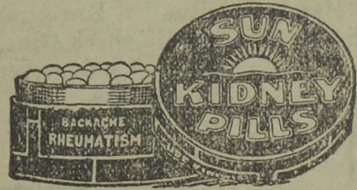


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CARPENTER AND HILL

In Defence of the Government Against Opposition Attacks.

MEMBER FOR QUEENS RESENTS UNWARRANTED CHARGE AGAINST COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE.

Agricultural and Road Policy of Government Justified.

In the budget debate Wednesday afternoon Mr. Smith attacked the government's agricultural policy, and made some slighting references to Hon. Mr. Farris. Said he: "I have always entertained a very high regard for the old gentleman who occupies the position of commissioner of agriculture, but I cannot help thinking that he either lacks in the ability to initiate a progressive agricultural policy or else he is so hampered by his colleagues in the government as to be unable to accomplish anything in the way of real assistance to the farmers."

MR. CARPENTER.

who followed warmly resented the attack on Mr. Farris and made a splendid defence of the commissioner of agriculture. He said:—I have listened with a great deal of interest to speakers on both sides of the house, and I do not think that some of the remarks of the opposition were called for. We have had the commissioner of agriculture referred to today as an incompetent old man, the other night he was spoken of as the bold commissioner, and I think those slurs on the heads of the departments are uncalled for. Another thing that has struck me as peculiar is that all the matters complained of have happened in Carleton County. We have had election frauds in Carleton, frauds in dairying in Carleton, and frauds because the government did not prevent Quebec hay from being carried to Nova Scotia to come into competition with the hay from Carleton County. We are all proud of what the department of agriculture has done, and is doing, for the farmers of this province. The opposition have sought to create the impression that the wheat policy of the government is a failure, but if they would take the years before the inauguration of the policy and compare them with the years since they would find that the production of wheat has been greatly stimulated. In 1897, the year previous to the adoption of the policy of bounties on wheat mills, 305,077 bushels of wheat were grown in the province on 18,995 acres. In 1904 this had increased to 20,410 acres, producing 309,148 bushels. The results show that the wheat policy of the government had been amply justified. The same with the dairying industry. Take the following figures for a few years as a comparison:

Year.	Lbs.	Value.
1904	907,125	\$178,703.62
1903	895,086	182,423.00
1902	750,911	153,063.74
1901	542,646	111,034.59
1900	462,606	94,618.56
1899	303,905	58,494.40
1898	98,620	18,557.92
1897	41,768	7,852.38

CHEESE.

Year.	Lbs.	Value.
1896	698,267	
1897	1,107,281	
1898	1,540,418	
1899	1,540,418	
1900	1,657,353	
1901	1,882,432	
1902	1,887,370	
1903	1,910,733	
1904	1,996,377	
1905	1,886,426	

The chief work of the department however, is along educational lines,

and its value cannot be calculated in dollars and cents any more than the value of our public schools can be so calculated. The member for Carleton condemned the government because the wheat bounties policy was not hedged about with conditions, and in the next breath, almost, he condemned the government because the policy of illustration was hedged about with conditions. Only \$800 was spent on illustration orchards last year, and we cannot expect great results in one year from so small an expenditure. We have heard considerable about frauds in connection with elections in Carleton county. In my county we know something about election frauds and not by our side either. Why, the whole county was stolen by the political friends of the gentlemen opposite and that too after the election had been run. Regarding the dairy school and the superintendents I believe they are doing a good work in the education of our young men in the making of butter and cheese, and I am sure that the policy and work of the agricultural department will receive the support of this house and the country in the future as it has done in the past.

MR. HILL'S ADDRESS.

Hon. Geo. F. Hill, who spoke next said that he could not add anything to what had already been so ably presented by the eloquence of the leader of the opposition and the genius of the Attorney-General. He might not have taken any part in this debate had it not been for some remarks made by the junior member for St. John, who had cast a slur upon the fair name of that city. The other evening I made some references to the agitation some forty years ago upon the annexation question, and the member for St. John takes me to task for this, and says it was total abstinence societies that Tilley and the annexation movement. Now what I find fault with is that the hon. member should intimate that the people of St. John did not know the difference between total abstinence and annexation even fifty years ago. The fact of the matter is that those movements were not simultaneous. The total abstinence movement was a growth of the Sons of Temperance, first instituted in British America, at St. Stephen, then at Milltown and Fredericton, and then at St. John. This was in 1847, and Sir Leonard Tilley took a very active and prominent part in the move-

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This SATURDAY, APRIL 1st, we will place on sale the following goods under regular values, in order to begin the month of April with a good start. Come early and get your share. Every offer below is genuine.

Specials for Men.

Men's new \$2.00 Hats Saturday \$1.50. Men's new \$1.00 Shirts, Saturday 75c. Men's new \$2.50 Dress Trousers, Saturday \$1.95 pair. Men's new \$10.00 Suits, largest collection ever shown by any one firm in this city, Saturday \$8.50. Men's new \$8.00 Suits special for Saturday \$6.50. Men's new Spring Top Coats, 18 styles to choose from, \$10 and \$12 Coats Saturday \$8.50. 3 Linen Collars, any shape for 25c. 2 25c. Ties, any style for 25c. 4 10c. Handkerchiefs for 25c. \$2 Tan or Kid Boots, any size for \$1.75. \$3.50 Welted Boots Saturday \$2.95 pair.

A Few Specials for Ladies

Ladies' new Dress Skirts, choice from a stock of over 500 Skirts, perfectly made in all sizes. Regular \$3 Skirts, Saturday \$2.25. Regular \$3.75 Skirts Saturday \$3. Regular \$4.50 Skirts, Saturday \$3.50. Regular \$6 Skirts, Saturday \$5. A few new Spring Coats left. \$9.50 Coats Saturday \$7.50. \$7.50 Coats, Saturday \$6.

Ladies' New Waists

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ment and held to his total abstinence principles throughout life. The agitation for annexation, which grew out of the repeal by Great Britain, of which I spoke the other evening, I spoke hurriedly and without previous preparation, and perhaps made a foolish speech, yet I do not know that I regret it. It has afforded the member for St. John to get off that loyalist speech with which we all are so familiar, and which I know as well as I know "Annie Laurie." Coming Through the Rye" or "Who sent the Leary Telegram." Hon. Mr. Hill then read at some length from history to show the growth and extent of the annexation movement in his province in 1849 and subsequent years, and said that the feeling went so far as to occasion the introduction into the provincial legislature of a strong annexationist resolution, which was moved and supported in a vigorous speech by Hon. Mr. Wyer. Reference to the newspapers published in St. John at that time will show the depth of this feeling of resentment at the action of Great Britain and the danger there seemed to be that this province might withdraw its allegiance from the British Empire, and will prove that my historical reference the other evening was absolutely correct.

A great deal has been said about the agricultural policy of the government and particularly with reference to the seeming falling off in the production of wheat. The year 1903 has been used for purposes of comparison, but I well remember that that season was particularly unfavorable to agriculture. I have a personal knowledge of these things, because I own and carry on a pretty large farm a short distance from St. Stephen. All crops were short that season, but it was due to the dispensations of Providence and not to the government.

There are a few matters which I would suggest to the House as worthy of attention and perhaps legislation at this session. With reference to the Highway Act, it is new and there will necessarily be some friction before things are running smoothly, but I believe upon the whole that the act is a good one and will be of great benefit in securing good roads. There has been considerable difficulty the past winter because of misunderstanding regarding the proportion of the tax to be allowed for clearing winter roads, and I think that the act might be made more clear in this respect. Then I do not quite understand what provision is to be made for doing the road work next spring. As we know the assessment is made in the spring, but the taxes are not paid until late in the summer. We cannot expect the men who will do the work upon the roads to wait until fall for their pay; in fact, you will not be able to get men to do the work if they have to wait, and I believe the department would be justified in borrowing sufficient to pay for the road work that must be done next spring. I believe also that the tax upon wild lands should go into the general fund, instead of the way the tax is handled at present. I have contended for a number of years that the seven or eight thousand dollars frittered away each year as grants to agricultural

societies for fairs, would be better applied if used to purchase improved stock. Save that sum and in three years we would have \$25,000 that could be used to import pure bred stock and some substantial purchases could be made every two or three years. I believe that the money given these fairs is as good as wasted.

It is stated by the opposition that not much is expended on agriculture, but I consider that the amount spent upon the roads each year is largely for the benefit of the farmer. We must have good roads in order to enable the farmer to get his crops to market, and without good roads we cannot hope to keep the young men upon the farms. I know that in and about St. Stephen for a radius of fifteen miles, the roads have greatly improved in the past dozen years, and I presume that the same will hold good throughout the province. This is for the benefit of the farmer and the government is entitled to some measure of credit for it.

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Old New Hampshire Record.

A copy of the New Hampshire Gazette, published at Portsmouth, N. H., in September, 1810, informs us that there were at that time 20,474 slaves in the territory of New Orleans on which a tax of \$22,000 was paid. In the election returns it shows that Lisbon, then called Concord, had 145 vot-

A TIGHTY PLACE.

How the Speaker Saved a Congressman From a Costly Joke.

It was a gay time in congress one night when there was an all night session on the Mills tariff bill in 1888. It had been difficult to keep a sufficient attendance, and the house had adopted a resolution directing the sergeant at arms to compel the presence of absent members. One by one they were brought before the bar of the house and after making all sorts of excuses and explanations were permitted to go unpunished.

About midnight Congressman Henderson was brought before the speaker. He had, he said, no excuse to offer. "I was at a theater party," he continued, "when I was arrested and brought here. There is no sort of excuse for absence without leave."

"I move that the gentleman from Iowa be fined \$5,000," called one of Henderson's colleagues.

"Second the motion!" shouted twenty or more members, all of them his friends.

"It is moved and seconded," said Speaker Carlisle, "that the gentleman from Iowa be fined \$5,000. Those in favor of the motion will say 'Aye.'"

Two hundred delighted voices shouted "Aye!"

"Those opposed will say 'No.'"

Henderson's agonized voice was alone in yelling "No!"

There was but one way to slip out of the joke and prevent the motion from being carried, and that was for Speaker Carlisle to overrule the house.

"The nays have it," said he gravely. "The gentleman is excused."

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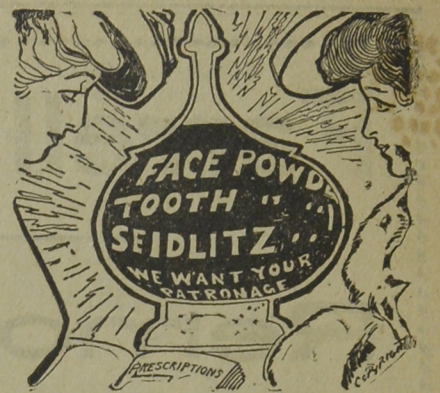
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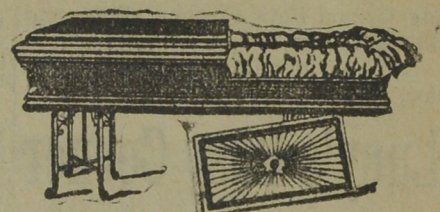
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