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Fredericton, N. B., Oct. 17, 1910

THE SQUANDERING GOVERNMENT

Some startling facts in connection with the bridge work done in the province last year were brought out at the late session of the Legislature. Certain of these facts could be picked out from pages of the Auditor General's report. Others had to be gathered by inquiries made in the House, and it may be said, incidentally, that Hon. Mr. Morrissey on several occasions showed a marked disinclination to give to the Legislature the information to which the members were entitled as representatives of the people.

One of the facts brought out has been alluded to in the Mail—namely, that the tender system was ignored and hundreds of dollars expended under the day's work plan among friends of the administration. It has also been pointed out that in several cases work was done without any authorization from the departmental officials, but on the order of members supporting the government or even on the orders of defeated Conservative candidates. But a noteworthy and most unsatisfactory condition has been found to exist in regard to the structural superintendents employed by the government and paid out of the public treasury. In Albert County a few days ago a gentleman drew attention to the fact that the structural superintendent there was paid \$9 in connection with work on the Forks Bridge when the total amount of the pay list, the sum actually paid for the labor, was \$9. What policy can justify the expenditure of \$9 for superintending outlay of the same amount? In the case of the Prosser Brook Bridge in the same county the same superintendent was paid \$10 or more than half the amount of the pay list. In the case of the Fillmore Bridge the same superintendent was paid \$14.80 with the pay list some \$25.

In other counties, too, there were some very peculiar features in connection with the expenditure of the people's money. An inquiry in the House brought out the fact that in one case the superintendent was paid \$250 and the pay list was \$266. On a Charlotte County bridge the pay list was \$63; the amount paid for superintendence was \$53. On another bridge in the same county the superintendent was paid \$10 and the pay list was \$2.75. Even more blameworthy was the case in which the pay list was \$23.25 and the superintendent was paid no less than \$42, or nearly twice as much as the men who did the work received. In Kings, Queens and other counties a similar condition of affairs prevailed. In Queens, the home of Mr. Woods and the constituency also of the Solicitor-General's bosom friend, Mr. Slipp, in the case of one bridge the superintendent was paid nearly \$8 and the pay list was an even \$9. The same superintendent was paid nearly \$7 in connection with another bridge, while the pay list was \$11. But this was not all. The same superintendent received over \$5 when the pay list was \$3.25. So the story goes. York county contributed its startling outlays, but more attention may be given them in a later issue.

Some of the expenditures, it may be said, were small ones. The question to be considered is not so much whether or not the amounts spent have been large. The chief question is as to whether or not proper methods are followed in the handling of public affairs. If an administration is careless or extravagant or worse in regard to small matters, in regard to the expenditure of small sums, it will be careless or extravagant or worse in its course in reference to more important matters and in reference to the expenditure of thousands.

Moreover, in New Brunswick the loss of even a comparatively small amount is a matter of seriousness since the income is not large and the operation of the provincial affairs last year showed a deficit of some \$170,000.

Utter disregard of the tender system to which it was pledged and the extravagant use, or the mis-use, of the public funds is unfortunately characteristic of the present government's course in regard to bridge work as it has been in regard to other provincial affairs. It is not surprising that there is growing apprehension among the people.

"There is one thing they cannot take from me. They cannot take from me either my pride, my dignity or my courage. They cannot take from me this fact, historic now, that during the fourteen years of the Laurier Government there has been more harmony, more peace, more prosperity, more good feeling amongst the Canadian people than at any previous epoch of our history. My last word to the electors of Montreal, my fellow citizens of all origins and all parties of the Province, is that with out undue worry about my personal feelings you should remain now and always faithful to those principles of progress, liberty, tolerance and justice which have assured that measure without precedent of unity, harmony, well being and prosperity which has marked our progress during the past few years." —Sir Wilfrid Laurier at Montreal.

It seems to be generally understood that Senator McGregor, of New Glasgow, will be the next Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.

AMHERST BAPTIST CHURCH CELEBRATES CENTENARY

Amherst, Oct. 16.—Overflowing attendance marked all the centenary services in the first Baptist Church, today. In the morning Rev. J. H. McDonald, of Fredericton, was the chief speaker who took for his subject, The Worth of a Century of Church Work. In the afternoon Rev. G. A. Lawson, of Halifax, spoke on Some Sunday School Values. His address was an able effort and was followed with marked attention.

President Cutten, of Acadia, an old Amherst boy, was the speaker in the evening and delivered an eloquent and practical address on economic problems in connection with church work. One of the features of the morning and evening services was the appeals to wipe off the debt of the church. Pledges aggregating \$12,000 were given covering a period of five years. Among the contributors was E. N. Rhodes, M. P., \$200 a year for five years; N. Carrey, G. B. Smith and anonymous contributors gave a like amount. There were in all about 100 pledges procured. The services will be continued until Thursday.

The fine schoolhouse at Chignecto Mines about five miles from Amherst was destroyed by fire on Saturday. It was in two departments and the loss to this section will be about \$1500. It is not known how the fire originated. A meeting of the ratepayers of the section is called for Saturday night to arrange for temporary quarters for the pupils.

SHOOTING AND STABBING AFFRAY AT SPRINGHILL

Springhill, N. S., Oct. 16.—A shooting and stabbing affray occurred in Springhill last night, whereby two young men received serious wounds, which, in one case, may prove fatal. D. McKay and a companion were approaching the farmers' house at midnight when an Italian approached them and some words passed between McKay and the foreigner. McKay received a wound in the back from some sharp instrument. The cut is one inch long and penetrated the lung. While McKay was receiving first aid, George Crummie was brought in suffering from a pistol shot in the face. He was walking into town and when near the main gate of No. 2 slope saw an Italian in an altercation with one of the town men. When nearing the disputants and under the glare of an arc light he saw the Italian draw a revolver and fire at the other. There were five shots, one of which hit Crummie in the left cheek bone.

This is the first instance during the strike that anything of a serious nature has arisen, whereby bloodshed has followed.

TURKISH GOVERNMENT FACING A CRISIS

Constantinople, Oct. 17.—The Turkish government is facing a final crisis. Three members of the cabinet resigned today because of complications over the army budget.

GET RICH QUICK SHELDON LOCATED IN NEW YORK

Montreal, Oct. 14.—C. D. Sheldon, the financial wizard, whose sudden departure many people in Canada are mourning, was heard from today. Two letters dated New York yesterday were received from him today. One of these was received by David Burnside, his former office manager and the other by H. B. O'Neill, one of Sheldon's agents.

In both letters Sheldon claims that he went to New York to get friends to meet the demands upon him, and that he failed in doing so, but that his New York backers are willing to set him up in business in New York. He adds that he will make money enough to come back and pay up all he owes.

The letter for his former manager which is rather unique, follows:

Dear Mr. Burnside:—As I write I can see no other way but for me to operate here instead of returning to Montreal. Others are interested with me in the funds on deposit here. This has been the case since last January when they assisted me at the time of the decline in this market. They will allow me the capital to use in this market, but not to pay out in a sum like that of the past week or two.

WILL STILL OPERATE.

This does not mean that I am to forsake my Montreal friends. I shall

operate with capital large enough to enable me to pay them all within a reasonable time. This I shall do. The only danger is that some may be disposed to interfere with me, which would delay me and possibly make my efforts useless.

I think you know me well enough to understand that I shall not let any one lose by me if I can possibly help it.

I realize fully the position that this places you in and many others. I was fighting for you all more than myself at the last.

I can not dwell upon these things now, but I can only say that I will work to relieve the situation at the earliest possible time. I will let you know my address and get into communication as soon as it will do.

If I could control matters there, I would put my property at the riding academy into your hands, but probably that is already attended to in some way.

It was hard to lose the fight there—as much or more for my friends' sake than my own. But words fail.

Shall do all I can and as soon as I can to help all who have stood by me.

(Sgd.) C. D. SHELDON.

Today, before the letter was received, Mr. Burnside had sworn out a warrant for Sheldon's arrest.

A STOLEN LETTER CAUSES STORM AT TORONTO

Bishop Fallon's Views on Bilingual Teaching Given to Press—Private Secretary, of Cabinet Minister Loses His Job on Account of the Incident.

Toronto, Oct. 16.—Some excitement has been caused in political and in church circles in Ontario by the recent publication of a letter addressed to Dr. Pyne, Ontario minister of education, by Hon. William J. Hanna, provincial secretary.

It seems that Bishop Fallon, Roman Catholic prelate of London, Ont., has been criticized freely by French Catholics for his alleged hostility to the schools in western Ontario in which the teaching is done in French and he and Mr. Hanna had a conference over the subject. Hanna sent a note of the conference to his colleague and also to Dr. Reaume, minister of public works, and Reaume's private secretary took the letter off the minister's private file and sent it to Friden, who gave it to the newspapers.

As soon as Premier Whitney heard of this he investigated and dismissed H. C. A. Maisonneville, secretary, who admitted taking the letter which had been published in Montreal.

Today at Goderich, Bishop Fallon made a statement on the matter, in which he repeated the statement that he had never shown hostility to the French people or tongue in any way. He entirely exonerates Mr. Hanna from any dishonorable act, but says he warned Mr. Reaume against Mr. Maisonneville, the secretary, some time ago, and that his failure to act re-

quires explanation.

The bishop goes on to draw a sorry picture of the illiteracy and backwardness of the schools where the teaching is done in French, or French and English combined, and severely criticizes the educational administration of Ontario for allowing such a state of affairs to continue.

He says:

BI-LINGUAL SYSTEM USELESS.

"On the main issue Mr. Hanna stated my views with absolute exactitude and I desire to reaffirm them. The alleged bilingual system of education, as it prevails in certain parts of the province of Ontario, is absolutely futile as concerning the teaching of either English or French, and utterly hostile to the best interests of children, both English and French.

"Let me cite a few facts, culled from a multitude, that I have collected on my tour through the diocese of London. During my present confirmation tour a French-Canadian pastor of a French-Canadian parish, in Essex County, said to me in the presence of witnesses: 'Half the boys whom you confirmed, this morning, (they ranged from eleven to fifteen years), can neither read nor write. Every year since I came here I have offered a gold medal to the child who could pass the entrance examination. No one has ever passed.'

"Another pastor made an equally appalling statement to me regarding the illiteracy of his children. Adjacent to him is still another district in which for the past twenty-five years not a single child has been able to obtain an entrance certificate and six of eighteen French-Canadian priests in active service in my diocese have expressed to me their unqualified dissatisfaction with the manner in which the children are being educated in the so-called bilingual schools."

His lordship blames the system for the present deplorable state of affairs.

NORTH SHORE AUTOISTS HAD NARROW ESCAPE

Dalhousie, N. B., Oct. 15.—Roland Moffat, W. A. Mott, Peter Shannon, Garry Brown and Jack Kerr left for Campbellton this afternoon in Mr. Moffat's valuable automobile. When about a mile above town the occupants noticed the auto on fire and jumped to save their lives just as an explosion took place which destroyed the auto, and some of the baggage.

Mr. Moffat, who was leaving for Gaspe with his auto, had taken an extra supply of gasoline, which no doubt was the cause of the accident.

Miss Nellie L. Wiley, who has been visiting relatives in this city, returned to her home in Jacksonville, Car. Co., this morning.

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SIR WILFRID LAURIER'S ADDRESS

(Continued from page five.) several possible varieties of hostile undertakings, but always insisted that the control must and would be in Canada. The navy would not go to a war like the Crimean war. It would go to a war in which the naval supremacy of Great Britain was seriously threatened. In both cases, because the people of Canada would have it so. There would be no conscription, not even, in all likelihood, much loss of life. The British navy hadn't been in a serious battle for a hundred and five years. But now, under all circumstances, this must be a Canadian navy. It will bother the Nationalists to show where they are more Canadian than the Liberal leader.

Mrs. Daniel Richards, Mrs. A. B. Kitchen and Mrs. B. M. Mullin are on a trip to Boston. Senator Thompson and daughter, Miss Nan Thompson, have gone on a trip to Boston and New York.

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