

THE DAILY MAIL

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CANADA'S SHAME

There is in the March Westminster, an English journal, a scorching article on political conditions in Canada by the Rev. Dr. John Mackay of Vancouver, formerly the pastor of the Crescent Street Presbyterian church, Montreal. Corruption he declares to be so rampant in Canada as to be comparable to that of China under the old regime. He proceeds to say:

"Unfortunately, there is in the present cabinet a man who is rapidly nullifying any good which might have come from the change (of governments in 1911), a man who would not be tolerated in any high office in a country where there was anything like political morality and who in so-called heathen China would have short shift meted out to him (the rope!) The only excuse I have ever heard given by his own party for his presence there, is his ability to win elections, but it is a sad commentary on the state of political morality to which we have fallen when a man who has debauched every constituency he has ever had anything to do with becomes the practical master, simply because he can win elections."

He further says that, in travelling in England, Australia and the United States he has had to blush for his country's reputation as regards political morality. There are many hundreds of thousands of people in Canada who feel the same way as the Rev. Dr. Mackay, particularly since they have seen how shamelessly the splendid patriotism and loyalty of the Canadian people have been exploited at Ottawa.

COLONEL HURDMAN'S CASE

The St. John Standard, The Fredericton Gleaner and other graft newspapers, fearing that their graft has been endangered by the shocking exposures made by the public accounts committee at Ottawa, have endeavored to make it appear that "Grit officials" were the real culprits. The case of Colonel Hurdman of binocular fame, was cited. They assumed that Colonel Hurdman was a brother of a Liberal M.P. for Ottawa, and therefore must be a wicked Grit and a grafter. In this respect, however, the graft organs are as usual, somewhat astray. Major Hurdman, it seems, is not a brother but a cousin of the Liberal member for Ottawa and is a Conservative. Dealing with this matter, The Toronto Globe says:

"In casting about for a scapegoat upon whom to lay the blame for the sinister binocular episode, the Conservative press has been describing Col. Hurdman, who inspected and passed the cheap glasses supplied by Mr. T. Birkett at the top price, as a Liberal and a brother of the Liberal member for Ottawa. Both statements are untrue and their falsity must have been known to the men who first made them. Col. Hurdman is not a brother but a cousin of Mr. G. C. Hurdman, the Liberal member for Ottawa. So far from being a Liberal, the Colonel was at one time president of the Macdonald Club of Ottawa, and was actively identified with the Conservative party till his appointment to the position in the militia department which he recently held. The appointment was not a party one and when Sir Frederick Borden made it there was a good deal of grumbling among Liberals. Col. Hurdman owed his place in the public service to the fact that he is recognized as one of the very best artillery officers in Canada, and not to his politics. The seller, the buyers and the inspector of the binoculars that the public accounts committee found to be of 'poor quality, low range and inferior efficiency' were all sympathizers with the Borden government."

It does not jar the feelings of the average graft newspaper to be caught in a lie and they will go on repeating the falsehood about Colonel Hurdman so long as it serves their purpose to do so.

The Fredericton Tory-Nationalist organ, in an article defending Mr. J. Kidd Flemming from an attack by The Ottawa Citizen, says:

"Mr. Foster was dealing with the public funds, of which many thousands of dollars had been placed in his hands for expenditure, and the fault with him was that he kept no proper account of his dealings with public funds. Mr. Carland was shown to have deliberately taken a rake-off on a particular contract whereby the public funds were defrauded of \$9,000."

A few days ago the graft organ made the assertion in its columns



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that all the grafting exposed at Ottawa was the work of Grit officials. Is the Mr. Foster referred to above a Grit official? No, he is the Conservative member of parliament for Kings, N.S. Is Mr. Garland a Grit official? No, he is the Conservative member of parliament for Carleton, Ont. The graft organ not only contradicts itself but convicts itself of falsehood.

Hon. Dr. Landry, the provincial secretary, displayed some heat in the legislature a few nights ago in attempting to reply to the damaging criticism of Mr. Stewart with respect to provincial finances. Mr. Stewart put the matter very plainly. He pointed out that the interest charges last year totalled \$270,000 while this year Hon. Dr. Landry has had the sum of \$350,000 placed in the estimates. The increase of \$80,000 will, at four per cent., pay the interest on \$2,000,000. The truth of the matter is that these was a lot of juggling done last year in connection with the interest charge. Had the full amount been paid there would have been a big deficit in the year's operations. It was Mr. Stewart's exposure of this juggling that incurred the wrath of the provincial secretary-treasurer.

The St. John Standard has discovered that La Patrie of Montreal, a newspaper conducted by sons of the late Hon. J. I. Tarte, is Liberal in politics. The Standard is wrong as usual. La Patrie is a dyed-in-the-wool Tory organ. For proof of this it is only necessary to consult the auditor general's report, which shows that La Patrie last year received from the federal treasury for printing and advertising the respectable sum of \$30,179.80. The Borden government does not hand out melons to newspapers opposed to it.

There was a discussion on the highway act in the legislature on Saturday, but one looks in vain in the official report for any reference to the chief plank in Hazen's platform of 1900—that control of the highways should be vested in the municipal councils. And yet we are told that the present outfit in control of provincial affairs have carried out their pre-election promises.

It was stated in the legislature yesterday in reply to a query, that the government does not know what amounts are due the Hibbard Construction Company, J. H. Corbett & Sons and Kennedy & McDonald, contractors on the Valley Railway. This will be cold comfort for the scores of sub-contractors who have claims and have been assured by members of the government that they will be paid.

Commodore Stewart who has sharply criticized the provincial government from his place in the Legislature this session and thus incurred the wrath of the grafters and the graft press, was yesterday elected alderman for the town of Chatham at the head of the poll. Straws usually show which way the wind is blowing.

The legislature yesterday increased the pay of coroners. When the old government was in power legislation of this kind was objected to on the ground that it was "unloading burdens on the municipalities," but alas, it is different now.

AUTOMOBILES AND ROAD HOUSES

In the course of a speech in The St. John police court on Tuesday, Mr. J. King Kelly, county secretary of St. John, is reported to have said:

"We have more difficulty in connection with road houses from automobiles than from any other source. I made an appeal to Hon. John Morrissey, under whose department it comes, to have a clause inserted in the motor vehicle act, that if it could be proven that any automobile conveyed persons to houses of ill-repute, that the owner's license be taken. I regret to say that Hon. Mr. Morrissey did not accept my view to the needed change in the law. I am free to confess that Mr. Morrissey did not think the difficulty as great as I tried to make out and that such a course might be regarded as a reflection on the good name of the province. My official information is that automobiles have been engaged in disreputable trips to places outside the city for immoral purposes. As president of the Union of New Brunswick Municipalities, I would like to see inserted in a law a clause by which an automobile would forfeit all rights to the highways if connected with any immoral purposes or criminal offences."

COMMODORE STEWART WAS AN EASY WINNER

Chatham, N.B., April 20—In the elections here today only three of the old aldermen were re-elected five new men, including two ex-mayors, taking the place of the others. J. L. Stewart led the poll with three hundred and four votes and Charles Reinsborough came second with two hundred and eighty-three.

C. P. Hickey was elected mayor by acclamation, succeeding F. M. Tweedie who retired. The new board and the votes they polled, are as follows: J. L. Stewart, 304; Charles Reinsborough, 283; W. B. Snowball, 279; W. J. Moran, 271; John J. Flannagan, 265; D. P. MacLachlan, 255; J. A. Hay, 245; Dr. W. Stuart Loggie, 243.

The defeated candidates were: W. J. Groat, 233; T. M. Gaynor, 192; S. T. O'Brien, 174; H. H. Carvell, 171.

Messrs. Groat, O'Brien and Carvell were old aldermen while the new men on the aldermanic board are—Dr. Loggie, W. J. Moran, J. A. Hay, D. P. MacLachlan and W. B. Snowball. The two latter at one time served as mayors but they had been out of civic politics some years.

NEWCASTLE ELECTION

Newcastle, N. B., April 20—The town elections today for alderman resulted as follows, the first eight elected:

David Ritchie, 237; Ald. Alex. H. MacKay, 232; Ald. Dr. F. C. MacGrath, 309; James Stables, 203; Ald. Dennis P. Doyle, 202; Donald S. Creaghan, 201; ex-Ald. Henry Harvey, 198; Chester T. Hayward, 191; Ald. John G. Kehro, 122; Ald. Stanley W. Miller, 119. The total vote cast was 317, of which six or seven ballots were spoiled.

Seven of the eight elected subscribed to the platform of the Town Improvement League, one of whose planks was the strictest enforcement of the Canadian Temperance Act.

Mr. A. H. Hanington, K.C., of St. John, is in the city.

Mr. O. J. Killam of Truro, is at the Barker.

Mr. R. Sullivan of St. John, is a guest at the Barker.

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ADJOURNED SITTINGS OF
SUPREME COURT TODAY

The adjourned April sitting of the Supreme Court was held this morning after dealing with two cases the court adjourned until tomorrow morning.

In the case of O'Connell vs Porter, J. J. F. Winslow moved to have the case set for a special day and failing that to stand until next term. W. B. Chandler, K.C., contra.

The court ordered, Mr. Wallace consenting, that the appeal stand over until the next sittings, the costs of this application to be borne by the respondent in any event.

In the case of De Grasse et al vs Sweeney, Mr. Wallace asked leave to withdraw the appeal without costs. M. G. Teed, K.C., contra.

The appeal was dismissed with costs.

PERSONALS

Mr. H. A. Powell of St. John, is a guest at the Barker.

Mr. M. G. Teed, K.C., of St. John, is at the Barker.

Mr. L. T. Joudrey of Campbellton, is at the Barker.

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

Chief Justice McLeod is a guest at the Barker.

Mr. W. B. Chandler, K.C., of Moncton, is in the city.

Mr. R. A. Lawlor, K.C., of Chatham, is among the guests at the Queen.

Dr. W. B. Wallace, K.C., of St. John, is among the guests at the Queen.

Mr. F. B. Carvell, K.C., of Woodstock, is here attending the Supreme Court and is a guest at the Queen.

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