

The Daily Mail

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AN INDEPENDENT VIEW

The Maritime Baptist, edited by Rev. Dr. J. H. MacDonald, a former pastor of the Brunswick Street Baptist Church, makes the following comment on Premier Flemming's case:

"With Mr. Flemming's view of the moral aspect of the case that part of the public, which is not inured to vicious party methods of raising funds for corrupting the electorate, will not agree. When the fund was raised the premier was the surveyor general of the province and was largely responsible for shaping the crown land policy of the government. Indeed, one of the contributors flatly declared under oath that he paid his levy because he regarded it as 'good business' so to do and others made similar admissions. In other words, they paid into a political fund either because they received favors or expected to receive them from those appointed to honestly administer the public domain. If the people of New Brunswick can condone such conduct on the part of its most trusted parliamentary representative, we are greatly mistaken in their moral fibre. The royal commission may not find the premier guilty of the charge of extortion which has been laid at his door, but its finding will no doubt be such as to make it impossible for Mr. Flemming to remain the first minister of New Brunswick. No one will be surprised to hear of his resignation. It will be surprising indeed if his resignation is not in the hands of the lieutenant governor at an early date. Whatever wrongdoing in public places has been condoned in the past—and much has been winked at—the time has come when honest and fair-minded people will not stand for such transactions as have just now been brought to light. With the petty affairs of political parties this journal has little concern, but it is deeply concerned with the great moral issues involved in the crown land investigation and for the honor of New Brunswick."

According to Acting Premier Clarke, Bill Berry, when he stacked his duds and hiked it across the border, vacated his position in the public service. Mr. Clarke says he knows of no means by which Mr. Berry can be brought back. It is to be assumed from this that Mr. Berry in the opinion of the attorney general, has done nothing wrong. If this is true, will somebody please explain Mr. Berry's object in throwing up a job worth \$1,800 a year and \$5 per day for travelling expenses. Possibly Mr. Berry may have lost his reason; if so he should be rounded up and confined in that sanatorium which the Tory newspapers claimed he was heading for early in the game. Men nowadays do not abandon good paying government jobs without cause—unless they are crazy.

Discussing the case of Hon. H. F. McLeod, the St. John Globe says:

"Hon. H. F. McLeod should lose no time in going before the Royal Commission and offering whatever explanation he has to make of the statements of Contractor Scott. At the present time Mr. McLeod stands accused of having sold his influence as a member of the government for \$1,500, and of having secured to the contractor who says he paid the money for the job he sought. MR. SCOTT'S STATEMENTS ARE TOO STRONG TO BE PASSED OVER LIGHTLY, AND THE SOONER THEY ARE ANSWERED, IF THEY CAN BE ANSWERED, THE BETTER IT WILL BE in the meantime the public should remember that Mr. McLeod's side of the story has not been told."

It came out in evidence under oath before the royal commission at St. John that Mr. H. F. McLeod, M.P., a noted purist and stickler for honest government, sold a sub-contract on the Valley Railway to Mr. John S. Scott for the sum of \$1,500. Mr. Scott is a well known and respected citizen of Fredericton; he belongs to one of the best known families in the country, and when he says that he paid Mr. McLeod \$1,500 for a sub-contract on the Valley Railway fair-minded men who know him will accept his statement even though it may be strenuously denied by Mr. McLeod.

When the Southampton Railway charges were up in parliament, Col. McLeod, M.P., declared that he wanted his constituents to understand that he would not countenance anything which he believed to be wrong. He does not appear to have suffered any qualms of conscience when he was negotiating with Mr. J. S. Scott for the sale of a sub-contract on the Valley Railway.

The Mail does not agree with the view being expressed in some quarters that the resignation of Premier Flemming should be demanded by Governor Wood. His Honor should wait until the enquiry is over and then get rid of the entire outfit. The public interests can be safeguarded in the meantime by keeping Flemming away from the treasury.

EDITORIAL.—The Fredericton-Woodstock section of the Valley Road has been called the graft section. The Flemming government claimed the right to name the sub-contractors, and Col. McLeod appears to have arrogated to himself the right to sell the sub-contracts.

Premier Flemming declares that his colleagues in the government knew nothing about the existence of the boodle fund. Yes, and had it not been for Mr. Dugal and Mr. F. B. Carvell, the people of the province would have known nothing about it. Let Carvell finish his work.

It came out in evidence yesterday that the St. John and Quebec Railway Company paid \$1,000 to the local graft organ in exchange for a stock certificate. Put into plain English, this means that Mr. Gould was "touched" by the graft organ to the tune of \$1,000.

The Moncton Times, which last year bagged only \$1,500 from the provincial treasury, thinks Flemming should step down and out. The Fredericton boodle organ, which scooped in \$16,000, is perfectly satisfied to follow Flemming's leadership.

Mr. H. F. McLeod, M.P., when testifying before the royal commission, should divulge the name of the Tory politician who is alleged to have coped the campaign fund at the last local election.

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FUNERAL OF DOUGLAS GRANT YESTERDAY AFTERNOON

The funeral of the late Douglas T. Grant young son of Mr. and Mrs. George Grant, who lost his life by drowning Monday afternoon too, place Wednesday from his late home, Campbell Street. The funeral was largely attended. Services were conducted at the home by Rev. Canon Cowie and afterward at Christ church Parish Church. Interment was made at the Rural Cemetery.

The floral tributes were numerous and very beautiful. They were as follows:

Boquet—James Gibson.
Boquet—Miss Martha Craig.
Broken Circle—Father and Mother.
Wreath—Mrs. John Grant.
Basket of Flowers—Mr. and Mrs. Newton Jarvis and family.
Boquet—Mrs. Robert Jarvis and Miss Janet Williston, Newcastle.
Cut Flowers—Sister Beatrice.
Boquet—Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Jarvis.
Wreath—Mason's Union.
Cut Flowers—Albion Lodge, I. O. G. T.
Boquet—Mrs. Neigh.
Boquet—Miss Jennie Payce.
Boquet—Mr. and Mrs. William Jarvis, Fort Fairfield, Maine.
Boquet—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Quarterman.
Boquet—Mr. and Mrs. Howard Blair.

MORE DISTURBANCES.

When Mr. Pinder gets his paper this evening and learns of the payment by Mr. Gould of one thousand dollars to the local boodle organ for "boodle money" another atmospheric disturbance from the direction of Nackawick is likely to occur.

SUCCESSFUL PICNIC

The Salvation Army Picnic at Taylortown yesterday was a grand success. A large number were on the grounds and an enjoyable time was spent by all. The evening sail to Taylortown was also very successful and much enjoyed. About three hundred took advantage of the trip returning about ten o'clock last night.

WATERPROOF TENTS AT ROBINSON'S FAMOUS SHOWS

"Waterproof tents" is a trite term that has been so much abused that it has nearly lost its meaning. Mercerized duck, a new and explosive material, absolutely waterproof, is used exclusively by the Robinson's Famous Shows in the construction of their tented city. Patrons can rest assured that, no matter how hard it rains, not a drop can come through to soil their clothing or mar their pleasure.

So far as we know, Robinson's is the only show that has gone to the extra expense of this material. It added two thousand dollars to the cost of the Robinson outfit, which is considerable when you understand that these tents last only one short season on the road. But in this, as in every other detail, the matter of cost has been entirely disregarded by the management of this show in providing for their patrons the very best of everything. From the finest special trains of cars, down to the tent stakes, which are of imported Mexican Bois d'Arc, this same discriminating care has been exercised. So don't let the weather interfere with your visiting this great exhibition; you will find everything dry, clean and safe, even if old probs is doing his worst.

Two performances will be given at Fredericton, Friday, July 24.

LOCAL BOODLE ORGAN

(Continued from page five.)

the money reached Mr. McLeod.

Cross-examined by Mr. Carter, he said that he did not have much to do with the books, and so could not tell if there was any entry or voucher for the amount. He denied that he had taken over the evidence he was to give with either Mr. Carvell or Mr. Scott.

Mr. Carter attempted to pin the witness down to the exact words used by Mr. McLeod at the first interview. Mr. Kelly said what he had told was the effect and the substance of the conversation, but he would not swear to the words used.

The witness told of his previous experience in railway construction work with his father on the Kitchen contract on the Transcontinental and as foreman with Alex MacDonald on the Southampton Railway.

Q.—You consented to the arrangement you say you made with Mr. McLeod?

A.—Yes.

Q.—And you paid the money willingly?

A.—Yes.

Regarding their relations with the Hibbard Company the witness said that their relations were not satisfactory, as they had been unable to secure a settlement. He did not know that Mr. Scott had gone to Mr. McLeod, but expected that they would get some protection from McLeod.

Mr. Carvell—What do you mean by expecting protection?

A.—He told us he would not sign the bonds unless they used us right, had the power to protect you?

Q.—Had you any doubts that he would?

A.—We thought he had the power.

Q.—And that was why you paid the money?

A.—That is right.

Q.—Had you any opinion of the possibility of securing a contract without Mr. McLeod's consent.

A.—I thought we could not get it without Mr. McLeod's consent.

Q.—You and your friends were supplying the capital and Mr. Scott the political influence?

A.—Yes.

Q.—And you paid the \$1,500 to Mr. McLeod's influence and protection?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Who were your lawyers in dealing with the company's business.

A.—I left that to Mr. Scott.

Q.—Do you know what lawyers Mr. Scott employed.

A.—Mr. Jen's of Woodstock.

Q.—Is he looking after your suit against the Hibbards?

A.—I don't know.

In reply to further questions the witness said that he had understood Mr. Carter to ask if he had a conversation with Mr. Carvell before coming to St. John. He did not, but told Mr. Carvell the whole story after he arrived in St. John. The same applied to conversations with Mr. Scott.

Mr. Carter—When was the first conversation with Mr. McLeod?

A.—After Norman McLeod told me that Smith & Merrithew had the contract we expected.

Mr. McLeod intervened to ask the witness what was his answer to a question put by Mr. Carvell.

Mr. Carvell laughed.

Mr. McLeod—What are you laughing at?

Mr. Carvell—You know the old saying about a lawyer who has himself for a client.

Mr. McLeod—I just want to get at what this witness said.

Chairman—Naturally Mr. McLeod is interested in this matter.

The witness went on to say that Mr. Scott had said that the extra amount would amount to \$3,000 and that Mr. McLeod said this amount should be split.

This concluded his evidence.

Mrs. James Flowers of Flower's Cove, is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Thomas Stillwell, Bt. Mary's.

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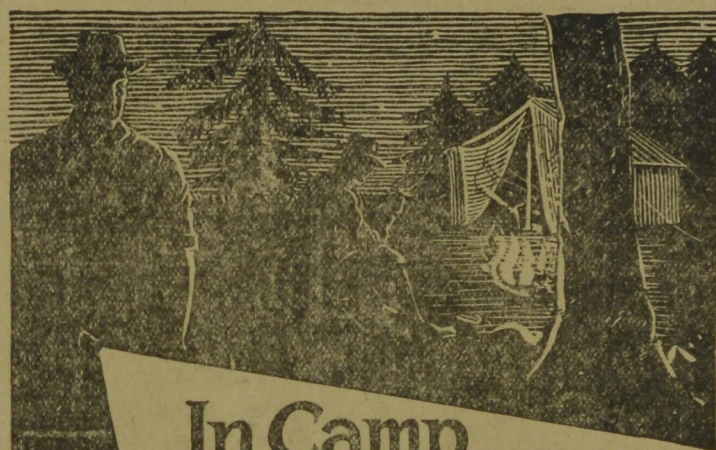
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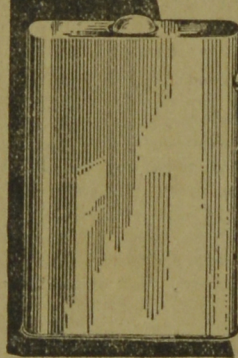
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AT WINDSOR HALL.

Among the arrivals at Windsor Hall today are, H. B. Durost, Woodstock; B. F. Reid, Woodstock; J. F. Sawyer, Hamilton; Stewart Parker, St. John; Miss A. Slipp, Fort Fairfield; B. A. McDonald, St. John; W. G. McGarley, St. John; Roy Sypher, Cookshire, Que.; D. B. Flewelling, Moncton; W. R. Belyea, St. John; J. V. Baxter and wife, St. John; Miss Richardson, the Misses Cavanaugh, and Miss Orchard, Chipman.

COURT MARTIAL HERE.

A court martial met at No. 3 Infantry Station yesterday to hear charges against Corp. Preston of "H" Company, R.C.R. The finding of the court will be sent to headquarters before being made known. Two officers from Halifax were on the court.

A FOOL AND A GUN.

Moncton Transcript.—Not one whit discouraged at his bungling effort at suicide a month ago, Gustave Steeden of Amherst, tried it again Sunday night. Hardly a fortnight after the healing of the bullet wound over his heart, the erratic young Hollander once more tired of life. But this time he had not so much faith in his marksmanship. In fact, it was hardly suicide he sought; it was murder. He wanted some one else to do it for him when he missed himself twice.

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