

The Daily Mail

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THE DUGAL CHARGES

The investigation of the charges preferred by Mr. L. A. Dugal, M. P., from his place in the legislature has been finished and the public will await with considerable interest the report of the Royal Commission. It will be remembered that when Mr. Dugal formulated his charges Tory politicians and Tory newspapers declared with one voice that they were utterly without foundation; that it was a Grit conspiracy to ruin Premier Flemming and that it would altogether fail in its purpose. We were told by the same high authorities that the government had nothing to fear; it courted and demanded the fullest investigation and that the widest latitude would be given Mr. Dugal and his counsel to establish the truth of the charges by sworn evidence. As we have frequently pointed out there is a vast difference between Tory bluff and bluster on the one hand and Tory performances on the other, and this case has proved no exception to the general rule. Mr. Dugal charged that Premier Flemming through the agency of Mr. W. H. Berry, superintendent of scalars, had extorted from the timber operators of the province the sum of fifteen dollars per mile on their holdings of crown lands and that the money did not go into the revenues of the province. The charge was made just before the Easter holidays in the month of April, and brought forth no denial from the Premier, although he was in the House when Mr. Dugal made his motion. When the House resumed after Easter, Attorney General Clarke declared that he was authorized by the Premier to state that there was not one word of truth in the charges. A Royal Commission was appointed and in due course a date was fixed for the hearing. The commission met in St. John on the 4th day of June. On the previous day Mr. Berry met Premier Flemming by appointment at McAdam Junction, talked over matters with him, and then took his departure for the United States. He was subsequently served with a subpoena in Boston calling upon him to attend and give evidence before the Commission but ignored it. Neither Premier Flemming or the government, so far as known made the slightest effort to induce him to return. A telegram from Mr. Flemming would have brought Mr. Berry back to New Brunswick, but the Premier flatly refused to send such a telegram, which is positive proof that he was desirous of concealing the truth as much as possible. Had the promise of a full and impartial enquiry been carried out the evidence of Berry would have been spread on the record of the commission, regardless of who was injured by it. Even without the evidence of Mr. Berry the counsel for Mr. Dugal were able, despite the strenuous opposition of Mr. Flemming's lawyers, to prove conclusively that the enormous sum of seventy-one thousand dollars was wrongfully and illegally extracted from the lumbermen. It was clearly shown that Mr. Flemming had transaction, and went so far as to name a personal friend as treasurer of the fund. It was further shown that the fund was under Mr. Flemming's control and that he was able to "borrow" from it from time to time to help out certain private enterprises in which he is financially interested. In the light of the shocking revelations made before the Commission will any sane man pretend to say that the charge made by Mr. Dugal was not manifestly in the public interest?

With reference to the Valley Railway charges the same promises were made that the enquiry would be most far reaching and that every assistance would be given Mr. Dugal in his efforts to arrive at the truth. Instead of living up to this promise it is a notorious fact that the government and the blocker's brigade of lawyers who represented it before the

Commission put forth every effort to conceal information from the public. Important witnesses were spirited away. Books which would have shed light on the company's financial transactions with the government, were kept beyond the reach of the Commission. Mr. Dugal's counsel repeatedly asked that the New York books of the company be produced, the commissioners asked for them, but the government lent a deaf ear to their entreaties. Had the government been really desirous of a thorough investigation it would have compelled the company to produce the books, which it very easily could have done. It did not want the truth laid bare, therefore the books remained in New York and Mr. Lisman their custodian went to England.

Then there is the case of Mr. J. H. Corbett, Valley Railway contractor. It was charged by Mr. Dugal that Mr. Corbett personally paid to Premier Flemming the sum of ten thousand dollars in cash. This is a very serious charge to prefer against a public man, and it is not unreasonable to suppose that if Mr. Flemming were innocent he would have had Mr. Corbett appear before the Commission and exonerate him. His failure to do so will be accepted by nine men out of every ten as prima facie evidence that the charge was founded upon fact. It was shown by sworn testimony that Premier Flemming received swag to the extent of two thousand dollars from Mr. John Kennedy, another contractor, and in the light of this fact few men acquainted with the Premier can be persuaded to believe that he let Mr. Corbett by without exacting a substantial toll from him. Soon after he took over the premiership Mr. Flemming established a reputation for getting after everything in sight, and his dealings with Kennedy and Corbett go to show that he lived up to his reputation.

Acting Premier Clarke and the members of the Provincial Government have endeavored to make it appear that the evidence brought out by the Royal Commission was all new to them. This may be true, but actions sometimes speak louder than words. The public would probably have been more ready to exonerate them from blame, had they given some evidence of a sincere desire to assist Mr. Dugal's counsel in bringing out all the facts. The government could have compelled the company to produce its New York books; it could have compelled the attendance of Mr. Corbett and Mr. Berry, but it made no move along that line. The opportunity to assist in cleaning the Augean stables was before Acting Premier Clarke and his colleagues and they failed to avail themselves of it. They remained silent when they should have spoken and inactive when they should have acted. Mr. Flemming put forward the claim that his booting operations were in the interests of the party and not for his personal benefit. If the Commission finds that this is the fact it is difficult to see how Mr. Flemming's colleagues can escape their share of the responsibility. They are certainly open to the charge of trying to cover up wrong doing and shield the guilty. It is for the Royal Commission to determine whether Mr. Flemming's colleagues are dishonest or incompetent. They are either one thing or the other and no matter which horn of the dilemma they accept they will merit and will receive the condemnation of the electorate.

ON THE SIDE

As soon as people decline the prices begin to decline.

So Turkey too hopes to gobble up something before the war is over.

The Turk may be submerged in Greece before Thanksgiving Day.

While Europe holds a war, Mexico prepares to hold an election.

The French government has withdrawn from Paris for strategic reasons.

The Kaiser hasn't claimed the conquest of that new comet yet.

The Kaiser has seen to get that St. Petersburg cannot be captured. There "ain't no such place."

The new name of St. Petersburg—Petrograd—sounds as if the capital of Russia had become a Standard Oil station.

Odd that all the Zeppelins which

were always getting blown away or bursting in air, should behave so marvellously now.

Huerta is said to have picked out Spain—about the only really peaceful country now—as his future dwelling place. His castle in Spain seems wisely selected.

The Russians are not running on so fast a schedule as the Kaiser set his troops, but they are running on schedule.

A public meeting to receive the report of the special committee on the patriotic fund, will be held in the city Council Chamber this evening. There should be a large attendance.



Wood's Phosphorine.
The Great English Remedy.
Tones and invigorates the whole nervous system, makes new blood in old veins, cures Nervous Debility, Mental and Brain Worry, Depression, Loss of Energy, Palpitation of the Heart, Failing Memory. Price \$1 per box, six for \$5. One will please, six will cure. Sold by all druggists or mailed in plain pkg. on receipt of price. Your pamphlet mailed free. THE WOOD MEDICINE CO., TORONTO, ONT. (Formerly Windsor.)

THE BRITISH NAVY OUR GREAT BULWARK

Public opinion in Great Britain is beginning to realize the enormous value of the services rendered already in the war by the British Navy. The Naval and Military Record remarks on the fearful anticipations which in the few days before the war began filled all the United Kingdom that British shipping would be ruined and supplies of food and raw materials cut off. "The most careful inquiry," said the Naval and Military Record, "tended to confirm this anticipation it was felt that we dare not—so great were the risks—be optimistic. In the months immediately preceding the outbreak of hostilities a sub-committee of the Committee of Imperial Defence considered in every detail the problem of how the people of the United Kingdom were to be fed during war time. With the most expert evidence at their command, they came to the conclusion that the peril was a real one, and that the Government ought to take precautionary measures in order to minimize it. One of the first acts of Mr. Asquith administration, when war was inevitable, was to announce that the Government itself would take eighty percent of the risk which shipping would run under the war conditions, which were then developing. A war risk office was immediately opened and a rate of five percent quoted. Day by day followed and though it was known that several German cruisers were still at large, no news was received of any loss. Gradually the confidence of ship-owners and shippers was re-established. Private firms showed no hesitation in undertaking war risks at a lower rate than the Government office. Within a few days the premium fell from five to four guineas. Even at this figure underwriters were prepared to undercut the Government office. British shipping, which was at first disorganized by the dramatic circumstances under which war occurred, has since been assuming its normal course. As a nation we may congratulate ourselves on the astounding victory which a supreme fleet won in insuring to us ample supplies of food and raw material without striking a blow. Never was so remarkable a demonstration given of the vital importance of sea power to a people who live by and on the sea. The Navy opened up a pathway for British trade, and at the same time and by the same process strangled the overseas trade of Germany."

PRESENTATION LAST EVENING

About forty young people gathered at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Moore, corner of Westmorland and Saunders Streets, last evening in honor of Miss Millicent Lister, who leaves for Hartford, Conn., on Tuesday next to enter a training school for nurses. Dancing and other amusements were enjoyed after which Miss Lister was presented with a substantial purse.

CASES WERE SETTLED

In the police court yesterday afternoon the cases against the two Austrians charged with thefts, were withdrawn and a settlement agreed upon by the parties interested.

Notice

The officers and members of Graham Lodge, L. O. L., No. 20 are requested to meet at the Orange Hall at 8 o'clock tonight to make arrangements for the funeral of our late Brother Robert Donaldson. All Orangemen and Prentices. Boys are invited to attend.

By Order,
N. G. SMITH, W. M.

JOHN J. WEDDALL & SON

JUST TO HAND, 5 CASES

ENGLISH AND FRENCH DRESS GOODS AND COATINGS

INCLUDING

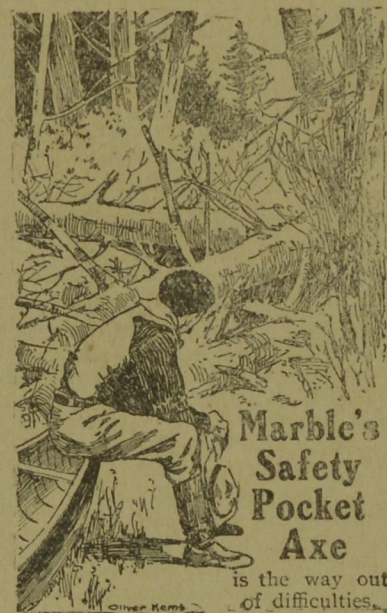
Crepe de Chenes, Cheviots, Checked Tweeds, Meltons, Colored Ratines, Diagonals, Ottomans, Poplins, Vigoreaux Honeycomb, Armures, Sedans, Venetians, Satin Amazon, Wool Amazon, etc., etc.

Come and Select Your Next Dress or Coat While the Stock is Complete.

JOHN J. WEDDALL & SON

Pictorial Review Patterns

Hunters' Supplies



Come to us and get a complete
**Camping and
Hunting Outfit**

It will make your trip much more pleasant

R. CHESTNUT & SONS

WHOLESALE

The Hardware People

RETAIL

Domestic Sanitary and Heating Engineers.

THE FIRST ONE

The first Canadian to give up his life in the European war was Lieut. Bertram Dennison, a nephew of Police Magistrate Dennison of Toronto. He was an officer in an English Regiment and was married to a daughter of the late Albert Nordheimer, millionaire piano manufacturer of Toronto. Mr. C. A. Kirk, formerly manager of the Bank of B. N. A., here, but now of Regina, is a brother-in-law.

The International Union of Stereotypers and Electrotypers is seeking closer affiliation with the other union in the printing trade.



The
Original
and
Only
Genuine
Beware
Of
Imitations
Sold
on the
Merits
of
Minards
Liniment

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

It is no longer fashionable to cultivate a swarthy skin. The best way to avoid it is to use **Elderflower Witch Hazel Cream** on the face, hands and arms after bathing, boating, tennis or motoring. It relieves the skin from burning caused by the summer sun, and leaves it smooth and cool.

25c a Bottle.

HUNT & MacDONALD

Our Young Canada Shoe

Is making a great hit with parents who appreciate wearing quality in their Children's School Shoes.

Being all leather they are not affected by the dampness and may be easily repaired. Prices Moderate.

H. S. CAMPBELL SHOEMAN