

THE DAILY HERALD

Published every evening, (Sunday excepted)
by the

Herald Printing & Publishing Co.,

(LIMITED.)

Fredericton, N. B.

SUBSCRIPTION: \$4.00 PER ANNUM.

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DAILY HERALD

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 1904.

INCREASE THE PAY.

Lt.-Col. Wadmore, commandant of the R. C. R. in this city, has received orders from Ottawa to immediately recruit his company up to one hundred men, the full strength authorized when the corps was created in 1884. The company's authorized strength since 1894, when it was cut down by order of the Tory government, has been only sixty-eight, but the Colonel is not able to muster more than fifty men, the others being necessary for fatigue and other duties, and the former parades and marches out of the corps have been practically abandoned for some years.

The Tory government took great credit to itself for its alleged fostering of the military service of Canada and severely criticize the Liberal treatment of the service, but as a matter of fact the former steadily neglected the militia, and their blighting management is seen in the permanent corps, which since 1894 has been little over half strength. The Liberals propose to make a change, and evidence is seen in the order which Lt.-Col. Wadmore has received from Ottawa, to recruit the R. C. R. up to one hundred men.

There may be difficulty, however, in securing the requisite number of men. While the wage earners of all classes are given greater remuneration than in 1884, when the corps was established, the pay of the permanent militia has remained stationary and there will be trouble in engaging good, strong, healthy and intelligent young men for the meagre sum of forty cents per day with board and lodging. The ordinary day laborer earns more money, and if the militia department expect to secure recruits, the pay of the soldiers will have to be raised to a respectable figure. This has been done in the militia corps of the country, and the men in the permanent force have good reasons for requiring an advance in the amount paid for their services.

EXIT DUNDONALD.

Mr. Borden and the other Tory leaders were careful to take no official part in the Ottawa farewell to Lord Dundonald, but left that duty to the heelers of the party. Mr. Borden realizes that the people of Canada are jealous of the advantage they won through the fight for responsible government, and are not prepared to openly back Lord Dundonald in his assault on that glorious principle. But the Tories secretly will make all the capital they can out of Lord Dundonald's dismissal. They are already trying to develop therefrom another loyalty campaign, and have Mr. Tarte, who should prove a valuable aid.

It is significant that the Liberals of Ottawa declined to take part in the Dundonald sendoff at the capital. They were bitten at Toronto, where they were coaxed into a gathering which its promoters declared was to be non-political, but which ended in a Tory jubilation with the dismissed commander as the central figure.

Lord Dundonald is quitting Canada seems himself determined to make all the political trouble he can, and is shooting off his mouth in a manner quite unbecoming a live lord. He is feeling the snubs administered to him both at Ottawa and West-

minster. Dismissed by one government and told to shut up and come home by another, it is little wonder that this fine Highland gentleman who feels the dignity of his lordly position and is accustomed to drive soldiers as he could not drive the Canadian ministers, should talk back, and try to even up things with those who had to take him in hand, and teach him his place, but his drivel will not turn the people of Canada aside from their purpose of governing themselves, though a thousand English Lords attempted to subvert popular liberties and establish a military autocracy in this free country.

CAUSE OF ITS WORRY.

The Sun is still worrying over the meetings held by Hon. Messrs. LaBillois and Farris in the up river counties. The Tory organs readily sees that when the ministers get an opportunity to talk with the farmers about the new highway act and the government's agricultural policy, the objections urged by the opposition and their newspapers are promptly swept away.

It has been demonstrated to the Sun already that the highway act is certain to become one of the most popular measures ever adopted by the New Brunswick legislature, and that is what is worrying the Tory organ. That is the reason it assaults Messrs. LaBillois and Farris for meeting with the people and fully explaining the provisions of the new law, which when understood is accepted as a piece of wise and useful legislation. That is why the Sun refused to publish the reports of the up river meetings after its management had agreed to perform that service.

The Sun's reference to the individual who reported the meetings, are about as small as one would expect from that newspaper which talks so glibly about a subsidized press and a subsidized reporter. Why, the Sun was started with a government subsidy and for eighteen long years it fairly revelled in Tory patronage, drawing from the Ottawa treasury from 1878 to 1896, some \$250,000, much of which it never honestly earned. In spite however of this generous contribution from the treasury the Sun fell into the Sheriff's hands and was knocked down to its present proprietors for a mere song. The Sun is eager for another dip into the public treasury and its long delayed expectation have soured it on everybody who happens to be a political opponent.

We presume that it is a matter of utter indifference to Messrs. LaBillois and Farris whether the Sun prints the reports of their speeches or not. They have spoken fairly of the subjects discussed without any effort or hesire to make political capital for themselves or the government, their speeches have been widely circulated in at least four leading daily newspapers of this province. The people have gladly heard and read their observations, and they don't expect anything like decent treatment from the Tory organ, which has a reputation for guerilla tactics in dealing with political opponents.

SUPPOSING A CASE.

The Capital, edited by our esteemed military friend, Major Cropley, is very much excited because Dr. Pickel, whose appointment as an officer in the 13th Scottish Light In-

fantry, was turned down by Hon. Sydney Fisher for lack of qualification, and weeps over the spectacle of Dr. Pickel serving in camp as a sergeant. "Just fancy," says the Capital, "Dr. Crocket, ex-mayor of this city, or Dr. Atherton, for instance, going to camp Sussex as a sergeant with the 71st!"

We cannot see that either of the gentlemen mentioned would sacrifice any dignity by such an appearance, especially if they were able to ride a horse. The time is not so very far back in the past when the editor of the Capital was himself a sergeant, and even a private in the 71st, and it was by starting at the lowest rung of the ladder, learning the art of war in a practical way, and by faithful attention to humble duties, that he rose to a commanding position in the militia and was able to retire from the service with an honorable rank. Dr. Pickel has the same chance as the editor had, and so have Dr. Crocket and Dr. Atherton, if they cared to enter the military service. Probably nobody would object more strenuously than our military friend of the Capital, were the Government to gazette Dr. Crocket or Dr. Atherton, or any other gentleman entirely without military experience to the command of a squadron of cavalry. That is what Mr. Fisher did in Dr. Pickel's case, and that is principally the reason Lord Dundonald kicked up and was finally kicked out.

Major Cropley is too good a military man not to see the force of Mr. Fisher's reasons, and when he takes an opposite view we fear he permits his eyes to be blinded by political prejudice.

The growth of Fredericton continues, and some fine residences are being erected this season besides fully a score of neat cottages. Desirable building lots are getting scarce, and it is the city council's duty to see to the opening up of new streets. Perhaps the aldermen if unable to act themselves might refer the matter to the city engineer, who already has a hand in the fire alarm tower and the improvement of the water system. It would be an easy way of shifting responsibility even if not much was accomplished.

The Toronto Globe, the leading newspaper of Canada, has a high appreciation of Hon. H. R. Emmerson and the service he is rendering as minister of railways. In a recent issue it says: "He (Mr. Emmerson) took over the department a few months ago to continue the work done so exceptionally well by Mr. Blair. The task of following so able an administrator was no light one, but Mr. Emmerson faced it with courage and carried it out with success. Not even his predecessor could have done any better under the circumstances."

If the Sun told the truth it would admit its reason for excluding from its columns reports of the meetings addressed by Hon. Messrs. LaBillois and Farris is that there was so much favorable comment on the new highway act at those gatherings. Nobody spoke against the act, but one of the Sun's politicians and a county councillor, both no doubt from political motives.

The Dominion Parliament is to be prorogued the last of next week, after a session lasting from March 8.

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