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HOW THE TORIES PRACTICE THE HONESTY THEY PREACH

A favorite theme for Tory orators and their press organs, from Mr. R. L. Borden down to his local sheet, The Gleaner, is purity of politics and honesty in public life. It is a subject they are never tired of preaching, and from their style of treatment of the matter, one is led to think that in the conduct of their own affairs they are total strangers to anything not in strict accordance with the views they so freely express. At the same time they are never tired of pointing to occurrences which they assert are departures from the paths of honesty on the part of their political opponents; and have no hesitation in ascribing the most corrupt motives to Liberal statesmen both in season and out, if thereby their own purposes may be served. They are everlastingly howling about "graft, graft, graft," with a fluency which betokens a very intimate acquaintance with that subject in all its forms.

Their virulent tactics are more pronounced about election times, and it will be remembered how both Mr. Borden and his particular friend and ally, Mr. Roblin, the Premier of Manitoba, when they visited this city in the interests of the Conservative campaign in the last federal election and addressed the electors in the Opera House, handled the subject with special reference to the affairs of this province and the connection of the Minister of Public Works and other Liberal statesmen with them. After hearing all Mr. Roblin had to say about graft and dishonesty, it will come as a shock to most people to learn that he has been mixed up with about as bad a specimen of a grafting transaction as can well be imagined. It appears that Mr. Roblin was a one-third owner of a sand pit near Stonewall, Manitoba, and used his influence as Premier of Manitoba to secure the extension of the Canadian Northern line from Grosse Isle to the sand company's property four or five miles distant. The Canadian Northern built this spur under a Government guarantee of \$10,000 a mile, given without the authority of the Legislature. The sand company afterwards secured from the Canadian Northern the carriage, free of charge, of large quantities of sand, which netted Mr. Roblin and his partners handsome returns. The spur line served only the sand pit; it was not available for other purposes, and the public was refused the use of it for carrying freight.

Evidence has been brought to light that Mr. Roblin drew many thousands of dollars in the shape of freight from his share of the company's business.

Charged in the Legislature of his Province with using his position for his private and personal profit, he made a most unsatisfactory statement in defence of his action and induced the majority which he controls to vote down the demand which was made by the Opposition that the matter be investigated. By his refusing to face the charge in a manly, straightforward way, he tactfully admits that everything is not as above board, as it might have been, for a man who has nothing to conceal has no need to burke enquiry.

The charge made against Mr. Roblin is a very grave one for a public man to have made against him; and his failure to meet it, can only be accounted for in one way,—that he cannot do so. The electors of Manitoba to whom he is now appealing for a continuance of their support, should not accord it until he has proved to them that the charge is not justified. Until he can do this, he is not fit for the position he seeks to retain.

THE WORRIES OF THE HAZEN PARTY

The communication from "Traveller" which appeared in our columns a few days ago on some aspects of the provincial situation as affecting the interests of the Hazen fraternity in and around St. John Sussex, and Moncton, have drawn from other parts of the province similar expressions of opinion as to the deplorable plight which the aforesaid fraternity now find themselves. Go where you will, on all hands are heard the strongest condemnation of Mr. Hazen and his colleagues in the way they are mismanaging the affairs of the province. The very men who shouted loudest for them in the campaign of March 1908 are now shouting even louder still for their political heads and what is more the wont be happy till they get them. Neither is it to be wondered at that this should be so, for they are no only false to their pledges to the people but they cannot even agree amongst themselves. Though openly civil to each other, it is well known that some of the members of the executive would cut each others political throat with all the pleasure in life if they only dare and nothing but the dominant attitude of the Premier keeps peace between them. Throughout the province, people are heartily sick of the government vacillating policy and are only waiting an opportunity to rid themselves of a set of men who have shown themselves so entirely regardless of their professions they made when begging the support of the electors.

BORDEN AND GRAFT

The following from The Montreal Witness very aptly and forcibly touches upon the main consideration in connection with Mr. Borden's accusation of graft against the government:

There is one aspect of the present fight against "graft" which is genuinely consolatory, and that is that its very extent may be taken as proof that the morals of the people are improving. Mr. Borden is now arraigning the government daily concerning its sins of omission and commission, and does not always, to say the least, fail to make out a case—especially in some matters concerning the Quebec bridge—but, however convincing or otherwise his case may be, he does not prove that the standards of public life are lower today than heretofore; but rather that they are raised; and that the grafters, who have always preyed on succeeding governments, have, during recent years, had an enormous increase of opportunity owing to the increase of every kind of government activity. "To the victors belong the spoils," was, as it were, an order of nature in good old Tory days, and the scandals of those days are not yet forgotten, and are not likely to be. In those days, the Civil Service, for instance, was unregenerate, and "place" was almost invariably the reward of party service instead of essential fitness. The Civil Service has many blemishes still, but the Liberals have at least reformed the indoor branch of the service, and established the doctrine there of appointment for merit. Mr. Borden now reproaches, as do most of us, the treating of public offices as party spoils; and he may be able to do more in opposition than he could in office to drive it out of our governmental system entirely. Mr. Borden is acknowledged to have done much already in the cause of civil service reform, and we are sure that he will not weary in such well-doing; and in criticizing the government's administration and expenditures, he is performing a useful and even a necessary service to the country. Public opinion is educated to the point of considering his advice and weighing his judgments, and applauding his purpose to expose all things he considers harmful to our democratic institutions. When public opinion judges, however, between the parties represented respectively by Mr. Borden and Sir Wilfrid Laurier, it finds little encouragement to believe that the placing of Mr. Borden's party in power would be an improvement; and that is why Mr. Borden remains leader of the Opposition. For one thing, Mr. Borden represents the party of privilege as a principle, and such privilege has everywhere meant corrupt practices.

Mr. Borden must not only seek to persuade the people that his opponents are corrupt, if he expects to win, but he must prove clearly to the electorate that he and his party will purify the atmosphere if placed in office.

ALL NOT SUNSHINE IN HAZEN CAMP ON NORTH SHORE

The following communication inspired by "Travellers" letters to this journal, emphasises the conditions alleged by him to exist with regard to the Hazen government and the deplorable plight in which it now finds itself.

To the Editor of The Telegraph.
Sir,—The articles appearing in your columns during the last week, signed "Traveller," and dealing with the political feeling in different counties of New Brunswick pertaining to the Hazen government and its administration of provincial affairs, have suggested the idea of sending you a few of the political rumors and doings from this section.

There is evidently great dissatisfaction in the ranks of local government party here. The manner in which the all-wise dispenser of the patronage has been "doing things" does not meet with the approval of a certain following of Premier Hazen. This difference of opinion has reached such an acute stage that it became necessary to rush some one into the county to look the situation over and make report to headquarters. The work of investigation also embraced a look over the field for available candidates for next election, and, if one were to judge from the words of political wisdom dropped by the emissary in question, the present dispenser of local patronage will shortly receive a notice to "quit."

But the most interesting part of the battle within the ranks is the attempt made by the St. John political missionary to form a "ticket." In doing so, he has completely ignored those stalwarts who did battle for the Hazen party in the last contest, thus bringing down on his head the avowed vengeance, political and otherwise, of the only party, or remnant of a party, that could be found bold enough to openly take up the cudgels for the Hazen administration.

This has so embittered the situation that open threats of revolt are frequently heard and requests have gone forth demanding an immediate repudiation of the actions of "this stranger," as he is now styled by a certain section of the Hazen party.

This "stranger" takes pride in the boast that he has authority from the "chief of the wigwam" to act thus, and further states, as a guarantee of good faith, that he will at the next provincial contest in St. John city be a candidate to replace a certain doctor who has tired of provincial politics as conducted by Mr. Hazen.

That all is not sunshine in the Hazen camp is quite evident from the fact that this same individual does not hesitate, in the furtherance of his mission, to deal blows both treacherous and with fatal intention to the chief commissioner of public works. To those who give ear to his utterances, he does not hesitate to give positive proof of the existence in the Hazen government party of an even greater and worse "nest of traitors" than that which existed in the federal Conservative ranks in 1896. And thus the work of destructive organization within the ranks goes on.

If Mr. Morrissey is not slated for the slaughter, his friends should force the hand of Premier Hazen and make him repudiate the treacherous and unmanly utterances of such individuals as the one now parading his knowledge of the workings of the inner circle in the north shore counties.

ON THE SCENT.

Gloucester, June 28, 1910.

Mr. George Smith, formerly of this city but now of Boston, is spending a few days in town.

Mrs. W. G. Irving and little daughter have returned to Moncton after a short visit to her old home in this city.

Most every housekeeper knows what a job it is to clean a grater after grating coconuts, lemons, or, in fact, everything she grates. If she will have handy a small scrubbing brush or hand scrub, as they are called and scrub with this every particle will come out immediately and leave the grater sweet and clean.

These two things are very different propositions indeed, and, until but few voters remain alive who can remember the rampant corruption which marked the old Tory regime from first to last, it will indeed be difficult for Mr. Borden to get the majority of Canadians to take the pharisaic professions of Toryism in earnest. Denunciation of opponents is one thing. Proof of honesty and capability on the part of the denouncer is quite another, and the Opposition leader is likely to discover this truth, to his own disappointment, at the next election.

Mountains of iron in Gloucester; oceans of oil and tons of natural gas in Westmorland and Albert; hills of granite and of porphyry and undeveloped deposits of copper in Charlotte county,—who can say after this that New Brunswick is lacking in natural resources!

FISHERY INSPECTOR AFTER MILLOWNERS WHO POLLUTE STREAMS

Ald. Harrison, Dominion Inspector of fisheries has recently had several complaints concerning the dumping of sawdust in streams in different parts of the province and particularly with regard to the Kennebecasis river. He has begun to take steps to put a stop to the indiscriminate pollution of the streams about which so much has been said recently. Some two or three years ago Inspector Harrison drew the attention of I. E. McAuley of Millstream and Jones Brothers of Apohagui to the fact that their mills were offending against the regulations and discharging sawdust into the river and they promised amendment, but it seems that they have come to the conclusion that because they have not been drastically dealt with in the past they are forever to be permitted to use the streams to carry off the sawdust which they should burn or sell or otherwise dispose of.

The case of Jones Bros., again come under examination. It seems that the attention of the special guardians at Norton and Newton has been recently called to sawdust in the Millstream and the main river below Apohagui and an investigation was made. Jones Bros., in reply to a request for an explanation, made a rather peculiar one. They said that the men who have been raking the sawdust from their mill had strict instructions "to put nothing in the stream," "but," they added, "you know a man could not stand there and watch them all the time."

That reads, of course very much like a plea of aulity. They went on to say that they had a mountain of sawdust on the bank originally, but had burned up a great deal of it during the winter, but, they continued during the week previous to June 23, there was a freshet in the Millstream due to heavy rains "which undermined the pile and considerable (sawdust) dropped into the stream."

In spite of their contention that it is impossible to watch a man all the time, they added that they had kept particular watch during the last few days and that sawdust had not since been thrown into the river or allowed to fall into it.

Of course, it is perfectly clear that if any mill owner employs a man to handle sawdust, he can very readily control his actions sufficiently to prevent him dumping it into the river, or so piling it that it will fall in whenever there is a rise of water. Particularly is this true when the mill owner has been for years familiar with the flow of water in the streams and could tell accurately whether or not the sawdust was properly piled.

During the last year or two complaints of this character have been frequent and bitter, and finally it has been decided that law must be enforced and that excuses such as have been made hitherto will no longer be accepted. Those who are familiar with the facts have expressed surprise that more drastic action has not been taken long since with regard to many of the streams which for years have been ruined by abuses of the kind referred to.

NIGHT PROTECTION

A man named Fred McAfee was given protection at the police station last night.

PREACHED IN WOODSTOCK

Woodstock Press: Rev. H. J. McGill, of Caribou, Me., who is the guest of Rev. F. J. McMurray, officiated at the early Mass in St. Gertrude's Church on Sunday, and delivered a scholarly sermon at the high Mass to a large congregation.

MR. FOSTER HEARD FROM

Moncton Times: Hon. Geo. E. Foster who is spending the summer at Apohagui came to Moncton yesterday with the intention of visiting the oil and gas wells in Albert County but on account of the rain the trip was abandoned. During his stay in the city, Mr. Foster was the guest of Mr. P. S. Archibald. He will probably visit the oil wells later.

(Can it be that the machinery of the Union Trust Company is again in need of oil.)

PASSED AWAY AT GIBSON

The news of Miss Jessie M. Henderson's death at Gibson yesterday afternoon came as a severe shock to her large number of friends and acquaintances. Miss Henderson was taken suddenly ill with heart failure in the Marysville Cotton Mill Saturday. She never rallied from the attack and passed away at the home of her sister Mrs. Charles Anderson yesterday at 3.30 p. m. The deceased was 33 years of age and leaves two sorrowing sisters, Jennie at home and Mrs. Charles Anderson of Gibson. Three brothers also survive, John, in Maine, Charles and Archie at home. She was the daughter of the late Daniel Henderson of Durham. The remains will be taken to the 6.30 I. C. R. train this afternoon and conveyed to the deceased's home in Durham. Mr. John G. Adams is funeral director.

Peter Carroll of Halifax is a guest at the York.

GLOVES

June 24, 1910

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