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DAILY HERALD

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1904.

ILL BRED SNEERS.

The Toronto Globe interprets the sneers and insinuations of Mr. Borden and Mr. Foster at Mr. Blair at the St. John Tory meeting as indications of Tory disappointment, that the ex-minister of railways did not throw himself bodily into opposition after he made his speech on the transcontinental railway bill. Had Mr. Blair done that he might now be leader of the Tory party, with Mr. Borden and Mr. Foster as followers.

The Tory press for weeks has been trying to discover "the men behind Borden," the men who might, with some confidence, appeal to the people for power and authority at Ottawa, but the effort has been without satisfactory result. The politicians who surround the Tory leader are his chief lieutenants in parliament, and who would be called to office with him did his party succeed in the elections, are of very small calibre. Where is the cabinet material in the Sproules, and Fowlers, and Bells, and Clarkes, and Hughes. There is not a man in the whole Tory brigade at Ottawa of commanding ability and influence. No wonder they courted Mr. Blair, and practically invited him into their wigwam. No wonder they took refuge behind his railway arguments, for they had neither the ability nor the force to originate a line of effective argument, or outline a policy. Mr. Borden's alternative railway policy, so badly riddled even by Mr. Blair, became the laughing stock of Parliament and the country and he dropped it, to make a complete somersault for government ownership which but a few months previous he had condemned in unmeasured terms. The Tories wanted Mr. Blair, when they thought they might get him, they plastered him with fulsome adulation, and now that they know how he spurned their advances Mr. Borden and Mr. Foster indulge in ill bred sneers at the ex-minister. Neither of them would dare such a course were they face to face with Mr. Blair, in parliament or out of it. What that heard the castigation that Mr. Blair gave the ex-apostle at the Galetown court house in 1896, will ever forget the exhibition the then Minister of Railways made of his antagonist. It was pitiful the way Mr. Foster whined and interrupted under the vigorous lash applied by Mr. Blair. Mr. Foster, however, felt perfectly safe to sneer at Mr. Blair at St. John the other night when he was sure the latter was at the other side of the continent and in a public position which precluded him answering the sneaking attack. Brave man, Mr. Foster, when the enemy is thousands of miles away.

Capt. Bernier is not going with the Northern exploring expedition organized by the Federal government. He wanted to be boss of the show, but was only appointed sailing master, so he has resigned. Perhaps the government were afraid the captain might start for the North Pole, instead of doing Hudson Bay and other northern waters, establishing police posts and leaving supplies, as is the real purpose of the expedition.

The St. John exhibition opens Saturday evening, with addresses by Governor Snowball, Hon. Dr. Pugsley and Mayor White, and will continue until Sept. 27.

Canada's methods to induce immigration are to be copied by Queensland, Australia. A London cable says:—Sir H. Tozer, Agent-General of Queensland, who returns to that colony to confer with the Government on the best means of getting immigrants, says:—"Having been to Canada, and studied the immigration question there, I am in favor of Queensland adopting Canada's methods, and if the authorities of the colony agree with me, by adopting Canada's methods, there is no reason why Australia should not obtain sufficient settlers."

The Sun says the Artillery band of St. John is in trouble because it played at the Tory send off to Mr. Borden at St. John the other day, and that Col. White, D. O. C., has asked Mayor White, the Tory commander of the regiment, for an explanation. Military bands are not supposed to take part in political demonstrations, but that did not prevent Mr. Foster and his Fredericton friends from taking the R. C. R. band of this city to a political blow out, organized for Mr. R. D. Wilnot at Belmont, some years ago.

When Mr. Beith, M. P., returned to his home at Bowmanville, Ont., Monday, after having scooped all the principal prizes at the St. Louis Exposition for Hackney horses, he was given a public reception, with brass bands, speeches, etc., as accompaniments. Fredericton has reason to feel gratified at the honors Sheriff Sterling and Ald. Jewett won at the Halifax races and exhibition, but as they are not politicians like Mr. Beith, there is no likelihood of a public reception.

It is a mistake to suppose that that C. P. R. "hold-up" in the west was the first "hold-up" in the history of Canada. There was the G. T. P. "hold-up," which compelled the Government to come down with their second agreement.—Montreal Star. (Yes, and there was the C. P. R. "hold-up," which compelled the political scandal of 1872, during which the Tory leader called for "another ten thousand.")

The Tories opposed with all their might the extension of the Intercolonial railway from Levis to Montreal, yet profess to be indignant because the government has not purchased the Canada Atlantic Railway as a further extension of the Intercolonial. Here is an example of Tory consistency for you.

Sir Charles Tupper, who passed through St. John yesterday, is authority for the statement that his son, Sir Hibbert Tupper, has retired absolutely from political life.

THE BELL TOWER.

Fire Committee Will ask Bridge Companies to Submit an Estimate.

The fire committee of the city council held a meeting last evening, those present being Aids. Ross, Edwards, Scott and Barbour, and City Clerk McCready. The proposed down town fire alarm tower was the main topic for discussion, and judging from what transpired at the meeting, the project seems to be no nearer fulfillment now than it was several months ago.

Ald. Ross, chairman of the committee, took occasion to explain that he had done all in his power to establish the fire alarm tower, and did not think he was deserving of the criticism that he had been subject to by the press. He complained that his efforts had been hampered by members of the council representing the lower wards, and for that reason he

had not been able to accomplish as much as he would have liked.

The proposal was made at the meeting to abandon the tower and bell scheme, and instead place a steam whistle upon the electric station. Electrician McGinn, who was present, explained that steam was always available at the station, and expressed the opinion that a whistle to be used for fire purposes could be fitted up at a cost of about \$300.

A letter was read from the Ontario Wind Engine and Pump Company, stating that they were unable at present to submit figures on the cost of a tower, built from the specifications supplied by Prof. Jack, but they promised to give the matter their attention later on.

It was decided by the committee to correspond with several of the bridge companies of Canada, and see if one of them would undertake the construction of the bell tower.

The proposal to place a whistle on the electric light station was not viewed with much favor by the committee, on account of the station building being located so far up town.

The bell for the fire station has already been ordered from a Baltimore concern, and the total cost of bell and tower will be in the neighborhood of \$2,000.

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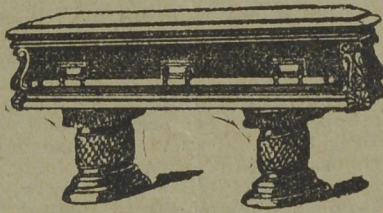
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