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ROTUNDA OF THE RUSSELL HOUSE

Second Only in Interest to the House of Commons.

MEN OF ALL SORTS MEET THERE

And Discuss Questions of National Interest.

(H. F. G. in Toronto Star.)

Ottawa, July 31.—In Canadian politics the Russell House Rotunda is second in interest only to the House of Commons. By custom and tradition it belongs to the party in power; so much so that when there is a change of Government the "outs" immediately look for new and inconspicuous quarters. It is not a question of expense. Politicians rarely think of retrenchment until they are politicians no longer. It is just the stricken deer seeking covert either to die unseen or to gather strength for fresh adventures.

It is as an ante-chamber to parliament Hill that the Russell House rotunda is distinguished. It is quite safe to say that politics are hotter and—if we could hear all the little corner confab—more intelligible here than they are in the House of Commons. It is here that souls expand after dinner, and motives and ambitions are laid bare over a friendly cigar. It is here that the political pies are begun which are cooked afterwards with a great deal of solemnity in parliament. These talks in the rotunda are among friends. No one attempts to disguise self-interest. It is taken for granted that everybody is in business for something else than his health. If most of these little heart-to-heart colloquies were analyzed they would come out this way: "Do what you can to help me and I will do what I can to help you." There is no other place where open confession is so much favored, except perhaps No. 16, where interviews are supposed to be crisp and straightforward with all appeals to sentiment cut out. If there are any plans you must bring 'em forward mother naked. Time enough to put clothes on them when they get into the House of Commons. In short, what they discuss in the Russell House rotunda is the mud out of which pies are to be made. There is, I may say, a disposition to magnify this sort of thing. The Russell House rotunda takes itself altogether too seriously. They talk politics there even when the House of Commons is asleep and the rest of the country is bored to death or has forgotten entirely that Parliament is sitting.

When black and white men come to Ottawa to make pictures they are fairly bewildered by the rich combinations they encounter in the Russell house rotunda. Suggestive groups are scattered all over the place. Usually birds of a feather flock together, and men from Toronto talk to men from Toronto. But there are enough odd assortments to attract the eye and amuse the fancy. For instance there is a quartette moving toward the bar for an after dinner liqueur. It comprises a Klondike concessionaire, very fashionable tailored, a diamond in his shirt front, patent leather boots, and a broad-leaved hat, the last being the only concession to the Western spirit; a practical steel man from Cape Breton; a grizzled old Hudson Bay factor from the frag end of the earth; and a United States Senator from South Carolina, whose business in Canada is most mysterious. In another corner is a deputation from a lake port. It has heard of the pork that is being distributed by the Public Works Department. It wants some in the shape of harbor improvements. Around one pillar is seated a party of eminent King's Counsel down here on Supreme Court matters. They are probably discussing the weakness of the bench. In a far corner is a bunch of prosperous look-

ing gentlemen who have manufacturer written all over them. They are working up tariff grudges. They are here to demand higher protection or death. It will be Mr. Fielding's turn to quail tomorrow. The place is sprinkled with men whose names the newspapers have made household words. They look very much like other people, only a little keener.

Still, there are enough members seen constantly in the rotunda to prevent the dignity of Parliament from suffering even in St. Jacques' eyes. There are little bequests of them in every nook. One must, indeed, be careful not to intrude. These colloquies are very intimate. It is bad form to "butt in." After the "good evenings" have been exchanged, back up and get away or you shove your nose into a chill, cruel back-ground of silence. Among the habitués of the rotunda are cabinet ministers. Many of the Cabinet Ministers have establishments of their own in Ottawa, and consequently are rarely to be found at the Russell House. It is questionable whether Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the whole course of his parliamentary career ever sat for an hour in the rotunda of his distinguished compatriot, St. Jacques. When he was a private member he did not affect crowds; now that he is premier he expects visitors to come to him either at his office in the Eastern Block at Room 21, House of Commons. The other Cabinet Ministers who have their households at the capital also have rooms in the legislative building, where they chat with their friends. If any entertaining is to be done they favor the club. But the rotunda of St. Jacques almost any evening can show three Cabinet Ministers to the good. The Minister of Customs makes a point of burning at least one Havana here after dinner, and so keeping in close touch with the faithful. The Minister of Public Works is a clock for regularity, a half-hour cigar after each meal, mingled with conversation and reflection, and at midnight a Welsh rarebit in the cafe, a cloud of cigarette smoke, and the good company of the chief whip, Mr. Calvert, and his assistant, Mr. Logan. The cafe, which is, so to speak, "contagious" to the rotunda, has a name for rarebits. But my word for it, you can't get a broiled lobster there after 1 o'clock in the morning, or, indeed, at any other time. Mr. Sutherland's easy smile helps to light up the rotunda when the electric current fails. The Opposition calls him Sunny Jim. Anent his genial personality the Conservatives have this little rhyme:

"The best of all was Sunny Jim,
And soon the Cabinet gobbled him."

Another Cabinet Minister who holds a little court in the rotunda is Senator Templeman, at present without portfolio, but mentioned for the Marine and Fisheries when Prefontaine moves up. The handsome Senator makes a bright spot in the noisy throng. Another personage who is prominently put forward as a Cabinet possibility is Emmerson, of New Brunswick, who strikingly resembles the late Clarke Wallace in face, figure, and a great tangled fell of black hair. When the late Mr. Justice Mills was a Cabinet Minister he made the Russell House his home, and even after he became judge and removed his household to Ottawa, he frequently smoked his after-dinner cigar in the familiar rotunda, where he gossiped with his old cronies. Although Mr. Fisher is a lone bachelor, he does not seek society in the Russell House rotunda. The Minister of Agriculture is a confirmed solitary.

Cabinet Ministers then a few, and members of Parliament a plenty. Fraser of Guelph is smoking a big fat-flavored pipe—cigars don't bite for him—and he is telling the latest good story. Around this jolly son of Anak are gathered the best-known faces in the rotunda—Senator Gibson, portly and beaming as one should who comes from Beamsville; Charles Parmelee, who has sacrificed his beard and dropped ten years off his age at the same time; Mahlon K. Cowan whose asides are quite as funny as Fraser's yarns; Archie Campbell, who is letting it come in at one ear and go out at the other; McCreary of Selkirk, who seems to say he can cap that with a better one; Wade of Annapolis, who thinks that the Moncton extension was destined from the creation of the world; Col. Tucker, a ruddy septuagenarian, who wonders what St. John city says about Blair; Hyman,

chairman of the Railway Committee, a thoroughbred, the fidus Achates of the Minister of Public Works; Guthrie and Thompson, two of the new guard, but seasoned as veterans; Ross of South Ontario, who mildly prides himself on a resemblance to Edward Rex; and last, but not least, Gourley of Colchester, the Yankee hater, the eagle-snatcher, who says that life is too grave for jesting.

The Russell House rotunda reflects the fact that this is a railway session. Mackenzie pervades No. 16, but Dan Mann attends to this end of it. This broad-shouldered railway magnate would be a conspicuous figure in a company of Frederick's grenadiers. On these hot summer nights it is his custom to dispense with a vest and wear a sash of black silk. Once, I remember, he wore a red one, and Mussolino could not have looked fiercer. Near him is "Billy" Moore, also identified with the Canadian Northern interests. This gifted young man is popular. He handles a cigar with the cool deliberation of a Van Horne or a General Grant. You can tell these bratny fellows by the way they smoke. Here also is one Edward Farrer, who passed from the manufacture of leading articles to the manufacture of leading questions. He is a great persuader. His heart to heart talks seem even more plausible than his justly-celebrated editorials. You will notice, too, Mr. Wainwright, of the G. T. R., who always appears as if he had lost last night's sleep. His chief, Mr. Hayes, rarely gets any further than the Premier's private room. The manager of the G. T. R. is a great negotiator, and he contrives to take most of his meals in Montreal. Sir Thomas Shaughnessy blows in occasionally, but he doesn't attract the same attention as his predecessor, Sir William Van Horne, whose heart just now is in Cuba. Sir Thomas, it is said, comes down to see if Mr. Tarte is working.

This is merely an impressionist picture of the Russell House rotunda during the busy season. There is said to be another picture when the House is not in session, when this populous resort is empty, when a footfall multiplies echoes like a nightowl cab rattling over the stony streets, when the bar gets along with one wine clerk, when the velvet carpet is stripped from the dining room, and St. Jacques thriftily stores all his splendor away until the next Parliament comes, and with it people who know a good thing when they see it. For these things I cannot vouch. I have not seen them.

The profit of a gold mine depends, not on the amount of rock crushed under the stamps but upon the amount of gold which can be extracted from the rock. In a similar way the value of the food which is eaten does not depend on the quantity which is taken into the stomach but upon the amount of nourishment extracted from it by the organs of nutrition and digestion. When these organs are diseased they fail to extract the nourishment in sufficient quantities to supply the needs of the several organs of the body, and these organs cannot work without nourishment. The result is heart "trouble," liver "trouble," and many another ailment. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, acting on every organ of the digestive and nutritive system, restores it to health and vigor. It cures diseases remote from the stomach through the stomach in which they originated. "Golden Medical Discovery" contains neither alcohol nor narcotics.

Be sincere. Do not say all you mean, but mean all you say. Perfection may be impossible to men, but we can at least be true.

The hardest plant to get rooted is charity; it also requires lots of nourishment and care.

The foundation of every state is the education of its youth.

Unnecessary to Suffer From Asthma.

This distressing complaint can be perfectly cured by inhaling Catarrhoxone a vegetable antiseptic that destroys the germs which cause the disease. Catarrhoxone is inhaled at the mouth from a convenient pocket inhaler, and after permeating the minutest air cells, is exhaled slowly through the nostrils. It stops the cough, makes breathing regular, and eradicates the Asthma so thoroughly from the system that it never returns. Don't suffer from Asthma, use Catarrhoxone, it will speedily cure you. Large outfit \$1.00, Small size, 25 cents. Druggists or by mail from Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont.

CITY COUNCIL.

Dismissed Capt. Smith by Vote of 6 to 4.

MR. CHESTNUT ADDRESS- ES BOARD ON LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS.

Members of Police Force Scored by Ald. Farrell.

The regular monthly meeting of the city council last evening was attended by Mayor Palmer and Ald. Stockford, Scott, Ross, Vanwart, Maxwell, Farrell, Clark, Rodgers, Moore and Edwards.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

IMPROVEMENTS WANTED.

A delegation composed of Messrs. Henry Chestnut, John J. Weddall and J. D. McKay, representing the Local Improvement Association, was in attendance, and on motion of Ald. Farrell, Mr. Chestnut was given permission to address the council. He said he was glad to be present to discuss with the council a matter in which all citizens were interested, and wished to return thanks for the privilege extended to him. The association, he explained was composed of some of the best and most progressive citizens, who were willing to contribute their time and means for the betterment of the city, and wanted the co-operation of the council. He spoke first of the necessity of enlarging the market, and hinted that he had prepared plans for the same, which he would submit to the council. He held that now was the time to do the work. The credit of the city is good, and money can be procured at a low rate of interest. He suggested that tenders be called for the work at once, so that it might be completed before next spring. His idea was that the work should be done under the supervision of a member of the council and one citizen. He would give his services gratuitously if the council considered him competent to act. He would suggest that warehouses be erected below the city hall, and he himself would be willing to rent one at a good figure. He had made an estimate of the cost of the improvements, but would not care to make it public at the present time. He wished to return thanks for the grant made to the Local Improvement Association, and promised to lay a full statement of the expenditure before the council, just as soon as the vouchers were all in. The money had all been expended, as well as a sum subscribed by the members of the association. He had the plans with him and would be pleased to explain them to the council.

Mayor Palmer suggested that the council examine the plans at a later stage.

In reply to Ald. Clark, Mr. Chestnut stated that he thought the market could be extended for about \$1000. The warehouse buildings would be an after consideration.

The mayor informed Mr. Chestnut that it was the intention of the council to make some improvements to the market at an early date. The money question was all that stood in the way.

Mr. Chestnut thought there was no good reason why there should be any delay in the matter. There was now \$500 to the credit of the wharf department and that amount would pay for the lumber at any rate.

The True Tragedy of Life.

is ill-health, disappointed ambitions, usefulness destroyed. Pathetic! nay, tragic. Poor blood, weak nerves, and a tired brain. Is there hope? Yes! because there is a cure.

Ferrozone Tablets makes blood, not blue blood, but the fluid that strengthens the whole body. Ferrozone does this quickly by improving digestion, stimulating assimilation and by imparting health and tone to the whole system. Your druggist will tell you a great deal more about Ferrozone. Ask him to tell you of the wonderful curative properties of Ferrozone Tablets.

Lightning Neuralgia Cure.

Not dangerous because it acts quickly. Simply powerful—scarcely less than five times stronger than any other pain remedy in the world—is Nerviline. In brief, one drop of Nerviline has a power over pain equal to five drops of any other remedy. If you suffer from neuralgia, use Nerviline. You have convincing proof of its value and you get rid of its pain. Druggists sell it. Money back if not so.

Ald. Farrell thought that in view of Mr. Chestnut's statement it was the duty of the council to take some action in regard to the matter. He would suggest that it be referred to the wharf committee, and that they consult with the Local Improvement Association and report at a future meeting of the council. He was afraid that the wharf would cost more than the amount estimated by Mr. Chestnut. The roadmaster who should be competent to speak on such matters, puts the cost of balancing the wharf at from \$4000 to \$7000. Now it was well known by all that the council was not in a position to expend that amount this year. He would move that the matter be referred to the wharf committee to be dealt with.

The motion was seconded by Ald. Scott and unanimously adopted.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

The report of the auditor was next read and adopted. The expenditures for the month were as follows:

Roads and streets.....	\$858 18
Public works.....	558 64
Fire department.....	103 15
City hall.....	72 94
Contingencies.....	106 45
Alms house.....	132 75
Street lights.....	1,025 50
Old burying ground.....	1 50
Markets.....	19 37
Ad. of justice.....	246 68
Sewerage and water.....	837 92

Total.....\$3,862 37

The monthly and quarterly salaries of city officers were ordered to be paid.

On motion of Ald. Scott, the sum of \$18 75 was ordered to be paid the engineers of the pumping station, being their extra allowance for three months for operating the hospital dynamo.

On motion of Ald. Edwards a check for \$50 was ordered to issue in favor of the city marshal, being one-half his salary for enforcing the Sunday law.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The alms house commissioner's statement showed expenditure during the month amounting to \$404.96, being an over expenditure of \$89. The report was adopted and a check for \$150 was ordered to be issued in favor of the commissioner. The assessment appeals committee in their report, recommended the income assessment of James Coy, an employee of Palmer's tannery, be reduced to \$300. Also that Alex. Torrens be relieved of the payment of a poll tax for 1903, provided he pay his 1902 tax before September 1st; otherwise he will have to pay for both years. In regard to the petition of Mrs. John Lipsett, praying for exemption on her real estate, the committee recommended that the prayer be not complied with.

THE SHADE TREES.

A communication from William Cooper complaining that his property on King street was being injured by trees, and asking that the same be removed, was read to the council.

Ald. Edwards moved that the matter be referred to the road master and chairman of the road committee.

Ald. Farrell stated that Mr. Morgan had complained of a tree on his lot on King street, and had asked that it be removed to enable him to go on with his building operations.

Ald. Edwards motion was then put and carried, Mr. Morgan's case being included therein.

Ald. Vanwart hoped that the road (CONTINUED ON THIRD PAGE.)

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Many are destroying to the flesh and dangerous to use, but the old reliable Putnam's Corn Extractor removes Corns, Warts and Bunions, without pain in 24 hours. No pain, no failure "Putnam's" cures.

The unexpected caress or encouraging word lightens the burden of many a weary one.

Monkey Brand Soap makes copper like gold, tin like silver, crockery like marble, and windows like crystals.