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DAILY HERALD.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1903.

INDISPUTABLE EVIDENCE.

The opposition members of Northumberland in their recent campaign in that constituency, and in the debate on the address, charged that the lumber operators of the North Shore were practically cheating the government out of a large amount of stumpage, and intimated that the fact was winked at by the administration because the lumber lords gave their support to the Premier and his colleagues. This charge was particularly emphasized by Mr. Morrissey, who when called to book failed to name a lumber operator or a scaler who were thus dealing dishonestly with the government, Mr. Morrissey's charges however general and indefinite, have not been permitted to pass unchallenged, and in the House Friday, Hon. Mr. Dunn presented figures showing how reckless is the indictment made against the government in this respect. The Surveyor General said he wished to call attention to the statement made by Mr. Morrissey regarding Mr. Snowball's circular for 1901, which showed 128,000,000 of lumber to have been shipped from the Miramichi while the returns for the Crown Land Department showed stumpage to have been collected on only 30,000,000. He held in his hand a memorandum for the shipments of 1901, and the stumpage collected which was as follows:

J. B. Snowball, stock carried over from other years and shipped 1902.....	8,000,000
From granted lands, Indian lands, shore logs and deals purchased.....	9,000,000
Paid stumpage on.....	9,000,000
Purchased from Sullivan, Layton and others who paid their own stumpage.....	2,000,000
Wm. Richards, W. A. Hickson, D. J. Ritchie, E. Hutchison, stock carried over from other years and shipped in 1902.....	15,000,000
From N. B. Land Co. besides smaller grants.....	55,000,000
The above and other operators' paid stumpage.....	18,500,000
Hemlock, on which the operators had paid stumpage on bark in previous years, hemlock logs not being subject to stumpage when the bark has been taken off and fees paid.....	5,000,000
	121,500,000

This effectually disposes of the charges of the member for Northumberland.

At a later stage the Surveyor General said he would show still more conclusively that the Crown Land department is getting every cent of stumpage that the province is entitled to.

Speaking later in the debate, the Premier challenged Mr. Morrissey to move for a committee of the House, and he would be given every opportunity to prove his charges against the Crown Land management.

A SCORCHER.

While Premier Tweedie was absent from the legislature through illness, some of the opposition people were rather free with charges and insinuations against the government, Mr. Morrissey particularly being an offender in that direction. Mr. Tweedie is on his feet again, and in a vigorous speech in closing the debate on the address, got back in fine style at the gentlemen who took such liberties earlier in the discussion.

The Premier, although still suffering from the after effects of la grippe, delighted his friends in the legislature by

the potency and appropriateness of his observations. He indignantly repelled the slanders that had been uttered respecting the alleged conspiracy between the government and the North Shore lumbermen by which the province is robbed of a large amount of revenue, and dared Mr. Morrissey to move for a committee to investigate his charges. The member so strongly arraigned took his medicine quietly, but not so Mr. Hazen, whom the Premier also touched with a vigorous hand. The opposition leader can stand almost anything except mention of his connection with the Harris land job, and when Mr. Tweedie gave him credit for that transaction, Mr. Hazen grew very wrathful, and interrupted the speaker several times. This however did not deter the Premier from driving his arguments home, much to the discomfort of Mr. Hazen and his friends, who apparently think they have license to make unfounded charges against the government, but resent being tripped up and exposed.

During the debate on the Home Rule resolution in the House of Commons, several Tory members made bitter attacks on the mover, Hon. John Costigan. The worst offender in this respect was Mr. Ingram, an Ontario member, who said he would support a home rule resolution moved by the Minister of Justice or some other representative Irishman, but he would not vote for any legislation introduced by a man whom he despised. He then severely criticized Mr. Costigan for turning his back on Sir Charles Tupper and the Tory party, and said Mr. Costigan had no claim to political honesty. Mr. Ingram's attack was so brutal that he was called to order by the Speaker and compelled to retract.

Hon. Mr. Sweeney was very warmly received by his fellow members when he rose to make his maiden speech in the legislature, and the character of his observations, and the manner of their delivery greatly pleased his friends. He is an easy, graceful speaker, with an abundant flow of language expressing practical ideas, and with plenty of reserve force. Mr. Sweeney is also credited with an abundant sense of humor which will no doubt be called out in subsequent debates, and he will prove a most valuable addition to the speaking talent of the new House.

Mr. Blair was able to hold up a Grand Trunk bill in the railway committee yesterday until the company amends it by furnishing information as to how much the \$10,000,000 proposed increase in their guaranteed stock is to be expended in Canada. Mr. Blair expressed his desire that the Grand Trunk should send more of their traffic through Canadian ports, and Mr. Gourley, M. P., suggested that the Grand Trunk should tear up its terminals at Portland before seeking any more favors from parliament.

Mr. Mackenzie, the railway magnate intimates that the trans-continental line in which he is interested may pass through New Brunswick across the country to Moncton, with a branch to St. John, and leaving Fredericton and the St. John valley out of consideration. Mr. Mackenzie has not yet got his charter for the New Brunswick section of his line, and the legislature of this province will have something to say about the route.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier says the Federal government is quite willing to have the matter of New Brunswick's representation in the House of Commons referred to the Supreme Court.

Mr. Wilmot of Sunbury and Queens and Mr. Fowler of Kings were the only New Brunswick members of the House of Commons who voted against Mr. Costigan's Home Rule resolution.

After a very full discussion of the address, the Legislature has passed it, and is now in a position to get down to the serious work of the session.

Even so rapid a Tory newspaper as the Montreal Star can see no point or sense in the attacks on Sir Oliver Mowatt.

When Parliament had carried Mr. Birkerdikes' anti cigarette resolution. Dr. Sproule, who always likes to be heard asked the premier what he was going to do about it. "I shall have to give up cigarette smoking" was Sir Wilfrid's prompt reply, and the House laughed at the polite snub to Dr. Sproule's officiousness. Sir Wilfrid never smoked in his life.

When the Tories gerrymandered Ontario they did the infamous business without consulting the Liberals. How different the action of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in introducing the new redistribution bill. On behalf of the government he hands over the demarcation of riding boundaries to a committee of the House, four of whom are Liberals and three Conservatives.

Mr. Hazen has been long enough in political life to control his temper, but he couldn't stand the Premier's dig on the Harris land deal. If the opposition leader is guiltless in that matter, why should he be so sensitive when it is mentioned?

It has never been discovered who killed cock robin, or who struck Billy Patterson, but now we know who made St. John the winter port of Canada. Mr. Hazen says he did the business.

There is no more profanity around the legislature—the dam business is a thing of the past.

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