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THE TORY PATRON-AGE GUILLOTINE

Ottawa, April 4—Many weird and wonderful stories explanatory of the present Government's patronage methods are told in the countless returns concerning dismissals which have been tabled in the Commons on motion of Opposition members this session. There are stories of ruthless beheadings after mock trials; of competent men dismissed from office, and friends of the party, regardless of age or merit placed in their positions; of petty and sordid squabbles between Ministers as to the right of patronage in certain cases; and of the public service prostituted to serve the ends of party hangers-on, sycophants and office seekers. There is even the famous case of Mr. Pelletier's dismissal of a dead postmaster.

It would be expected that in the filling of positions on the various branches of the public service, which require special qualifications, the responsible Minister at the head of the Department under which the particular branch comes, would be entrusted with the duty of finding and appointing the proper employees. Such, however, under the present Government is not the case.

From a recent return submitted to the House it appears that in connection with the manning of Govern-

ment dredges and barges owned by the Department of Marine, at Sorel, the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Hon. J. D. Hazen, has little to say. It is Hon. L. P. Pelletier whose duties are connected with the post office. Hon. Louis Coderre, Secretary of State, and Hon. Bruno Nantel, who is in charge of the Department of Indian Revenue who take upon themselves the privilege of selecting second engineers, captains of tugs, etc., and the Department of Marine simply acquiesces. These gentlemen have control of the patronage in Quebec and they apparently intend to see to it and they shall have the appointing of such employees.

An illuminative example of this sort of thing appears in a recent return Deputy Speaker Blondin writes to the Minister in charge asking that he be allowed to select the captain of the new barge, not yet completed. Hon. Mr. Hazen replies that Mr. Blondin had better see Hon. Mr. Coderre, Secretary of State, who "is in charge of the district, and to whom such matters are referred."

In still another instance which is frankly detailed in the official files, Hon. J. D. Reid, Minister of Customs, and who has nothing to do with Marine, writes peremptorily to the Minister of the latter Department, and demands the heads of a long list of men employed in the Marine yards at Prescott. It is not for the responsible Minister Mr. Hazen, to reason why. Here again someone else "has charge of the district," and has power of decapitation of the Government employees therein. The dismissals are made with great promptitude indeed that one unfortunate official is informed that his services will cease "this day at noon." The list of the proscribed is presented by the "man in charge of the district"; it is only for the Minister responsible to see that the executions are carried out as demanded.

It is apparent that the public service is not administered by the present Government with an eye toward efficiency, but as a means for supplying berths for the hungry office seekers, who pester the members in charge of the patronage of the various districts.

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DR. ELAM TO FACE MURDER CHARGE

Kansas City, Mo., April 7—The case of Dr. W. T. Elam, under indictment for first degree murder, will be called in court tomorrow and it is expected the trial will proceed within a few days. The crime of which Dr. Elam is accused was one of the most sensational enacted in this city in several years. On November 18 last he is alleged to have shot and killed William Putnam Cramer whom the physician accused of intimacy with his wife. The killing occurred in a local hotel where the two men had met to talk the matter over. Dr. Elam had previously prepared a list of questions which he intended to propound to Cramer. The latter was accompanied to the hotel by his attorney and Dr. Elam was attended by a private detective, whom he had hired to shadow Cramer and Mrs. Elam. At the time of the conference, however, the two principals were alone in the room, and there were no witnesses to the tragedy. Following a single shot from a revolver Dr. Elam came out of the room and is alleged to have declared that he had killed the destroyer of his home. Later, however, he stated that the shooting was an accident and that he did not know how it had occurred. The victim of the shooting died almost instantly. Dr. Elam is a resident of St. Louis and for many years had occupied a high place in the medical profession. Cramer, the victim of the tragedy, was an advertising solicitor for a well known magazine and lived with his wife in Chicago. After the killing Mrs. Elam went to Detroit to reside with her mother.

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GERMAN SPY GETS SIX YEARS' SENTENCE

(Special Cable Despatch to Globe.) London, April 3—The trial of Frederick Adolphus Gould and his wife, charged with spying on the British navy, supposedly in the interests of Germany, was begun and ended today at the Old Bailey.

Gould was sentenced to six years' penal servitude, to be followed by deportation. Mrs. Gould was discharged the indictment against her being withdrawn.

The fact that Gould's arrest followed upon an investigation by the secret service police indicates that he obtained possession of important naval documents, and the serious view taken of the case was shown by the sentence, the maximum penalty being seven years.

Gould, whose real name is said to be Schroeder, pleaded guilty to obtaining certain plans and documents calculated to be useful to a foreign State, but pleaded not guilty to the second charge, of inciting his wife to commit an offence.

The search of Gould's house disclosed one remarkable document, which the Attorney-General thought it against the public interest to read. It contained a series of skillfully-framed questions upon which Gould had been invited to pursue inquiries.

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WORLD'S NEWS IN SHORT METRE

New York, April 7—Government report on condition of winter wheat at noon.

Great Northern Oregon income for 1913 was \$1,132,889 compared with \$2,704,152 a year ago.

Four short railroads in South Carolina with capital of \$3,075,000, merge into Carolina-Atlantic and Western Railway.

I. C. C.'s report shows decrease of \$225 in net revenue per mile on eastern roads compared with year 1913. Canadian finance minister announces new iron and steel tariff schedules, increasing import duties.

American stocks in London quiet and steady.

Twelve industries advanced 11.

Twenty active railways advanced 12.

Wall Street bankers show anxiety over the appointment of the five members of the Reserve Bank.

Clark of the I.C.C., denies a rate against has been reported with the eastern roads.

Newman Erb says that the railroads have lost business through rate regulation.

The steel business is practically dead, says the Journal of Commerce.

President Wilson is confident of winning the tolls repeal in the senate.

The bull trading position should be maintained with preference for specialties.

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