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DAILY HERALD.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1906

CONFIDENCE IN MR. EMMERSON.

The gloom which temporarily settled over Moncton at the loss of the Intercolonial railway shops by fire, was speedily dispelled by Hon. Mr. Emmerson's comforting words and his declaration that the works will be rebuilt as soon as possible, and bigger and better than before.

The minister of railways was prompt to act, and it is notable that at a meeting of the Moncton board of trade where he outlined his plans, a unanimous resolution of confidence moved and seconded by Conservative opponents, was passed to Mr. Emmerson.

It is plain from Mr. Emmerson's address that the government has no intention of permitting the Intercolonial to pass out of its hands, and whatever fears the people of the maritime provinces may have felt on that score, are dispelled by the absolutely frank and unqualified statement of the minister, who has been intrusted with the responsibility of administering the affairs of the railway and is succeeding to such a degree that the annual deficits will give place to surpluses, a work that Mr. Emmerson is already accomplishing.

Periodically Mr. Emmerson's political enemies start the yarn that he is to be deposed from the government, but the evidence is all to the contrary, and the work which he is doing on the Intercolonial commands not only the admiration of his leader and his colleagues in the government, but of the independent press and the country. Mr. Emmerson has taken hold of his official duties with an energy and industry, that is bound to accomplish important results, and the Moncton board of trade's confidence in his administrative ability, moved and seconded, as we have said by political opponents, is an indication of the general feeling towards the popular and efficient New Brunswick minister.

Mr. Emmerson has filled several positions of trust and great responsibility in this province, and in the federal arena, and he has never yet failed to command the public regard in the performance of his duty, nor disappointed the expectations of his friends.

AN EFFICIENT MINISTER.

Hon. Mr. LaBillois' address in the budget debate, was a valuable contribution to the discussion of provincial affairs, a calm, deliberate and successful defence of the government, and particularly of the efficient manner in which that gentleman conducts the affairs of the public works department.

It is not too much to say that New Brunswick never had a more zealous, industrious and successful chief commissioner than Mr. LaBillois, who spends practically all his time in attending to the business of his position, and who is regarded not only as a painstaking minister, but as an absolutely fair minded gentleman, with an eye single to the best interests of the province.

The electors of Restigouche for the period of twenty-three years have reposed confidence in him, and the whole province feels that he is giving splendid service in his public duties, that candor, honesty, energy and constant industry, characterize the career of Mr. LaBillois as head of one of the most important departments, of the administration.

Every member of the legislature knows that Mr. LaBillois is honorable, and straightforward in handling the work devolving upon him, and no man on the floors of that body enjoys to a greater degree the confidence of the representatives.

AN UNJUST ATTACK.

Mr. Maxwell, the opposition member for St. John, must have been laboring under undue excitement when he made his unwarranted attack in the Legislature on Mr. Gilmer Brown, the eminent civil engineer.

To call any gentleman of Mr. Brown's recognized ability in his profession "an arrant knave or a fool," is not argument, neither does it display good manners, taste, or judgment to apply such language to anyone who is not present to reply. It was indeed cowardly to attack Mr. Brown in this manner, and Mr. Maxwell, who, we believe, is generally considered a mild mannered man, and one who would not like to be regarded as a slanderer, must, in

his calmer moments, regret having used such violent, unreasonable and uncalled for language.

Mr. Brown's statement which Mr. Maxwell called in question, was that of an engineer with twenty-five years valuable experience in his profession, during which time he has been connected with some of the most difficult engineering feats in this country and in the United States, and he stands deservedly high in his profession.

Such extreme criticism, such unjustifiable language when applied to a gentleman of Mr. Brown's reputation by a member who knows absolutely nothing about engineering but is entirely carried away by political partisanship, will have no force in the country, either to injure Mr. Brown's professional standing or to prejudice the government.

If Mr. Maxwell is so extreme and unjust in his views respecting Mr. Brown, is it not reasonable to assume that his attacks on the government are equally unfair and unjustifiable, and can the opposition hope to reap any benefit from that plan of campaign?

PREFER JOURNALISTS.

The Murray government of Nova Scotia, in the generosity of their hearts have within a few months deprived the Halifax Recorder of two important members of its writing staff. Mr. Smith, the city editor, is now Queen's printer, and Mr. Barnstead, the chief editorial editor, is clerk of the legislative council. Only a few months since Mr. McLellan, editor of the Halifax Chronicle, was appointed post office inspector of Nova Scotia, by Mr. Fielding, himself a former editor of the same newspaper. The Nova Scotia politicians evidently appreciate the support they receive from their newspaper friends.

Mr. John McCormack, who contested North Cape Breton for parliament, in the last election as the Tory candidate, and was defeated, has been canvassing the constituency recently, with a view to contesting the bye-election now on there, but has decided that he will not face the music. He has got in touch with the people, and finds public sentiment so strong for the government, that he declines to again sacrifice himself.

A newspaper recently converted to Toryism, accidentally betrays its former allegiance. In discussing the recent election in Maisonneuve, it intended to say that Mr. Brodeur, who had charge of the campaign for the government, was not as good a tactician as the late Mr. Prefontaine, but force of habit, substituted the name of Borden for Brodeur.

Over in the Nova Scotia assembly, the Tory opposition talk blue ruin, as they do here, but there is not so many members to the left of Mr. Speaker there, only two in a House of thirty-eight. Mr. Murray's government is progressive and successful, and Mr. Tanner and his solitary supporter cut a sorry figure in the legislature.

Just what Saturday night's fire means to Moncton even for a day, says The Transcript, is shown by the fact that out of 1,140 employees in the I. C. R. workshops and auxiliary departments, 540 were working Monday morning and 600 were laid off. In a few days it is hoped conditions will somewhat improve.

This is the sixth anniversary of Paardeberg Day, when the gallant Canadian soldiers in South Africa rendered material assistance to the empire in compelling Cronje and his Boer hosts to surrender. The memory of their bravery will ever remain a fragrant spot in the history of Great Britain's triumphs in war.

If Mr. David Russell secures control of the Halifax Herald, for which he is said to be negotiating, the Tory party in Nova Scotia will be as badly off for newspaper organs in the sister province as they are in New Brunswick. Of the nine daily papers in this province, only two are Tory.

The late Mrs. Gregory was a lady of splendid Christian character, most highly esteemed, and sincere regret is felt at her death. She bore a long illness with great fortitude, and the hearty sympathy of the community is extended to the sorrowing relatives.

The address at the opening of the Dominion Parliament is to be moved in the Commons by Mr. Knowles of West Assiniboia, and seconded by Mr. Chisholm of Antigonish.

The Dominion government intends to institute an enquiry into Canadian Life Insurance methods.

Messrs. Fred M. and Joseph L. Tweedie, of Vancouver, B. C., sons of Premier Tweedie, are guests at the Queen.

NOT FOR SALE.

ernment control. But I find in the newspapers the idea scattered abroad that we should do something with the I. C. R. They are seeing today that the I. C. R., since the first of July, is showing a surplus daily in its favor, but they put that out of sight entirely. They want the I. C. R. to be either transferred to a company or place it under the control of an experienced commission. If you appoint a commission and hand this railway over to them there would be no power or control outside of that commission. Is it not autocracy and despotism? There is nothing like responsible government in that idea or in that conception. If that is a good idea with respect to the I. C. R. let us put the post office and public works in commission. "As long as there is party government in this country there will

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always be influence. The people now have control of the I. C. R. and if in the administration of this railway either under me or others there is wrongdoing then there is total want of good government. Put me (Continued on fifth page.)

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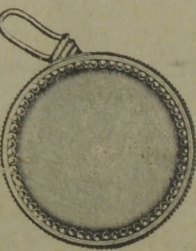
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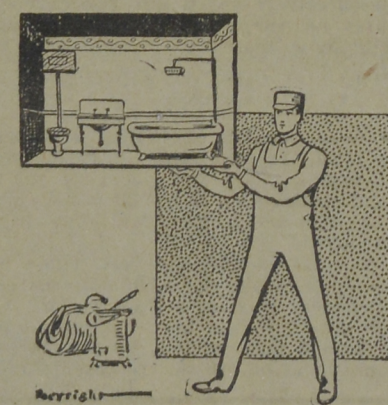
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