

The Daily Mail

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THE VALLEY RAILWAY

The local hack organ, which like the Quebec and St. John Railway Company draws most of its revenue from the provincial treasury, thinks there is no occasion for any alarm over the valley railway situation. The hack organ for reasons which are pretty well understood, is anxious that Mr. Gould's Company should receive a further bond guarantee of \$10,000 per mile, regardless of whether or not the public interests are safeguarded. It predicts that "things will work out all right" but it is not a good profit especially in regard to Valley Railway affairs. For instance in its issue of February 10th last it said editorially in reply to a statement by this Journal that the Quebec and St. John Railway Company was seeking an increase in its bond guarantee from the Local Government:

"The notion is that the Quebec and St. John Valley Railway Company may need additional financial assistance to quickly complete the work now under way and that Mr. Guthrie as a solicitor of the company, might when elected influence the provincial government to grant the additional guarantee. That's pretty good isn't it? * * * It may be said that if further aid is required this great undertaking THE APPLICATION WILL BE NOT TO THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT, BUT TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, the railway department of which is to operate the road when completed.

We know now that the company is seeking an additional bond guarantee from the Local Government and if we are to accept the statement of the hack organ it has planned a raid on the Dominion treasury as well. The public have no assurance that "things will work out all right" even if the company's demands for further financial assistance are met.

When delivering his budget speech in the legislature during the session 1913, Provincial Secretary McLeod threw up his hands and declared with emphasis that all bills were paid at the close of the fiscal year. Now comes the auditor general's report with the information that accounts of highway boards, amounting to over \$23,000, incurred during the season of 1912, were held back until after the fiscal year had closed on October 31st. Accounts incurred in connection with the Duke of Connaught's visit to Fredericton in August, 1912, amounting to about \$1200, were also pigeon-holed until after the fiscal year had closed. This juggling of the accounts was practised in order that the government might be able to show a paper surplus. Hon. Mr. McLeod was ill at the time the juggling was done and Premier Fleming was in charge of the department.

Some thousands of dollars were spent by the province last year for stationery and because the opposition asks for a comparison of the expense this year with former years of this administration The Gleaner says that it is inquiring as to where type-writer ribbons are bought and the pens and pencils and whether the department stamp their own letters. Somebody has been fooling The Gleaner or else it is simply lying, as usual.

Mr. J. B. Daggett, the secretary of agriculture, although he has been in the employ of the government a little more than a year, has already had his salary boosted from \$1,500 to \$1,800. Mr. Daggett recently discovered that New Brunswick potatoes were diseased and that it was a blessing in disguise. He also discovered that horse racing is a cheap sport and has a baneful effect upon exhibitions.

"Who is getting all the graft out of the Valley Railway?" was a question asked by a prominent York county Conservative during the recent election. The question has not yet been answered but should the Fleming government put Gould off the job, it is quite likely that some light may be shed on the subject.

ROYAL Baking Powder Saves Health and Saves Money and Makes Better Food

While there is strong opposition among the members of the legislature towards granting the application of the St. John & Quebec Railway Company for a further bond guarantee, it is a safe gamble that Premier Fleming is in favor of the proposal. The premier has always managed to keep on good terms with big corporations. They are mighty useful at election times, you know.

The grafters connected with the Fleming government had quite a bonanza last year but it is beginning to look as if the day of reckoning was not far off. The government has a big majority in the legislature, but it is not a happy family.

The opposition in the legislature consists of but two members. They have an imperfect knowledge of English but all the same they appear to be keeping the government on the anxious seat.

SOME THINGS WE KNOW

That the numbering system is still in vogue at the post office.

That the flag over the lieutenant governor's office has a habit of remaining out all night.

That the members of the new City Council are getting right down to business.

That the doorkeepers in the House of Assembly has the safest job in town at this season.

That they do even less work than some of the back-benchers in the House.

That if it were not for the interrogations of opposition members the proceedings of the legislature would be about as exciting as a wake.

That the premier of this province has a tired look these days.

That sleeping over a volcano is not a very congenial job.

That one of the St. John members of the legislature has won his spurs.

That the U.N.B. boys must not act unruly when they visit the Normal School.

That the local members for York now travel about in pairs.

That the speaker of the legislature is getting off easily this year on hot coffee and sardines.

It is something of an off day when young William Ziegler doesn't get into print. The latest occasion was when he appeared before a magistrate and applied for a permit to carry a revolver, giving as his reason that he was in the habit of carrying large sums of money about with him and he was in fear of robbers. Ziegler is the most forceful young multimillionaire who has loomed up in New York in a long time. He is chock full of life and energy and as the old saying goes, he has never been quiet a minute since he came into the twenty-five million dollars fortune left by his foster-father, the baking powder king. Young Ziegler came of age and inherited the money about a year ago. He has a liking for the white lights of Broadway and has played "angel" for some theatrical enterprises. But neither the white lights nor the actor folk have made any great headway in separating the young millionaire from his millions. If the gentry who are looking for easy money were wise enough to take a good look at young Ziegler's square jaw and eyes they could see that he wasn't cut out for an easy mark.

B. M. Beckwith of Montreal is among the commercial men registered at the Queen Hotel.

OTTAWA TO HAVE A HOME FOR GIRLS

Ottawa, March 21—It was decided by the executive committee of the Presbyterian board of Social Service and Evangelism who met in Toronto, to establish a redemptive home for girls at Ottawa. The institution will be similar to the Toronto home and will cost about \$20,000. The committee also decided to establish evangelical social settlements in Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg and Sault Ste Marie. The settlements will be similar in character to the St. Christopher House, which is conducted by the board in Toronto and will be built at a cost of a large sum.

Two college gospel teams consisting of four students each were appointed one from the Manitoba and one from the Halifax college, for evangelistic work during the summer months in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and the maritime provinces respectively.

The report on the board's finances showed that \$55,000 had been received during the year, while the expenditure was \$56,000 leaving a deficit of \$1,000. The estimates for the ensuing year were finally left to a special committee, which will report later on.

AT THE GEM.

Another great bill at the Gem, including a Keystone comedy, a comedy that is a comedy, a laugh from start to finish, featuring Keystone Fatty and Mable Normand; a K.B. drama of early school days and a Reliance, featuring Louise Vale, a popular new player in a powerful modern drama. Every picture is real good.

Hon. John Morrissey, who has been confined to his home by illness, returned to the city today.

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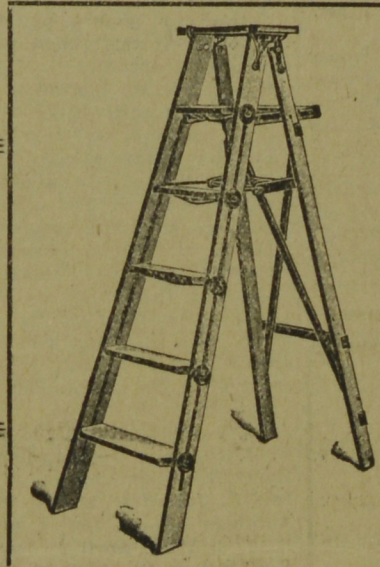
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