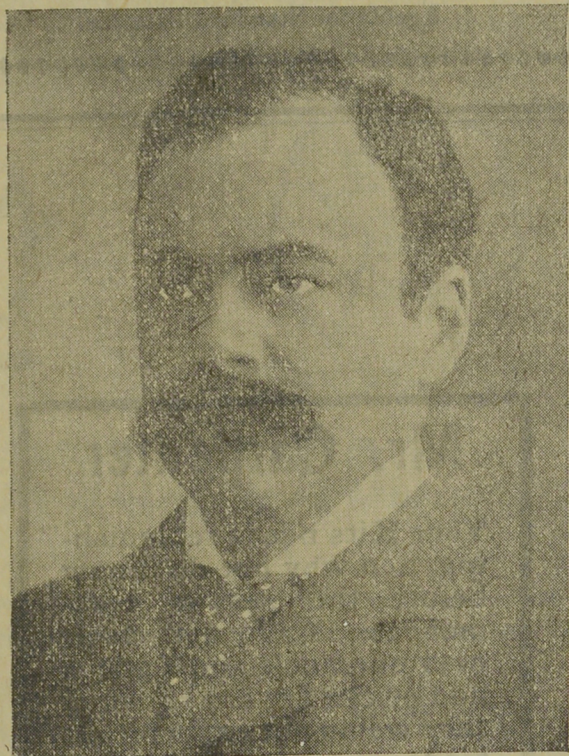


WANTS BOUNTY ON WILD CATS.

Startling Proposition Put Forward by Mr. Hazen in the Legislature.

SOME LIVELY CROSS FIRING BETWEEN OPPOSITION LEADER AND ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Same Old Story in the Same Old Way.



MR. J. DOUGLAS HAZEN, K. C., M. P. P.,
Opposition Leader in the Legislature.

In the legislature Tuesday afternoon, Mr. Hazen resumed the debate on the budget, speaking in part as follows:

After paying a compliment to his colleague, Mr. Flemming, he said that one of the most unfair things he had ever heard uttered was Mr. Tweeddale's effort to create the impression that Mr. Flemming had suggested an increase in the school rates from 30 to 50 cents. The fact is that this suggestion was made by the Premier himself.

Mr. Hazen next stated the opposition's attitude towards the highway act, covering the same ground as last year when the bill was discussed and passed in the House, and repeated former opposition statements respecting the alleged decline in agriculture.

The member for Restigouche, in commenting on our references to educational matters, said it would be impossible for the government to pay more money to the school teachers and taunted the opposition with advocating larger expenditures and more economy at the same time.

After denying that he contributed anything towards putting up the deposit in connection with the election petition against Hon. Mr. Jones, Mr. Hazen claimed that the increase in the public debt was not accounted for by the payment of railway subsidies, and that it was increased the past year by \$20,000.

Mr. Hazen next directed attention to Premier Tweeddale's political career going over the same ground as in his previous references to the matter, making quite a savage attack on the leader of the government, but slid over the bye-election record very gingerly.

Mr. Hazen then proceeded to criticize the government with respect to its efforts to get the fishery claim settled, and claimed that the Grand Falls water power privileges were offered too cheaply to the company seeking control there.

With regard to the public debt of the province while it appears to be only \$3,415,000, our liabilities are much greater. There are \$450,000 of bonds which we have guaranteed on account of the Central Railway, and \$250,000 for the Restigouche and Western Railway. When we add up all the items for which we are liable, we will find that our debt will be increased by about a million dollars. In view of these facts we should exercise a due economy, but we find that the Attorney General has received from this province upwards of \$32,000 in four years. He is the most expensive man connected with the government of any province of Canada, and yet with all this he is able to attend to his law business.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—I have had practically to give up my entire business as solicitor.

Mr. Hazen—that is frequently the case with lawyers who are not in public life. Their business as counsel has become so large that they are unable to attend to office work. The hon. gentleman's position must have aided his private practice. Last year he went to England at a cost to the province of \$5,000. The late Judge King, a most eminent lawyer, went to England to argue the free school question, and his charge for the service was only \$3,000.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—Had he not to pay a very leading English counsel who was with him in the case?

Mr. Hazen—The total charge was \$5,000, and he paid the solicitor's bills. When Mr. Blair was attorney

general he went to England to argue the case of the Maritime Bank, which involved the priority of the claim of the crown and for this he charged \$4,500, including all the expenses.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—Are you aware that he received between \$2,000 and \$3,000 in taxed costs?

Mr. Hazen—I do not know that. Then we have the conduct of the premier in holding two portfolios at the same time, and taking pay for both places. If you search the records of all the provinces of Canada you will find no precedent to justify such an action.

With regard to game protection, I think that it would be improper to charge \$5 to residents for a license to kill deer. The province is overrun with deer, and their is no danger of them becoming scarce. I do not think that there is any necessity for a close season for moose every five years. From all I can gather I think that there are more moose in the country today than there was five or ten years ago. There is no doubt that the game law is being well enforced, although there may be some slackness in Madawaska and one or two other places.

I think there should be bounty for killing wild cats.

With regard to education I quite agree with the Premier that the University should have a larger grant, and the government should take into consideration seriously whether they cannot increase the salaries of the teachers.

Mr. Hazen next discussed the at-

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fairs of the N. B. Coal and Railway Company and the failure of the company to build the link between Newcastle, Queens Co., and Fredericton, Devoting some attention to the Central Railway, now a part of the N. B. Coal and Railway Company's system, he said the road was in bad shape although it had cost the country over \$900,000.

The men who hold stock in it have not put a single dollar in the road. Yet the attorney general, who has been at the head and front of it, and without whom nothing could be done, has been telling us that the road was to be placed in excellent condition.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—It is entirely incorrect to say that I was concerned in the management of the road.

Mr. Hazen—I had claims against the road and was told that I could do nothing without the attorney general.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—When the hon. gentlemen came to see me I told him that the company had asked for assistance that the Premier had declined it and that nothing could be done until he had agreed to give it.

Mr. Hazen—Telegrams were sent from Fredericton by the attorney general stating that the bills would be paid.

Hon. Dr. Pugsley—Can you produce any such telegrams I stated that before assistance could be given there would have to be legislation.

Mr. Hazen—Why every person in St. John and Kings county knew that the attorney general was the whole shooting match. No doubt this last loan was given against the protest of the Premier. The attorney general tells us that this money has been advanced on the certainty that it will be taken over by the Grand Trunk Pacific. Yet we know that the route of that railway has not been decided and it is likely to go through the centre of the province. The road may not go to Chipman at all.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley—I have been told by the chairman of the railway commission that Chipman has been fixed as an arbitrary point.

Mr. Hazen—There are no arbitrary points except Quebec and Moncton. There is no certainty that the road will go to Chipman. This whole transaction has been simply characterized by recklessness of a more extreme character than was ever before heard of. The Grand Trunk Pacific may or may not buy this road. If they do not there is every reason to fear that this railway will become a charge on the people of this province.

A few more words and I am done. Everyone must have remarked the wonderful change that has come over the spirit of the government. They have been complaining that the Dominion government does not regard the interests of this province. Now we hear the premier telling us that he is dissatisfied with the manner in which they have been treated in Ottawa. There is so much red tape then, we are told, that when the hon. members who have been leaders in this house go to Ottawa that they seem to forget that they belong to this province. Does this refer to the present minister of railways? That is a very different story from what we were told in years past. And is this new cry an echo of what occurred just before the last Dominion election when it is said an effort was being made to put the present minister of railways out of office, and put the attorney general in his place?

Mr. Osman spoke briefly, Hon. Mr. Pugsley followed, and, after speaking for some time, moved the adjournment of the debate, and has the floor this afternoon.

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"What is that?"

"Is one justified in promising the moon to a baby who cries for it?"

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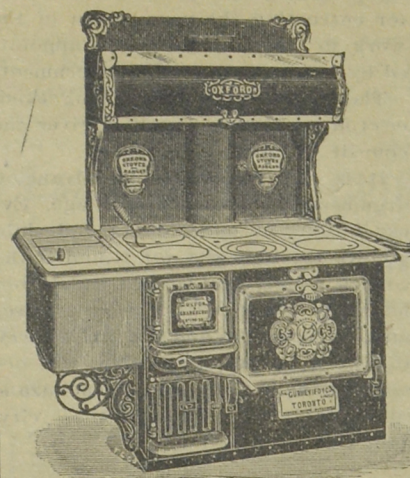
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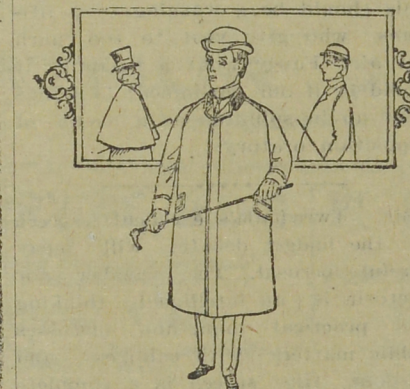
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