Mr. Borden is quite justified, of course in carrying before the people matters of which he believes parliament has not taken adequate note, but in the long run what must count is what happens when accused and accuser are face to face. People read the newspapers and form their own opinions from day to day. They know that every Minister of Public Works presides over the spending of considerable sums in all corners of the Dominion and that it is humanly impossible for everything to be done without criticism. But they know too that every time Mr. Pugsley has been attacked he has defended himself with admirable skill. Those who hear Mr. Borden will doubtless have a feeling in reserve that if Mr. Pugsley were present he could answer as well as he did in parliament. In point of policy, however, Mr. Borden must be conceded to be doing better than when he used to go about proclaiming policies in which his followers did not believe. A leader of opposition is always safe when he spends his energy in condemning the government, wholesale or in detail.

RISE IN WAGES FOR C. P. R. EMPLOYEES

Company Will Pay Seven Per Cent. Addition to Telegraphers and Offers the Same to Conductors and Trainmen.

Montreal, Que., June 19.—The Canadian Pacific Railway Company has arrived at an agreement with its railway telegraphers in regard to wages. The men are to get an increase of \$5 per month all round, which will average up as a seven per cent. increase. The men have accepted the increase. It is stated that there is a likelihood of the conductors and trainmen accepting a settlement on the same lines.

At the St. John office of the C. P. R. Co.'s Telegraph Co., it is stated that the increase at present applies only to the railway operators and that they have all received the advance. The commercial telegraphers now have a committee in Montreal, asking similar treatment and it is expected to be granted next week.

"Just look at the tailor measuring that fat man."
"Tailor? That's his architect. He's having a new villa built for himself."

Extract from a young lady's letter from Venice:
"Last night I lay in a gondola in the Grand Canal, drinking it all in, and life never seemed so full before."

June 7, 1910

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