

THE DAILY MAIL

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MINISTERS' TRAVELLING EXPENSES

When members of the present government sat in opposition in the Legislature they and the press supporting them were wont to sharply criticize the the travelling expenses of the ministers. Long speeches were delivered on this theme session after session, and the members of the then government were roundly denounced for indulging in so many junketing trips at the expense of the country. If it was a crime for the members of the old government to spend the public money in this way, what shall be said of the members of the present administration who went into power with a solemn promise to inaugurate a policy of retrenchment and reform. Notwithstanding the fact that members of the government travel on railway passes, they were able to run up last year a bill for travelling expenses amounting to the very respectable sum of \$4,515.61. Premier Clarke seems to have been the principal sinner in this respect, his bill for travelling expenses being no less than \$1,107.10. The premier joined the cabinet in December, 1913, and his bill, which covered a little more than ten months of the fiscal year, seems to be a record breaker. His ordinary travelling expenses were \$745.30, but he managed to work in five trips to Montreal and Ottawa at a cost of \$361.80.

Hon. J. A. Murray, minister of agriculture, was a good second to the premier, his bill amounting to \$1,088.16 for the whole year. Hon. Mr. Murray only succeeded in working in two trips to the dominion capital at a cost of \$143.86. As Shakespeare says a man during his lifetime plays many parts. Hon. Mr. Murray, during the year acted as president of the council, minister of agriculture and minister of lands and mines and seems to have been kept on the go pretty much of the time. He is the champion commercial traveller of the government.

Hon. John Morrissey, as minister of public works, evidently travelled less than the other ministers, for his travelling expenses were but \$690, plus \$75 for one junketing trip to Ottawa, making a total of \$765.

Hon. Dr. Landry, now provincial secretary treasurer, held the portfolio of agriculture a little more than a month after the fiscal year closed in 1913 but he managed to get in a bill of \$150 for travelling expenses. As provincial secretary treasurer he hustled about the country to the extent of \$500.35, which brought his total up to \$650.35.

Before Mr. Dugal had made his charges in April last Mr. J. Kidd Fleming, ex-premier, had made one trip to Ottawa at a cost of \$105. He had also succeeded in running up a bill for ordinary expenses to the tune of \$190, making a total of \$295.

Hon. W. C. H. Grimmer and Hon. H. F. McLeod were only connected with the government a few weeks after the fiscal year closed and the former received an even \$100 for travelling expenses and the latter \$95.

Being a forerunner member of the government seems to be a more profitable berth now than in the old days. Take the case of Hon. John E. Wilson for example. He toiled for seventy days last year as president of the council at the rate of \$12 per day and was paid \$840. He also rung in on travelling expenses to the extent of \$310. Hon. Mr. Murray put in nine days as president of the council and was paid \$108. Do forerunner members of the government charge \$12 per day for their services while the House is in session?

In addition to the amounts enumerated above the members of the executive were paid in the aggregate the sum of \$809 last year for attending meetings of the provincial hospital commission. Hon. Mr. Fleming, although not in good standing as a member of the government, seems to have attended every meeting of the hospital commission and was paid \$96. Hon. Messrs. Landry, Murray, Wilson and Morrissey also attended the four meetings and were paid \$96 each. Premier Clarke attended three meetings and Hon. Messrs. Grimmer and Mc-

Leod one each. The members of the executive certainly excelled themselves in running up a healthy bill for travelling expenses last year and of course the people had to pay the piper.

St. John Globe (Govt.):—"Mr. Pinder's attack in the Legislature on his former colleague, Hon. H. F. McLeod in connection with the Southampton Railway matter hardly harmonizes with the complaint he made that all the wrongdoing that can be charged against the government was by Liberals. Party loyalty is a good and a commendable thing but party loyalty carried to the point of claiming all the virtues for one party and all the vices for the other is a mistake too many public men make."

Although Mr. J. Kidd Fleming was placed on the shelf in April of last year, he managed to draw the usual allowance of \$24 for every meeting held by the commissioners of the provincial hospital. Premier Clarke probably assumed that if Mr. Fleming was not at the institution during the year he certainly should have been there.

The attention of the reptile press, which is accusing the Liberals of disloyalty is called to the fact that a \$100,000,000 war vote was unanimously put through Parliament yesterday in less than five minutes. Even the Nationalist allies of the Tories supported it.

It is a pretty serious matter to accuse a militia officer on active service with having hatched a conspiracy against a King, yet that is practically what Mr. Pinder did in the Legislature a few nights ago and strange to say Premier Clarke let him by with it.

ON THE SIDE

Culture may do a lot of things for a woman. But it will not keep her from snoring in her sleep.

Maybe we would all be healthier if we were as strong for the Eight-hour Night as we are for the Eight-hour Day.

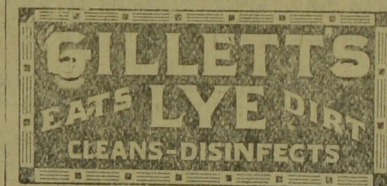
It is suggested that J. P. Morgan has not gone abroad this time to add to his big collection of art but to his important museum of selected foreign loans.

The average man wastes about three hundred hours every year feeling in the wrong pocket when he's hunting for an article.

Getting a finger print of every American sailor will enable the authorities quite readily to trace "hands across the sea."

You could take the bed out of a girl's bedroom and it might take her an hour to notice it was missing. But if you took the mirror off the dresser she would notice its absence its absence the moment she stepped into the room.

The villages of Lestershire and Endicott, N.Y., will have free pavements and a free boulevard lighting system, the gift of a millionaire shoe manufacturer whose factories have been running overtime filling orders for the French, Belgian and Grecian armies. Heavenly towns, indeed—paved with Europe's bad intentions.



PERSONAL

Fred R. Taylor, K.C., of St. John, is at the Queen.

Miles D. Emack of St. John, is in the city.

J. C. Hartley of Woodstock, is in the city.

Wm. E. Mann of Calais, Me., is at the Barker House.

Allan Ritchie of Newcastle, arrived here this morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Kerr of St. John, are at the Queen.

D. J. Buckley of Newcastle, arrived in the city at noon. He is at the Queen.

D. J. Purdy of St. John, is in the city. He is a guest at the Queen.

F. W. Sumner, agent general for New Brunswick, is at the Queen.

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VERBAL MUSKETRY

(Continued from Page One.)

Davidson, amid another roar of laughter, "was a very small one."

It is interesting to note that the whole tumult started over the troubles which Premier Borden has been having for months with the differences between his minister of militia and the men from the premier's own province. When the Nova Scotia went to Valcartier, Lady Borden presented a regimental flag to them. Almost immediately after troubles started and they have been kept fermenting across the Atlantic to the present moment. Colonel Struan Robertson, who was in command, was relieved of his post and recently the whole Nova Scotia battalion was absorbed in other battalions.

The letters read to the House tonight by Mr. Kite told something of the reasons for the anger of the premier's constituents.

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GERMANS APPLY TORCH

(Continued from Page One.)

Ivor T. Courtney, and Flight Lieutenant H. Rosser reached their objective, and after planing down to one thousand feet dropped four bombs each on the submarines. It is believed that considerable damage had been done to both the works and the submarines.

"The works were observed to be on fire, on all five submarines were observed on the slip."

Flight Lieutenant B. Cossley-Meates was obliged by engine trouble to descend in Holland. Owing to the mist the two pilots experienced considerable difficulty in finding their way and they were subjected to a heavy gun fire while delivering their attacks."

Flight Commander Cossley-Meates, of the British aviation service, in consequence of engine trouble, while en route to make an attack on Antwerp, was obliged to land at Krinman, according to a despatch from The Hague to Reuter's Telegram Company. The aircraft was not injured. He will be interned.

HISTORIC DWELLING AT LOWER ST. MARY'S BURNED

Ross Homestead Totally Destroyed With Its Contents Wednesday Afternoon

The Ross homestead at Lower St. Mary's, owned and occupied by Chas. Ross, was burned to the ground between four and five o'clock yesterday afternoon. The fire caught from a spark dropping on the roof, Mrs. Ross having lighted a fire of dry shingle blocks.

The house, which was two and a half storied building, was built in 1864 by Donald Ross, a native of Scotland, and has been occupied by four generations of the family. The grandson, Charles Ross, with his mother, Mrs. Malcolm Ross, and his wife and daughter, have occupied the dwelling for some years.

The property is a valuable one and was a British grant to the late Capt. Harry Hendry, who owned it over a hundred years ago. A gentleman named Henry Smith bought the property, which consisted of four farms, from Mr. Hendry, after which it was

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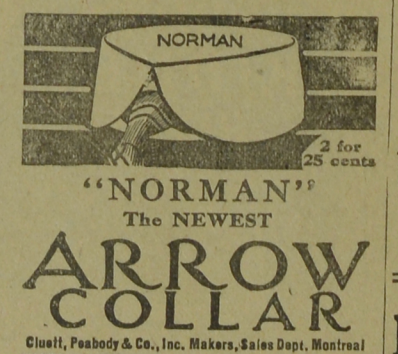
Domestic Sanitary and Heating Engineers.

occupied by Mr. Quigley, grandfather of Mrs. (Dr.) Ryan, who lived there from 1847 to 1857.

Mr. Donald Ross, who was the first engineer in this part of the country, came into possession of the property in 1857, he and his family living there in a log cabin until the present house was erected in 1864, fifty-one years ago this month. The house, like all buildings erected in those days, was well built, the very best of lumber being used.

The loss is a heavy one. Mr. Ross told The Mail this morning it will be in the vicinity of \$2000 with no insurance. Very little of the household furniture was saved and all the clothing the members of the family have is what they wear now. The fire burned so quickly that scarcely anything was saved. In twenty minutes from the time the blaze was discovered, the house was burned to the ground with nothing but the main chimney standing.

Brigadier General Hugh Scott, unarmed and practically safe, has succeeded in bringing in the four bad Plutes who defied a whole posse. Great Scott!



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