

The Daily Mail

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Fredericton, N. B., Mar. 25, 1911

"NO CONTRACT SIGNED"

"No contract for the construction of the Valley Railway has been signed by the government." This was the statement made in the House of Assembly on Friday by Premier Hazen. The statement came in reply to an inquiry made by Hon. Mr. Robinson, the Opposition leader, as to whether or not the declaration of government speakers in the present campaign that a contract had been signed was correct or not.

Premier Hazen's own admission, then, is that his government has not signed any contract for the construction of the desired railway. In the light of this official statement the electors of York will be able to judge of what reliance can be placed in the statements made by government campaigners as they go here and there through the country desperately endeavoring to save Dr. Morehouse from defeat next Thursday. If these government speakers would deliberately seek to mislead the people by saying that a contract for the building of the Valley Road had been signed when as a matter of fact there had been no such action whatever taken it may be readily understood that other statements these gentlemen may make on the stump are open to grave suspicion of gross inaccuracy.

The Hazen government has accomplished nothing toward the construction of the road. The Mail does not say that the ministers did not try to persuade certain contractors and railway corporations to take hold of the Valley Road project. No doubt they made several attempts to enlist the interest of contractors or companies, the Canadian Pacific, for instance, took quite a kindly interest in the Hazen Valley line scheme. But what this paper does say, and says it without fear of successful contradiction, is that the Hazen government has utterly failed in all efforts it put forth in this direction. The Hazen ministry has utterly failed to accomplish anything definite. If the building of the Valley Road depended solely upon Mr. Hazen and Mr. Flemming and their associates, the proposed railway would not be under construction for years to come, perhaps never.

Fortunately, however, the people of the Valley have friends who are more energetic and more capable than the members of the Hazen ministry. Through the efforts of friends of the present provincial Opposition party, a strong company has been formed ready to enter into a contract. The minute the Hazen government says the word; to enter into a contract to construct a high-grade competing line with trunk road connections, the whole to be handed over to the Intercolonial for operation as soon as it is completed.

If the people of York by voting for Mr. Burden, the Opposition candidate, say that they favor the immediate construction of the road and its operation by the Intercolonial as a part of a trunk line system, then, compelled by the will of the people, his masters, Mr. Hazen must sign the contract for the construction of the road by the Quebec and New Brunswick Company. The people of York have the matter in their own hands. If they really want the road built as a good road, a competing road, a road operated under a system that means cheaper rates than are given on a company-operated road, then the election of Mr. Burden will express their will in a way that Premier Hazen dare not ignore.

It is the people's own interests that are at stake in this campaign.

THE PEOPLE PAY

The Mail makes no apology for referring once more to the Hazen government's record in connection with the bridge work in York County. The report of the Auditor General on the bridge accounts of the government for 1910 has revealed a state of affairs of which the seriousness has startled even members of the House supporting Mr. Hazen. These gentlemen, like the people of the country, had no idea of the astounding manner in which very large sums of the public money have been thrown to a few individuals employed to supervise the bridge work while the men who did the actual labor had to be content with much smaller amounts.

It is because of the seriousness of the matter that The Mail feels that no apology is necessary for again touching upon it in this column. It is the duty of a newspaper to draw public attention to any matter which causes unnecessary loss to the people and makes for the advantage of the few at the expense of the many.

Surely, it is time to protest when in two years, 1909 and 1910, under the Hazen government, the bridge superintendents and foremen and inspectors and caretakers are paid between \$50,000 and \$60,000. Surely it is time for the people to rebuke a government which is so reckless as to allow this enormous sum to be poured into the pockets of a few of its political friends. Surely, it is time to protest when competent artisans, who might be appointed superintendents or inspectors, where superintendents or inspectors are really necessary, are passed over and medical doctors and barristers-at-law are selected for the positions.

But, it may be asked, will the figures and facts indicated in the foregoing paragraph stand examination? To persons who might ask such a question The Mail would say: Procure a copy of the Auditor General's report of 1909 and one of 1910; go through the bridge accounts of each county; add up the several amounts that were paid for superintendence, etc., and it will be found that the statement that more than \$50,000 was paid in these two years to the inspectors and superintendents and foremen and caretakers is absolutely true. The government is condemned by its own report.

Are these superintendents and inspectors and foremen friends of the government? A careful examination of the facts will show beyond peradventure that they are. Is Mr. R. A. Logan a friend of the government? Is his son, Mr. G. E. Logan, a friend of the government? Is Dr. Morehouse, one of the York bridge inspectors, a friend of the government? These are York County men who were well paid out of the provincial treasury last year for services in connection with the bridges. Just as they are un doubted partisans of the administration so are men in other counties who were similarly paid in 1910 and in 1909.

Are competent artisans passed over in favor of doctors and lawyers? On page 118 of the Auditor General's report for 1910 there appears the record of a payment of nearly \$100 to Dr. O. E. Morehouse for bridge inspection. On page 112 of the same report there appears the record of a payment of more than \$100 to Mr. A. W. Chapman as foreman on a Westmorland bridge. Mr. Chapman is a barrister-at-law residing and practising at Dorchester, Westmorland County.

A careful examination of the Auditor General's report for 1910 and the use of a little elementary arithmetic will show to any person that last year there was paid for superintendence and foremanship and inspection and caretaking in connection with the ordinary bridges of this county over \$2,600. A little further examination will show that of this large amount by far the greatest proportion was paid to Messrs. R. A. Logan and G. E. Logan. These two gentlemen together were paid nearly \$2,000.

While they are partisans of the present government no doubt many of the persons employed as superintendents and foremen and inspectors are reputable men. The Mail has no quarrel with them. But The Mail does condemn, and wishes that it had the power to condemn more forcibly, the system under which two men, supervisors of bridge work in York county, were paid, \$2,000 and that in several amounts wholly disproportionate to the sums paid the workmen who did the real labor on the bridges. The Mail does condemn the system of the Hazen government whereby hundreds, yes, thousands, of

Liberal Opposition Meetings

SATURDAY

MEDUCTIC—Speakers—F. B. Carvell, M. P., and others.

MYSHRALL SETT—Speakers—J. P. Bryne, M. P. P., and H. F. S. Paisley.

POKIOK—Speakers—George W. Upham, M. P. P. and the candidate, George F. Burden.

UPPER MAGAGUADAVIC—Speakers—S. B. Hatheway and others.

MONDAY

WOODLANDS—Speakers—W. L. McFarlane and others.

CROSS CREEK—Speakers—Hon. C. W. Robinson and N. W. Brown.

MAGUNDY—Speakers—S. B. Hatheway and others.

TUESDAY

MARYSVILLE—Speakers—F. B. Carvell, M. P. and A. B. Copp, M. P. P.

BURTT'S CORNER—Speakers—Hon. C. W. Robinson and others.

UPPER PRINCE WILLIAM—S. B. Hatheway and others.

FOSTERVILLE—Speakers—A. M. Bentley, M. P. P. and E. H. Allen.

MENUTT'S MILLS—Speakers—Dr. D. R. Moore and others.

CENTRAL HAINESVILLE (Afternoon)—Speakers—Geo. F. Burden and others.

UPPER HAINESVILLE (Evening)—Speakers—George F. Burden and others.

WEDNESDAY

SMITHFIELD—Speakers—S. B. Hatheway and others.

dollars are being annually poured into the pockets of party friends of the administration for services which in some cases are absolutely unnecessary and in others are not nearly worth the large sums which are paid for them.

Careful handling of the public monies that the bridges and the roads of the province might receive the benefit even though there were fewer "plums" for Mr. Hazen's special friends—that is what is needed in this province today. But apparently that necessary change will not come until the people by their votes make clear to the administration that they disapprove emphatically of the present system whereby public money is wasted for the benefit of partisan friends of the government. It is the people's money that has been poured into the pockets of the superintendents and inspectors and foremen in York and in other counties.

Next week hundreds of electors in this county will, by their votes, rebuke the government for its course. And the number pledged to support Mr. Burden, the Opposition candidate, is becoming larger every day as the facts in connection with the bridge expenditures in York are becoming more widely known.

From the valued St. John Standard we learn that Mr. Carvell was very much frightened when he heard that Hon. J. K. Flemming would meet him in a joint debate at Meductic this evening. If the Standard had desired to give its readers a real nice little story, with the effect unspooled by any regard for truth, it might have said that at last reports Mr. Carvell was running at top speed for the Maine border to get away from the ferocious Hon. J. K., while the \$20-a-day Gleaner had its liegraph machine taking a picture of the terror-stricken flight. The Mail is sorry for Mr. Carvell. How he must tremble at the thought of having to meet Mr. Flemming. We hope, though that Mr. Flemming will not take a leaf out of Mr. McLeod's book and fail to be on hand when the chairman opens the meeting at Meductic this evening. Incidentally, Mr. Flemming can have another chance to meet Mr. Carvell in joint debate here on Wednesday next if the Provincial Secretary's courage holds out that long.

Down in Sussex two and a half years ago the invincible warrior of Kings-Albert, known to fame as one of the "Keep it mum, dear Lefurgey"

land-deal men, met Mr. F. B. Carvell, M.P., in joint debate. The invincible warrior was retired to private life after the debate and Dr. McAlister was chosen to succeed him as the representative of King-Albert at Otawa. The Mail is very glad that after many urgings Hon. Mr. Flemming has mustered up courage enough to meet Mr. Carvell. But when Mr. Fowler, the once invincible warrior of Kings-Albert, hears of Mr. Flemming's rash decision he will doubtless murmur: "Poor Kidd."

The last contested by-election to fill a single vacancy in York's provincial representation was on the occasion when Premier Hazen ran against the present Judge Wilson. All that happened was that Mr. Hazen was defeated by more than a thousand majority. York by-elections are not healthy contests for Hazen candidates, but to quote his own words as printed in the \$20-a-day Gleaner, the trusting premier still has "abiding faith in the people of York." Faith, not words, has often been shown by Mr. Hazen's losing suit.

The utter recklessness of some of the statements now being made by Hon. Mr. McLeod and his present side partner, Hon. Mr. Maxwell, may deceive a few voters who are not very familiar with the real facts bearing on provincial issues. But they are going to put Mr. O. S. Crockett, M. P., in an awful hole a little later on. "The people like to be fooled," said a great circus promoter and he might have added "but only once."

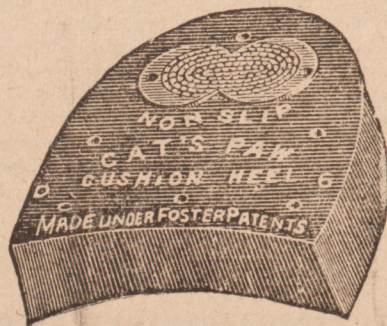
"Cardigan Bridge—Dr. O. E. Morehouse, Inspection, \$96.22."

WHOLESALE DESERTION

(Continued from page one)

ered some telling blows against the Hazenites in excellent speeches. Mr. N. W. Brown, who is campaigning in the Parish of Stanley, addressed a large meeting at Hayesville and Hon. F. J. Sweeney, M.P., P., and Hon. W. P. Jones of Woodstock, spoke at McAdam, where there was a large and enthusiastic audience.

In the House yesterday Mr. Pinder introduced a bill to confirm an issue of debentures by the City of Fredericton and one to amend the act establishing a police commission for Fredericton and a third to aid the John Palmer Company, Limited.



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Will not slip

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March 18th.

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and they'll give you more and richer milk. Mr. W. D. Carroll, of Antonita, Colo., gave his cow Pratts Animal Regulator and without increased grain food she actually gained in milk from two to four quarts at a milking. Some experience even greater results. Why not make a test with the poorest of your cows? It'll pay you.

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Pratts Animal Dip is the strongest and quickest disinfectant.

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THE HARDWARE PEOPLE

FREDERICTON H. S. DEFEATED ST. JOHN H. S.

The basketball teams of the Fredericton and St. John High Schools played at the Y. M. C. A. gymnasium last night when the Fredericton team scored a decisive victory by the score of 36 to 21. McAdam and Atkinson starred for the winning team and Malcolm and Wetmore for St. John. Fredericton excelled in combination play.

The line-up was:
St. John H. S. F. H. S.

Defence
Jones.....Burden
Wilson.....Burns
Centre

Megarthy.....Atkinson
Forwards

Malcolm.....Barbour
Wetmore.....McAdam

The scoring was as follows: Fredericton H. S.—Burden, 3 field goals; Atkinson, 4 field goals, 4 penalty goals; Barbour 2 field goals; McAdam, 7 field goals.

St. John H. S.—Malcolm, 3 field goals; Megarthy, 2 field goals; Wilson 2 field goals, 1 penalty goal; Wetmore, 3 penalty goals.

This afternoon the Exmouth Y.M. A. junior team of St. John is playing the Normal School at the U. N. B. gymnasium. The teams will line up as follows: P. N. S.—Woodcock and Steves, forwards; Hoar, centre; Rouse and Byron, defence. Exmouth Y. M. A.—Hipwell and Scott, forwards; Ross, centre; Cunningham and Colwell, defence.

Mr. Harvey Mitchell of Keswick, is registered at the Queen.

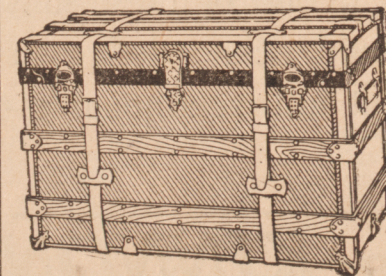
Mr. R. P. Hazen of St. John, arrived in the city last night.

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Elegant Toilet Preparations

George Y. Dibblee

The Rexall Store Druggist
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