

## The Daily Mail

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Fredericton, N. B., December 9, 1912

### A \$1000 PLUM

An enquiry in parliament a few days ago by Mr. Carvell, M.P. for Carleton, elicited from the minister of agriculture the information that 440 acres of land purchased for the Fredericton experimental farm had cost the government \$15,000 and that out of this amount the sum of \$1,000 had been paid to one Mr. A. D. Thomas for "obtaining and transferring options." Who is Mr. A. D. Thomas? For the benefit of those unacquainted with the gentleman we might say that he is a resident of this city and an employee of the local government, who is supposed to look after the distribution of school books for which he is paid an annual salary of \$800. The Mail is loath to believe that such a great patriot as Mr. Thomas professes to be would charge the government of Canada the large sum of one thousand dollars for the service he performed in connection with the purchase of land for the experimental farm. In view of the fact that Mr. H. G. Fenety, a Tory lawyer, was only able to work up an account of \$92.20 for professional services in connection with the transfer of the property, surely there must be something wrong with the account of Mr. Thomas. One thousand dollars is more than Mr. Thomas can earn in a year at his local government job, and it is surprising that the federal government should pay him that large sum for performing a service, which could not have occupied his time more than a few days. If the figures submitted to parliament by the minister of agriculture are correct, it is not much wonder that scores of old time Conservatives have become disgusted at the way the patronage is being dispensed in this county. They are asking and not without reason, why it is, when plums like this are to be handed out that they should go to a man who is already feeding at the public trough. There are scores of good men in the Conservative party in York, who are in receipt of a dollar from the public treasury, who would have been glad to have acted for the government in the purchase of land for an experimental farm and would have considered themselves well paid had they received one-fifth of the amount paid to Mr. Thomas. But they were all passed over, a local government henchman got the job and either he or the "higher ups" who employed him was paid one thousand dollars. If this is not a flagrant case of graft it is the worst exhibition of political favoritism this community has ever known.

### FARMERS AND THE BANKS

J. A. Armstrong, the M.P. for North York, has received a petition signed by twenty-five of his constituents in the neighborhood of Stouffville, Ontario, who protest against the present banking system. Ten of these are farmers in Bethesda, a district which suffered much hardship from the Farmers' Bank failure, losing almost \$100,000 from that crash. The signatures are attached to a printed form which is evidently intended for wide circulation.

The primary desire is for a Royal Commission to investigate all the chartered banks of Canada and the petitioners express "their absolute and complete loss of confidence in the Canadian banking system." The Canadian Bankers' Association is referred to as one of the greatest combinations in restraint of trade known to the civilized world and is charged with seeking deposits from farmers merely to be able to issue loans in the cities.

"The time will come, possibly very shortly," reads the petition, "when Canada will suffer in the collapse or failure of a number of her chartered banks, the greatest financial calamity of national proportions that has ever been visited upon any nation."

A bill to make it compulsory upon companies to hold annual meetings, furnish financial statements to shareholders, and have annual audits of their books, has been introduced in the Commons by Mr. Sharpe (N. Ontario), Mr. Sharpe who two years ago succeeded in having a similar bill referred to a committee, said that at present there was not a clause in the Dominion companies act to compel corporations to hold annual meetings of shareholders and supply information as to their affairs.

The country is awaiting with the greatest interest Sir Wilfrid Laurier's pronouncement on the naval bill which will be made in the House of Commons on Tuesday. The great statesman who gave us the British preference and sent troops to South Africa to fight for the Empire can be counted upon to do his duty to his country and his party in a matter of this kind. Sir Wilfrid will not read his speech nor will advance copies of it be sent out to the press supporting him.

Ninety cents per ton for hauling coal from Chipman to McGivney Junction, a distance of forty miles is a most exorbitant rate. If the manufacturers and other coal consumers of Fredericton are to be robbed in this way it is useless to spend the public money in an effort to procure new industries. Nova Scotia towns would not stand for such robbery, one hour and why should Fredericton tolerate it?

When a well known Liberal politician was taken ill during an election campaign in this county a few years ago and compelled to retire from the field certain blatant Tories went about the country declaring that he had contracted "cold feet." We hope no Liberal will be so unkind as to attribute Provincial Secretary McLeod's indisposition to such a cause.

If Mr. A. D. Thomas can earn a thousand dollars in a few days buying land for the federal government he is very foolish to spend his time sorting school books for the local government at a salary of eight hundred dollars a year. He should resign and go into the real estate business.

One man who sold land to the government for the experimental farm was paid \$1000 for four acres. It looks as if farm property in the vicinity of Fredericton had taken quite a boost.

### CONTINUED SUCCESS AT CHICAGO SHOW

Chicago, Dec. 6.—Lord Gleniffer, the seven-year-old Clydesdale stallion imported and owned by Graham Bros. of Claremont, Ont., was awarded the grand championship for Clydesdale stallions at the International Live Stock Show today. Graham Bros. also won first and fourth in aged stallions with Lord Gleniffer and Garry Pride, fifth in three-year-old stallions with Bright Smile, first in two-year-olds with King of All and second in yearlings with Albert. The Clydesdale classes were all well filled with the best that American breeders have. There was not a poor animal in any class and the winnings of the Canadian firm are all the more creditable on that account.

Some of the Shorthorn awards were made today. The exhibit is a very large one and the judges have great difficulty in placing the prize classes where there are so many good animals entered. Mr. Caswell of Saskatoon, was awarded third place in two-year-old bulls on Gainford Marquis, the grand champion at the Canadian National Exhibition this year, and who was reserve champion here last year. Caswell also won second in the junior yearling bulls on Lavender Marshall.

In Aberdeen Angus, J. D. MacGregor of Brandon, Manitoba, won first in three-year-old bulls, with Leroy Third of Meadowbrook; second in two-year-olds with Expert of Dalmany, first in aged cows and first in two-year-old cows.

The International this year has again demonstrated that Canada takes a leading place in the live stock world.

Mr. E. R. von der Osten of Berlin, Germany, and Mr. Gerhard von Bredow of Bredow, Germany, arrived in the city this morning registering at the Barker House. Mr. von der Osten is married to a niece of the late Hon. George F. Gregory of this city. He is on his way to Canadian commercial centres and to Ottawa for the purpose of bettering trade conditions between Germany and Canada. Mr. von Bredow is a large landowner in Germany and was formerly connected with the diplomatic service at Washington.

### MR. A DUNCAN THOMAS STRUCK IT RICH

Made Land Purchases For the Federal Government and Was Paid the Sum of One Thousand Dollars

In Parliament a few days ago Mr. F. B. Carvell made an enquiry of the ministry as to the amount paid for the land purchased for an experimental farm to be established at the lower end of this city. The minister of agriculture in reply stated that the amount paid out was \$14,000, and that in addition to this Mr. A. D. Thomas had been paid \$1,000 for obtaining and transferring the options, and that \$92.30 had gone to Mr. H. G. Fenety for legal fees. Mr. Carvell's question and the reply of Hon. Mr. Burrell as recorded in Hansard are as follows:—

#### PURCHASE OF LAND AT FREDERICTON

Mr. Carvell:—1. How much land has been purchased by the department of Agriculture, or any other department of the Government, at or near Fredericton, N.B., for the purposes of an Experimental Farm?

2. From whom was the land purchased?

3. What amount was purchased from each of the above persons and what amount paid to each?

4. What amount, and to whom paid, was paid to others than the owners thereof in connection with the purchase of said lands?

Mr. Burrell:—1. 442 acres.

2. Dell Gunter, Alred H. Waterhouse, John Quincy Adams, Harry C. Jewett, Walter W. Boyce.

3. Dell Gunter, 118 acres ..... \$5,000

Alfred H. Waterhouse, 4 acres 1,000

John Q. Adams, 100 acres ..... 2,000

Harry C. Jewett, 110 acres ..... 2,000

Walter W. Boyce, 110 acres ..... 4,000

4. H. G. Fenety, legal fees ..... \$92.30

A. D. Thomas, for obtaining and making over option ..... 1,000.00

#### AVIATOR WAS SHOT.

Vienna, Dec. 9.—The fate of Jules Constantin, a French aviator in the Bulgarian service, who was decorated by King Ferdinand for bravery, is described in a despatch just received here. Dr. Constantin started from Surma Village on his last flight over the Tchatalja lines, with the object of dropping bombs on the Turkish soldiers. His biplane disappeared rapidly and some hours later was seen to descend near the Bulgarian camp. The aviator was found lying on the ground dead with a wound in his chest. The wings of the biplane had also been pierced by bullets. The instruments showed that he had reached a height of nearly 4,000 feet. He had photo-phrased the Turkish lines and evidently had been shot but had strength to guide the machine back before he expired.

#### HERE TO VISIT UNCLE.

Ex-Ald. John McGoldrick of St. John, arrived here Sunday night to visit his uncle, Mr. Frank McGoldrick of this city. Mr. McGoldrick's health, which has not been of the best recently, was reported to be much improved yesterday. Ex-Ald. McGoldrick was registered at the Queen.

Mr. F. C. Mortimer of St. John is in the city.

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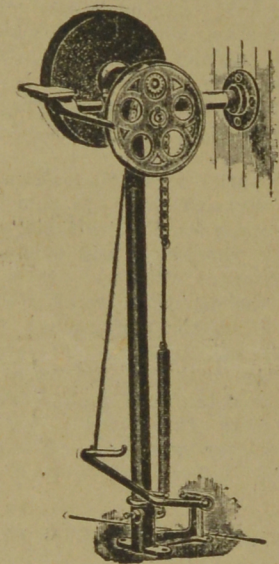
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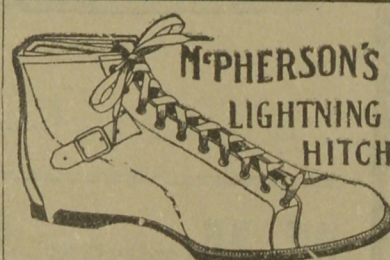
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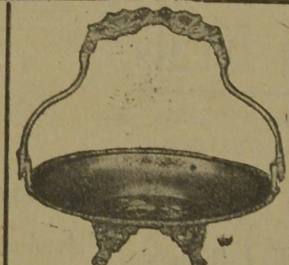
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