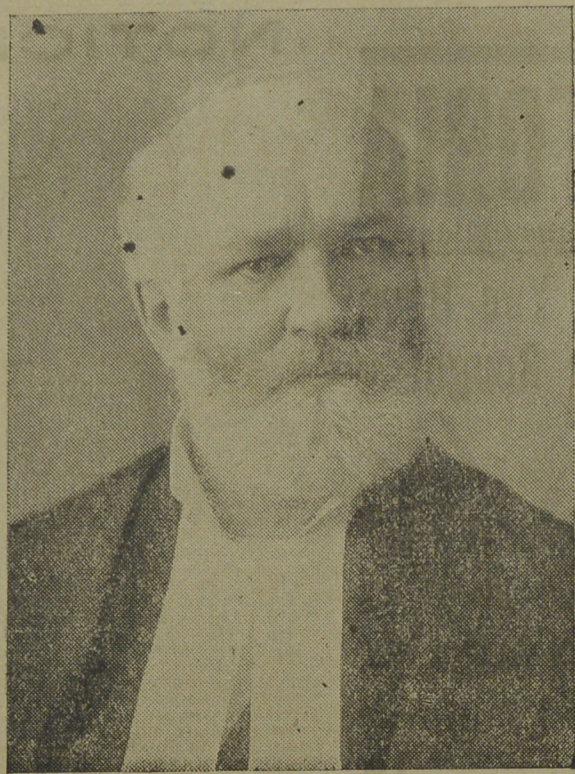




MR. BLAIR HAS RESIGNED.

His Seat in the Liberal Government at Ottawa.

'TIS SAID HE DIFFERED WITH HIS COLLEAGUES

On the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Scheme.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

Ottawa, July 14.—A surprise awaited politicians and outside observers this morning the Railway Committee began work. The chairman called the meeting to order at 11 o'clock. The chair ordinarily used by the minister of railways was occupied by Hon. James Sutherland, and Mr. Blair was not present.

The situation looked rather significant. A moment later, however, Mr. Blair entered the room, and Mr. Sutherland rose with a smile to give the minister of railways his proper seat.

Up to the present time no official announcement of Mr. Blair's resignation has been made, although there is not a shadow of a doubt that he has resigned.

Opinion at Ottawa.

Ottawa, July 14.—The general impression here is that Mr. Blair was strongly opposed to the opposition line to the I.C.R. from Moncton to Quebec, being built at the public expense, and handed over to a private corporation.

His strong and successful efforts to make the Intercolonial pay its way he believed would all be thrown away by this paralleling line.

The treatment his railway bill was receiving in the House of Commons also, was too much for this high spirited gentleman. He declined to become a member of the committee to treat with the Grand Trunk for final arrangements, and did not attend the caucus when the project was discussed on Thursday last.

Feeling that he could not shoulder responsibility for the deal, which he would have to do if he remained in the government, he decided to resign.

Everyone believed he was to have become chairman of the railway commission, the best position in the gift of the government, but it is feared that by his honorable action he has forfeited the position.

Rebuke to the Government.

Montreal, July 13.—The Witness, Liberal, editorially referring to Mr. Blair's resignation, says it is due to the determination of the government to build a line of railway from Moncton to Quebec in opposition to the I.C.R.

A self respecting man, the Witness says, who has made the interests of the I.C.R. so much his own, could do nothing else but step out.

The Witness regards Mr. Blair's action as a distinct rebuke to the government.

Toronto, July 14.—The Globe makes no editorial comment on Mr. Blair's resignation.

Ottawa, July 14.—Hon. A. G. Blair has resigned his position in the cabinet. Efforts were made to get a statement from Mr. Blair, but he refused to be interviewed.

That he has resigned there is no doubt. The difficulty between himself and his colleagues appears to have arisen over the eastern section of the Grand Trunk Pacific connection.

Mr. Blair has been all along opposed to the Grand Trunk Pacific extending to Moncton, as he said this meant paralleling the government line, and thereby injuring the road.

When it was noticed last Thursday that Mr. Blair did not take any part in the caucus, which was called to consider the Grand Trunk Pacific, it was suspected that the agreement under consideration was not satisfactory to him. On Saturday he left the city with his daughter and returned at noon today. It is said that on reaching the city he learned that the cabinet had decided to adhere to the arrangement with the Grand Trunk Pacific to carry out the eastern section as proposed, and therefore he had separated on this question, and most probably on this one alone, from his colleagues, and left the cabinet.

There are some who say that his resignation has been in the hands of the premier for two or three days, but so far, no official statement is obtainable, and it is not likely that there will be any until such time as the premier makes one to parliament and Mr. Blair will reply. If the precedent is followed, the premier will have first to communicate with his excellency the governor general, and to acquaint him with the facts before making any formal announcement.

A friend of Mr. Blair's told your correspondent last night that the minister of railways could not remain in the cabinet and see the Intercolonial, in which he had taken such a deep interest and made it one of the best roads on this continent, dismantled.

The proposition is to parallel the line not only from Quebec, but from Montreal, since the G. T. R. has now got its road to Levis and the government road would in that way be knocked out of business.

After spending so much money in bringing the road into its excellent condition, the gentleman said that there could be no justification for now doing what would practically destroy what Mr. Blair has always maintained, was the extension of the Intercolonial westward, and it could not now support a policy which not only meant the opposite, but the destruction of the government line.

Just before the house adjourned yesterday Mr. Borden put his customary question regarding the business of the new sitting to the minister of finance, who was leading the house at the time, and added: "I would also like to know from my honorable friend whether or not he has any information to give to the house with respect to the rumor that is very current that the minister of railways and canals has tendered his resignation. It has been openly stated, as my honorable friend is no doubt aware, around the corridors that the resignation has taken place. If he has any information perhaps he will give it to the house."

Hon. Mr. Fielding—"I have not had the pleasure of seeing either the prime minister or minister of railways this evening, and so I am not in a position to give him any answer on the question he asked."

Mr. Borden—"Perhaps before tomorrow evening my honorable friend would be able to get into communication with the prime minister or the minister of railways and canals. I can understand that perhaps he may not be able to see him this evening."

THE DEATH PENALTY.

Wife Murderer Hanged in London.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

London, July 14.—Samuel Herbert Dougal, who on June 14th, was convicted of the murder of Miss Camille Cecile Holland, and sentenced to death, was hanged at Chelmsford gaol at 9 o'clock this morning.

The crime for which Dougal paid the extreme penalty was committed four years ago, and only discovered recently.

It was known as the Moat House mystery. [Dougal was formerly of the Halifax garrison, and married one of his several wives while resident in that city.]

Condemned to Death.

Halifax, N. S., July 14.—Joseph Carver, for the murder of farmer Stewart in P. E. Island, has been sentenced to be hanged on Oct. 1st. Carver was charged with having murdered Alexander Stewart, a well-to-do farmer of Cross Roads, Lot 48, P. E. I., on Sunday morning, April 12th. His trial took place at Charlottetown, P. E. I.

Committed for Trial.

Sydney, C. B., July 14.—The man Willard, who was arrested at Moncton on the charge of abduction last Thursday, has been committed to stand trial at the next sitting of the supreme court. The trial promises some very startling disclosures of a very immoral nature.

If the Kansas Minerva, Carrie Nation, persists in her determination to go upon the stage the drama will be set back about a thousand years.

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Plans and specification may be seen at the Office of the Assistant Engineer at Levis, and at the Chief Engineer's Office, Moncton, N. B., where forms of tender may be obtained. All the conditions of the Specification must be complied with.

D. POTTINGER, General Manager.
Railway Office, Moncton, N. B.,
2nd July, 1903.
July 1—dl31

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