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DAILY HERALD.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1904.

MR. MONK'S RESIGNATION.

When the Tory party was re-organized after the disastrous defeat in the general election of 1896, Mr. Monk was selected as leader of the Quebec wing, and he was hailed as the man under whose great influence with his compatriots, Quebec would reject Laurier and return to its Tory allegiance. Mr. Monk starred through the country with Mr. Borden during the general election of 1900, and was well received, but the result in Quebec, where the Liberals swept almost everything before them, damaged his reputation as an organizer and led to his final resignation as the Tory lieutenant.

This however, was not the real cause of Mr. Monk's retirement, now officially announced in the Tory press. His resolve is directly traceable to the prominence given Mr. Tarte in Tory councils. Mr. Monk is disgusted with the elevation of Mr. Tarte, and filed his resignation some weeks ago, as reported in the Liberal press at the time, but was induced to hold on until the bye elections were over, and to take part in the Montreal contests.

Mr. Monk's indifferent health is given as a reason for his resignation, but it is known that he very warmly resents Mr. Tarte's intrusion into the party councils, and the prominence given the renegade Liberal. Mr. Borden has a great difficulty on his hands in the choice of Mr. Monk's successor. Mr. Tarte is looking for the position, but a great many respectable Quebec Tories feel towards him as Mr. Monk does. There does not seem to be anybody else available, unless it be Mr. T. Chas. Casgrain who however is rather to light a man for the job, which Mr. Bergeron might have captured had he been successful in St. James division, Tuesday.

The demoralization of the Tory in Quebec seems to be completed by the result of the bye elections and Mr. Monk's resignation, and there is little doubt that in the next contest Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the idol of the French Canadians as he is of his English supporters, will command as large a majority of the representatives of that province as he has in the present parliament.

THE WAR AND CANADA.

A great many people fear that Great Britain may be embroiled in the present war between Russia and Japan, and in case of trouble of that kind Canada would have a special interest in the combat and might be called upon to defend herself from attack.

The Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto Globe, no doubt in close touch with the authorities at the capital, in this connection, says:

"Officials of the militia department are not blind to possibilities that may arise in connection with hostilities in the far east. If Great Britain becomes involved in the struggle Canada may have to defend its eastern and western coasts. An effective defence of this country would be the greatest service Canada could render to the British empire. In case of war it would leave the British forces free to strike a blow elsewhere. There is reason to believe inquiries are secretly being made as to the length of time it would take to mobilize and equip troops for the defence of those parts of Canada open to attack. It is no secret that Lord Dunsford would like to be in a position to place 100,000 men in the field in the case of dire emergency. But the best Canada could do just now, perhaps, would be to place 50,000 to 60,000 in the field, all of whom, however, would not be armed with Lee Enfield rifles. But any deficiency in that regard could be

quickly made up by the Ross rifle factory, which has now begun to manufacture small arms."

A significant circumstance in connection with the matter is that Lord Dunsford, commander-in-chief of the Canadian militia, who intended going to England about this time to be present at the marriage of his daughter, remains at his post in Ottawa, no doubt for the purpose of being in close touch with the authorities in case any difficulty might arise involving Canada.

The coroner's jury which enquired into the steamship Clallam disaster on the British Columbia coast, find that the captain was guilty of manslaughter, and the chief engineer criminally culpable.

Dr. Daniel's official majority in St. John is 269, quite a drop from 307, as at first announced.

THE POST OFFICE.

Ottawa Authorities to be Asked to Improve its Facilities.

Hon. H. R. Emmerson, Minister of Railways, who came to the city yesterday to attend Senator Wark's centenary celebration, returned to Moncton last evening in his private car, attached to the nine o'clock train. While here the minister was met by Mr. Alex. Gibson, M. P., Mayor Palmer and members of the board of trade, and accompanied them on a tour of inspection of the military buildings and post office. The necessity of having some radical improvements made was strongly pressed upon him, and he promised to talk the matter up with his colleagues upon his return to Ottawa.

A few days ago Mr. Gibson M. P. held a conference with the members of the council of the Board of Trade, and discussed with them matters in connection with the Fredericton post office. It was pointed out to the M. P. that the business of the post office has in recent years outgrown its facilities for doing expeditious work, and an increase in the staff has become an urgent necessity. It was suggested that Mr. Gibson endeavor to secure the appointment of two young ladies to attend the delivery window, and thus give the regular staff more time to sort and make up the mails. It was pointed out that all the mails for York and portions of Sanbury county are handled at the Fredericton post office, and this involves an amount of work, quite out of proportion to the revenue derived from the office.

Mr. Gibson expressed himself as being most favorably impressed with the soundness of the arguments advanced by the board for improved postal facilities, and promised to give the matter his attention at once. He added that he had never experienced any difficulty in getting the ear of the Ottawa authorities on matters effecting the welfare of his constituency, and in the past they had always given his recommendations favorable consideration. He suggested that the board put their proposition in regard to the post office in writing, and he would take great pleasure in bringing it to the notice of the postmaster general. He felt sure that his recommendations would have the hearty support of the minister of railways.

Sunday Services.

Baptist Church—Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Pastor, Rev. J. H. MacDonald, B. A. Sunday School and Bible classes at 2.30 p. m. Bible study on Tuesday evening at 7.30 o'clock and the regular church prayer meeting on Friday evening at the same hour. Strangers are cordially invited to all these services. Seats free.

There will be a service of song in the Methodist church tomorrow evening, with addresses by Rev. J. J. Teasdale and Dr. Inch. Special collection in aid of fund for education of candidates for the ministry.

The men's meeting at 4 p. m. tomorrow will be addressed by Secretary Wilson, of the St. John Association, and Mr. Albert Massie will sing. All men are invited to what promises to be a highly interesting meeting.

The Ladies' Auxiliary will hold a special meeting in the parlor at 3.30 p. m. on Tuesday.



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