

The Daily Mail

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Fredericton, N. B., Oct. 11, 1911

THE NEW CABINET

The announcement of the personnel of the Borden government has brought a number of surprises to politicians and to the people generally. The surprises, moreover, have not all been pleasant, either to politicians or the men of the rank and file. How successful the new ministers will be is, of course, a matter for conjecture but certainly there is reason for fear that they will not all measure up to the high responsibilities which will rest upon them.

New Brunswick people will be glad that a citizen of this province has been entrusted with an important portfolio, though it must be admitted that it is difficult to see what qualifications are possessed by Hon. J. D. Hazen which specially qualify him for the department of Marine and Fisheries. It is well known here and elsewhere that Mr. O. S. Crockett, M.P., and his friends are much chagrined because of Mr. Hazen's preference over the head of York's representative. And, quite possibly, they have reason to be. The Mail has not regarded Mr. Crockett as a very capable representative, but certainly he has fought well for his party in its days of adversity and, to say the least, it is grossly unfair to him to pass him over for a man whose record as premier of this province has been one of continued weakness. Apparently Mr. Borden's policy is not to be to give the honors to the men who have worked hard in opposition days. York, in consequence, is to be deprived of its due—a cabinet minister as its representative.

Another one of the surprises, and this is a matter of more general importance, has been the appointment of Mr. Martin Burrell as Minister of Agriculture. It had been generally understood since the defeat of the Liberal ministry that Hon. Mr. Fisher, a practical farmer, would be succeeded in the Agricultural Department by one of the few Conservative farmers in the new House, Mr. Andrew Broder. Mr. Broder has followed Mr. Borden in the Commons for some years and as a farmer, was expected to be entrusted with the farmers' department. Instead he is passed over for a younger member who is not a farmer but a fruit-grower. True, Mr. Borden has chosen better in picking a Minister of Agriculture than did Mr. Hazen a few years ago, for a fruit-grower is preferable to a medical doctor like Hon. Dr. Landry, but certainly Mr. Broder, as an experienced farmer, would be preferable to a gentleman fruit-grower.

Happily, Hon. Mr. Foster is not to be entrusted with the important Finance Department, but is to be consold with a portfolio of lesser importance. The Minister of Finance is to be Hon. Mr. White of Toronto. Mr. White's appointment provides evidence of Mr. Borden's peculiar attitude towards stalwart Conservatives. Until a few months ago Mr. White was a prominent Liberal in Toronto. He broke with his party on the reciprocity issue and now he is given the most important portfolio in the gift of Premier Borden, while men who have fought Conservative battles for years are passed by.

Of course there is a reason for Mr. White's appointment which, by the way, has called forth public protests on the part of Ontario Conservatives. Mr. White is a representative of the capitalists. He is prominent in the National Trust Company and other corporations. Naturally, the "interests" which did so much to help Mr. Borden in his fight for power have demanded recognition. Mr. White's

appointment is partial recognition. The people will pay the bill for still further recognition.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Borden has chosen as his Minister of Railways an Ontario man. Ontario management of the Intercolonial was unsuccessful under Liberal rule, and it will be equally successful under Conservative rule. One of the few blunders changeable against Sir Wilfrid Laurier was his appointment of an Ontario man to the Railways portfolio, and Mr. Borden has not profited by Sir Wilfrid's experience. The Maritime Provinces are evidently to suffer injustice in this respect.

Most unfortunate of all, from a national point of view, has been Premier Borden's preference of Quebec Nationalists. Mr. F. D. Monk, Mr. Bourassa's chief associate, has been placed in control of the Public Works Department; Mr. L. P. Pelletier, another Nationalist, is made Postmaster General; and, perhaps worst of all, Mr. W. B. Nantel has been appointed Minister of Inland Revenue. It was at a meeting in Mr. Nantel's interests in the recent campaign that a Nationalist speaker waved the French tri-color and shouted that "That is the flag which will be placed on high on September 21st."

Here, placed in cabinet positions, are men who urged it against Sir Wilfrid Laurier that he was "too English," that he had betrayed French-Canadians to the English. Here are men who have been and are heroes of the Nationalist party which is opposed to having Canada assist in the defence of the Empire. These men, mark you, are ministers of the crown through the will of Mr. Borden.

It had been hoped that Premier Borden, taking office with a majority which made him independent of the Nationalists, would give that un-British party the rebuke it so well merits. Instead of so doing, however, he is placing its representatives in positions of prominence and power. And thus he has stimulated and strengthened the Nationalists as a dangerous force in the Dominion. The subject thus raised is worthy of serious and earnest consideration on the part of public spirited citizens of all political beliefs.

These are some of the thoughts suggested by Mr. Borden's surprising selections. Others will come readily to mind. Enough has been said, however, to indicate what is certain to be the fact, namely that the new premier has started his official career in a manner that has aroused grave misgivings in the breasts of many of his supporters and bitter rancor in the breasts of others of his followers.

Many people are wondering where Premier Hazen is going to find a seat in parliament? When the late Hon. A. G. Blair resigned the premiership of N. B. to join Sir Wilfrid Laurier's cabinet he met with opposition when he sought election in Sunbury and Queens. Having been one of the men who engineered the opposition to Mr. Blair, Mr. Hazen would have no right to complain if he were given a dose of his own medicine.

Mr. Borden's turndown of O. S. Crockett has recalled to the minds of many people a somewhat celebrated decision handed out by a local J. P. some years ago in a case in which the member for York appeared as counsel. It is a case of lightning striking twice in the same place.

In the Laurier Government the important portfolios of Public Works, Finance and militia were held by Maritime province members. In the Borden cabinet we have the premier, and the minister of marine and fisheries. I will the people be satisfied with the change.

With Mr. Shipp, M.P.P. it is said to be a case of heads I win tails you lose. If Mr. Grimmer gets the premiership he will be solicitor general; if Mr. Flemming becomes head of the government some other fellow will get the job which the member of Queens would like to have.

The personnel of the Borden cabinet as announced yesterday is scarcely likely to arouse any great degree of enthusiasm throughout the country. It is at best a poor exchange for the strong administration that resigned office on Friday last.

The Quebec Nationalists seem to have faced very well at the hands of Borden. They landed the portfolios of Public Works, Justice, Inland Revenue and the Postmaster General.

The Tory patriots of Williamsburg, Hamtown and New Maryland and other ultra Protestants sections of York will probably be astonished when they learn from an Ottawa despatch in the local Tory organ that the Quebec representation in the Borden Cabinet consists of four Roman Catholics and one protestant, and that the latter is without portfolio. From the time the Laurier government took office in 1896 until its retirement a few days ago the English speaking minority of Quebec were represented by a minister with an important portfolio.

Had Mr. Crockett been taken into the government he would probably have stood out for a portfolio of some importance. In the case of Mr. Hazen he was glad to take whatever offered.

Local government organs are now telling us that Hon. Mr. Flemming can have the premiership if he wants it. From a Liberal standpoint it is sincerely hope that he will want it.

With Mr. Grimmer as premier, Mr. McLeod as surveyor general and Mr. Shipp as solicitor general, the provincial ship of state will be apt to find breakers ahead.

Premier Hazen ought to be the happiest man in the province today. He has escaped from the local government and he has landed a portfolio in the Borden cabinet.

Hon. George E. Foster enjoys the distinction of being the only member of the Borden cabinet who has had previous experience as a member of a Dominion government.

The York County Tories who were jealous of landing a portfolio in the Borden cabinet, will wake up to the fact one of these days that they are only flies on the wheel.

Mr. T. A. Hart's majority in Charlotte was 196. With the St. Stephen vote cut out he would have been in a minority of thirty-seven.

Col. Sam Hughes, who routed the Boers and brought the South African war to a close is Mr. Borden's minister of militia and defence.

The light house keepers of the rock bound coast of Sunbury should apply to the new minister of marine for an increased stipend.

If Mr. Shipp of Queens lands a portfolio in the Local Government it will not be with the assistance of Messrs Crockett and McLeod.

The members of the Crockett-McLeod faction are not in the best of humor these days.

THE ROSARY

A modern play to be presented at the City Opera House on Thursday evening. "The Rosary." It was written by Edw. E. Rose, is produced under the management of Mont Thompson, with the well known young American actor, John Meehan in the role of "Father Kelly."

Quietly and modestly, with no blare of trumpets, the play projects a quiet word into our turmoil of opinions, which many believe will revolutionize our ethics of marriage and divorce; as an illustration, "The Rosary" takes you into the heart of an American home, such as our homes are today. It shows peace and happiness—then suddenly trouble comes—lack of faith in the husband. Slowly, little by little, is seen the devastating power of atheism, how it saps the strength and breaks the will, so that when doubt and suspicion creep in they find fertile soil for the descendants,—hatred and revenge. Then comes the spiritual power of a great man,—a priest, whose life is given to mankind. Slowly he analyzes the situation and the husband and wife, whom he loves, out of the darkness to happiness and peace. Seats on sale at Ryan's Drug Store.

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MUNICIPALITIES CONVENTION

(Continued from page one)

very great benefit if the Board of Education would secure uniform instruction in the public schools dealing with the main underlying principles of municipal government and the assessment of taxation under existing laws.

The eleventh annual convention of the Union of Canadian Municipalities was held on August 29, 30 and 31 in Quebec City at which our Union was represented by our Honorary Secretary, Mr. McCready and our ex-president, Mayor Reilly. They will report the results arrived at by that body.

Your executive appointed Ald. Potts of St. John to represent this Union at the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities held at Halifax on August 24 and 25 last. A report of their deliberations will be presented to you.

Although your Executive has not been called upon to take any formal objection to any legislation in the province during the year, our Secretary has been called upon to give considerable time and a good deal of attention to legislation seeking control of public rights and utilities, especially those relating to our water powers.

As no question of a pressing nature has been sent in to your Executive, that committee has not met since our last convention until today and a report of this meeting will be presented to you.

As you will see by the program, the matters to come before this convention are many and important and I feel assured will receive your earnest attention. As chairman I would ask each and every one of you for your kind assistance in making this, our sixth annual convention, a success and one on which we can with pride look back as having succeeded in bringing provincial as well as local organizations into mutually helpful relations.

I desire in the name of this convention to welcome to our conference the representatives of our provincial government who are with us today.

This Union, gentlemen, has already by careful attention to public matters, secured a high place and a substantial influence in the opinion of the government and the legislature. We must be very zealous in maintaining that influence and upholding the reputation of the Union. In this connection I would remind the members of the association that in two very important matters the opinion and advice of former conventions have been adopted by the provincial government and embodied in legislative enactment. I refer to the act under which the Public Utilities Commission has been appointed and the policy adopted by the government in prohibiting the exportation of pulp wood.

Since our last convention perhaps the most notable event in the affairs of the British Empire was the coronation of our beloved sovereign, King George Fifth. His Majesty, since his ascension to the throne, has already firmly established his claim upon the affections of the people over whom he rules. The province of New Brunswick yields second place to no portion of the British Empire in its loyalty and devotion to the crown, and I feel sure that you will all join heartily with me in the wish that the reign of King George V may be long and glorious and that the great Empire over which he rules may continue to occupy a foremost place among the nations of the world. It is a genuine pleasure to remember that New Brunswick was so admirably represented at the coronation proceedings by our worthy premier, the Honourable J. Douglas Hazen.

Gentlemen, I commend to your careful consideration the several matters which will be brought before you for discussion at the present convention.

A. STERLING, President.

Other addresses were delivered by Mayor Thomas and City Clerk McCready of Fredericton.

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MAIL PUBLISHING CO., LTD.

A Special General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Mail Publishing Company, Ltd. will be held at the office of Mr. W. J. Osborne (corner of Queen and York Streets) in the City of Fredericton, York County, on Monday the sixteenth day of October A. D. 1911 at the hour of four o'clock in the afternoon for the purpose of altering, if thought advisable, by-law No. 5 of the Company relating to the notice and publication and posting thereof, calling the annual or any meeting of the Shareholders of the Company. And generally to do and transact such business of the Company as may be requisite and proper. Dated this third day of October A. D. 1911.

R. W. McLELLAN,
Secretary.