

Organizer Carter Flays The Flemming Government

Tells How the People of the Province Had Been Plundered Under the Purist Administration Pays His Respects to the Author of the Foreshores Bill--
A Day of Reckoning is Near at Hand

The following is a report of the excellent speech delivered by Mr. E. S. Carter, Liberal organizer, at the Carvell-Dugal banquet:

I have heard it stated that but for Carter's meddling the present state of affairs would not have been made public—Flemming would have retired as he intended, and the province would have been saved the expense of the investigation. I do not feel that there is any reproach coming to me for enlisting the good offices of my friends, Messrs. Dugal and Carvell, and making public the shameful misdeeds of New Brunswick's premier. The fault lies not with me but with those who are guilty, who put this shame upon their province, and who made it possible for such a discovery to be made.

There were many people who more than suspected—who knew that the province was being plundered, who knew that contractors were being held up, who knew, not only that there was a vast campaign fund in 1912, but also that a large amount of it was left over. The disposition of this huge balance of the corrupt fund

caused much dissension, open charges of wrongdoing and a small portion of the public gradually became aware that the "honest government," so called, were snarling over the spoils. That was in the late summer and fall of 1912—after the election. This distrust of their leader was evident before the Crown Lands legislation of 1913. We all know what happened that spring and summer. We know how the funds from Gould, Corbett, Hubbard and Kennedy, with additions from other large corporations—whose names have not been made public yet—were swelled out of all proportions by the extortions from the Crown Land lessees and yet we have the amazing declaration from those who were closest to Mr. Flemming and boon companions of his assistant, Berry, that they did not know anything of what was going on! They must either think the people are credulous fools or else confess that they themselves have not the ordinary perception of men. I do not say for one moment that all the members knew or suspected what was going on, but those who did know are now trying

to make Flemming their scape goat and unwilling to face the penalty, are advising their leader to cling to power, embarrass the governor and save them, if possible, from the wrath of the people.

THE FORESHORES BILL.

They may delay the inevitable, but they cannot avert it. In spite of all their powers to corrupt and buy the electorate, I believe there are enough honest men in New Brunswick to stamp out such iniquity. If there are not—if the honest men of the country can be outvoted by the boodlers—then God help New Brunswick. To continue such a group of grafters in power, to entrust them with making the laws, to govern us, is risking attempts similar to the Foreshores Bill, which inflamed the people to a few hours of intense indignation, and was then hurriedly withdrawn. That measure lived from Friday night to the following Monday and then disappeared from sight. But not from the memories of the people who have in the framing and introduction of that infamous measure evidence sufficient to drive any man, or set of men, from public life. And yet, one can hardly credit the boldness of these political buccanniers, who talk of re-organization, with the author of the Foreshores Bill, as attorney general! The man who was willing to deprive the people, who had shore frontage, no matter where—on sea, lake or river—of their water rights, who drew the measure known as the Foreshores Bill, would make a nice attorney general of this province. After he drew the Foreshores Bill, he did not have the courage to present it, but foisted it on to an unwilling premier. Had that measure passed there would have been millions of illegal profit to the men in power, and the huge corporations seeking shore frontage from St. Martins to Dipper Harbor would have trampled by legislative authority over the rights of anyone who owned land bordering on the sea. The inside history of the Foreshores Bill has not been written yet. The evidence is all available and when it is given, the public will wake up to the real character of the manipulator who tried to take their rights from them. The man who creates legislation to enable him to steal the property of the people is worse than the ordinary pick-pocket, for the latter takes a chance of being caught and punished, while the legislator, the lawyer member, sworn to do his duty to the people, makes himself safe from the law before he starts the job.

A DANGEROUS MAN.

Don't you think that the private member who drew the Foreshores Bill would find some way to accomplish his object if he were elected attorney general of the province, and just by way of illustration—let the

people from St. Martins to Dipper Harbor, including Courtenay Bay, warned of what may happen, find later that their shore property is confiscated, who will be to blame but themselves?

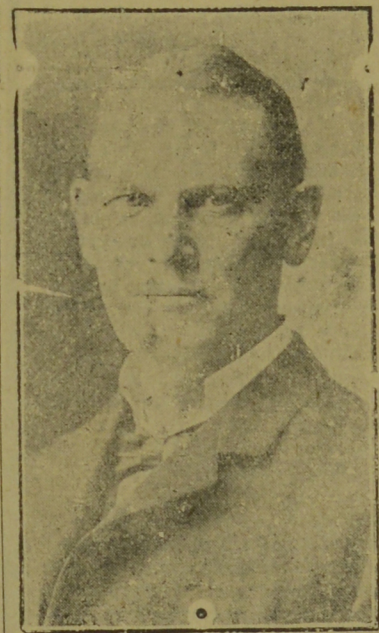
The position New Brunswick finds itself in today is but another striking illustration of the force of example. How could a premier who was doing wrong, who was holding up contractors and know of extortion from licenses of the province—clients by privilege sought privileges to enrich themselves or their clients by private legislation which would rob the people? How could he stand out and say No! when he was guilty of like practices? And so the greater part of the legislators sought privileges to enrich themselves by railway franchise and bond guarantees. What greater disgrace has New Brunswick borne than the Southampton Railway exposure? Pinder bore the blame—Pinder bore the exposure, and yet who believes that Pinder did not divide the profits of the bond proceeds and the additional money filched from the dominion government. Then there was the Drummond Mines and the Drummond Railway and those notorious extortions from the Valley Railway. A large portion of the provincial funds raised to build this road found a place in the pockets of the place hunters, the lawyers in the government and supporting the government, the sons and relatives of the members and the grafting supporters of the administration.

And with all this going on can any one be surprised at the appearance of a man like Berry—who extorted money for his premier and at the same time was filling his own pockets. And to the shame of the people of New Brunswick, we say that men are free men today, as free as honest citizens, who live decently, only spending what they earn and taking from no man what does not belong to him.

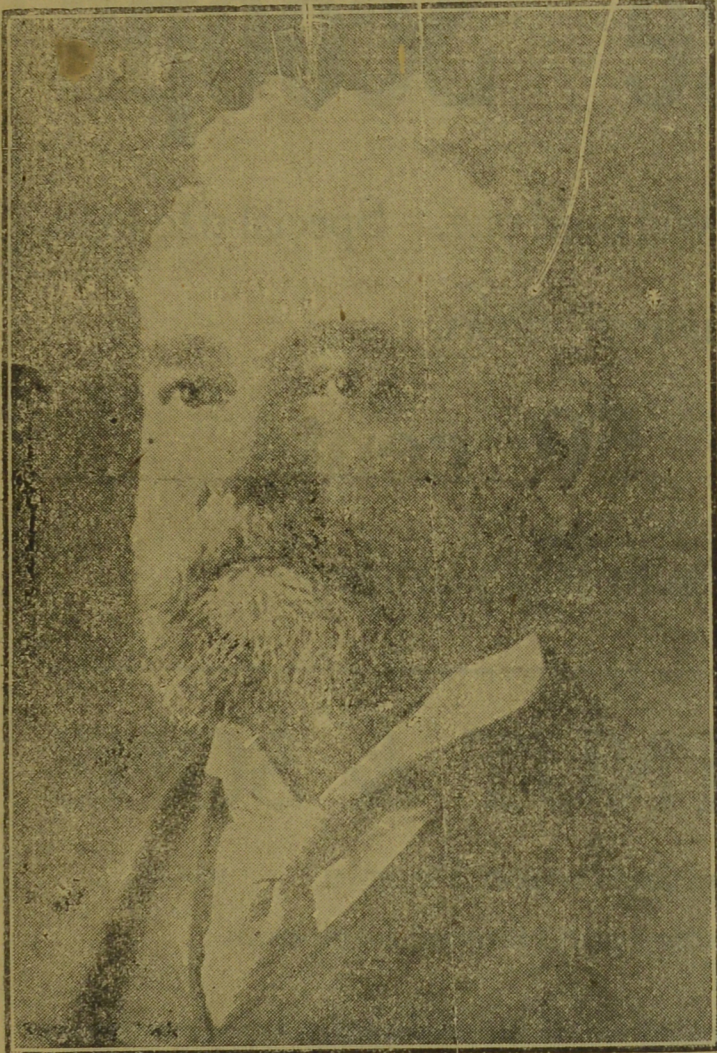
WHERE IS THE LAW?

I do not know much about law, but if there is not a law on our statute book that will punish the official who extorts money or for the political chief, who, knowing of such extortion permits it, there should be one as soon as possible. There is a law I know of which says that no public official shall accept bribes—that no public official shall make a false return and that every official shall pay

(Continued on page six.)



MR. F. B. CARVELL, M. P.



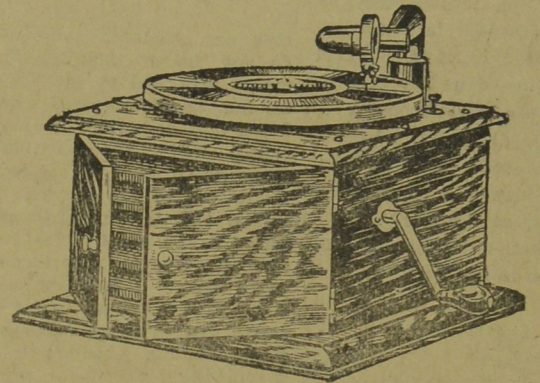
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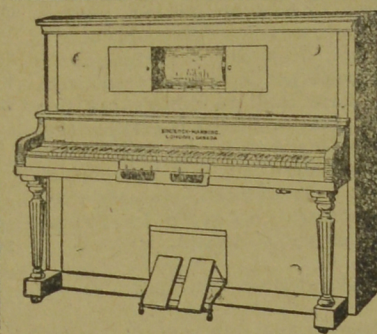
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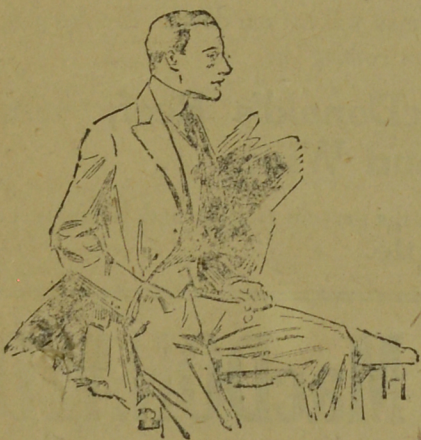
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Suggestions for Christmas

The Christmas Season is all but here once more. It is the time of good feeling towards one another and the time of gifts. Useful gifts are most appreciated. Let us make a few suggestions—suggestions which

