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DAILY HERALD

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1907

OPPOSITION CRITICISM.

The Herald devotes considerable space to the speech of Mr. Flemming the opposition financial critic in the legislature, without any fear that it will damage the government in the country, and because it will probably be that gentleman's last appearance in the position which he has filled for the last few years.

The general expectation is that Mr. Flemming will disappear from public life when the next election is held.

In many respects we shall regret the misfortune that is to overtake the member for Carleton, for politics aside, he has very many qualities that command esteem.

His criticisms however, have often been heard before and fully answered. He has the same old cry of debt increase, but how are the resources of the Province to be developed without increasing the debt. Great public works, such as railways, bridges etc., cannot be built out of current revenue, and posterity has a right to bear part of the burden of enterprises of a permanent nature and for the general benefit of the Province.

It will be noted that Mr. Flemming has not been able to show extravagance or recklessness on the part of the government.

When the estimates are before the legislature, Mr. Flemming and his party do not vote to cut down the amounts. In many instances indeed they advocate an increase, if such could be applied, particularly to their own constituencies.

A proposition is now before the legislature to assist in building the Valley railway. If it is carried forward it may or may not increase the public debt, but will Mr. Flemming vote against it? He has not already agreed with the government that it is a very important matter, that the road is absolutely necessary, and all that, but to be consistent with his declarations of economy—of keeping down the public debt, Mr. Flemming should oppose the construction of the valley railway. He dares not take that course. He knows the people are crying out, or it, and are willing to undertake obligations to carry the project forward, yet no doubt, Mr. Flemming's successor as financial critic of the government will be heard declaring against a further increase in the public debt.

With the spirit of Mr. Flemming's address the government cannot complain. He states his propositions fairly enough, but gets his figure very much twisted. Yet we suppose it is the duty of a financial critic to do the thing that way. Mr. Flemming failed, however, to discredit the government its policy and administration during his lengthy speech, and it will go forward enjoying the confidence and support of the country, just as if Mr. Flemming had not spoken at all. But the financial critic has his reward, some admiring ladies (he is a married man too) at the close of his address presented him with a very pretty bouquet.

THE VALLEY RAILWAY.

Premier Pugsley has supplemented his information with respect to the proposition to build the St. John Valley railway by announcing that MacKenzie and Mann have made a definite proposal to undertake that great work on condition that satisfactory financial arrangements can be made with the government, and a measure to that end is now before the legislature.

The government offer to guarantee the bonds of the company to the extent of \$15,000 per mile, and the proposal will doubtless command the hearty support of the House.

MacKenzie & Mann will send their engineers over the proposed route, and on their report further action will depend, but it is not unreasonable to presume that the matter will take definite shape and that the long delayed road will soon become a reality.

As we have before pointed out, the people of the St. John valley have

been disappointed so many times, there have been so many surveys, without construction, that they have almost lost heart and patience, but they will feel gratified that Premier Pugsley has taken hold of the enterprise in a practical way, and that he and his colleagues are exerting themselves to bring about the realization of a long cherished hope.

THE INTERCOLONIAL.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson, Minister of Railways and Canals, scored a notable triumph in the House of Commons Friday, when he presented his annual statement of the Intercolonial railway. Under his management this great public enterprise has made wonderful strides. Its character in every respect has been improved, its service bettered, its employees better paid, and yet without, it is able to show a substantial surplus of \$100,000 the first year under Mr. Emmerson's direction, and \$300,000 the next.

Mr. Emmerson has demonstrated that the Intercolonial is one of Canada's most valuable assets, and he has convinced the people that it must be retained as government property. The minister declared that he did not think that the people should ever part with the Intercolonial or weaken their hold on it, and said that he was confident the day would come when popular opinion would compel the government to take over the Intercolonial.

Mr. Emmerson said he thought the day was coming when it would be held desirable that the Intercolonial should be extended to the industrial centre of Ontario, which is Toronto. Great lines from the west were converging upon Quebec. They would desire to penetrate the east and to reach ports that were open in the winter. When that day came the future of the Intercolonial was assured for all time, as an asset to the Dominion.

Mr. Emmerson has won golden opinions in his position as minister of railways and canals, and criticism is hushed in the presence of the facts which he has been able to furnish with respect to his successful management of the Intercolonial.

CURRENT COMMENT.

It's awful to be stuck in the snow whether you are a politician or a doctor.

The government's Valley railway proposition appears to have knocked the pins from under the opposition.

The budget debate in the legislature will probably consume several days of next week. It has only practically opened.

Hon. James Bryce, the British ambassador at Washington is on his way to Ottawa, to talk over matters in dispute between Canada and the United States with the federal authorities.

Somebody should provide the physician who got lost in the snowbanks with a chart of the city, and then he might find out when he was travelling on roads under the government or city control.

The Governor General's secretary, who was in St. John Friday, intimated to the Mayor that His Excellency and Lady Grey will visit the Maritime Provinces in July or August of this year, and of course they will include Fredericton in their trip.

Even the ladies down river seem to be carried away by the opposition to Fredericton using the St. John river for sewage disposal, and one of them writes a long letter to a local paper, in which she says her father, who was a citizen of Fredericton, would never have consented to dumping the sewage into the river. The lady is unfortunate in making that statement. The Herald understands that this gentleman, who held an interest in the Barker house, was the first person in this city to dump crude sewage into the river. He had a sewer constructed from his hotel across the Officers' Square direct to the river, and it has been carrying crude sewage into the river ever since, a period of probably forty years.

PRIEST EXCOMMUNICATED.

To Affect Work of the Presbyterian Church in the West.

Winnipeg, March 21.—Archbishop Scardin, the head of the Russian Orthodox church in Canada, is taking strenuous action to offset the propaganda of the Presbyterian Church, which through its missionaries has been making great inroads among his people. Last year the Archbishop excommunicated nine of his priests for banding themselves together in unauthorized consistory and being in the pay of the Presbyterian Church. This week he excommunicated twelve more for the same offence.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

Index Useful for Tomorrow's Church Goers.

Rev. Dr. Boulder, president of King's college, will preach at the Cathedral service tomorrow morning, and His Lordship the Coadjutor Bishop will officiate at the evening service.

His Lordship the Bishop Coadjutor will conduct confirmation service at St. Ann's church at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning. College Y. M. C. A.—Tomorrow afternoon Mr. Robinson, M. A., will speak. He is the secretary of the Y. M. C. A. at McGill University, and is visiting the colleges of the Maritime Provinces. Mr. Robinson comes to us with a good reputation as a public speaker and well calculated to address college men.

George Street United Baptist Church, Rev. A. A. Rideout, pastor—Morning prayer service at 10 a. m.; sermon at 11 a. m.; Sunday School and Bible Classes at 2.30 p. m.; evening service at 7 p. m.; special evangelistic services continued from Tuesday to Friday evenings at 7.30 p. m. All are welcome.

Fredericton Methodist Church, Rev. J. W. McConnell, pastor—Services tomorrow at 11 and 7 o'clock, pastor will preach at 11 o'clock and the Rev. J. C. Berrie in the evening. Mass meeting of Sunday Schools at 2.30. Preaching service Good Friday morning at 11 o'clock and illustrated service on "Palestine and Life of Christ Good Friday evening at 8 o'clock. A cordial welcome to all. Seventh Day Adventist Church—Prayer meeting Friday at 7.30 p. m.; Sabbath School Saturday at 2.30 p. m.; Church service following at 3.45 p. m.; preaching on Sunday at 7 p. m., subject "The Greatest Divine who lived upon the earth but was the least thought of and is the least thought of by the people today." St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Rev. Willard Macdonald, pastor—Sunday services at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Sunday School and Bible Class at 2.30 p. m.; prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7.30; Christian Endeavor service Friday evening at 7.30.

Rev. J. W. McConnell of Fredericton will occupy the Gibson Methodist pulpit tomorrow evening.

WOULD ELK LIVE HERE.

New Brunswick Man now in the West Thinks the Experiment Worth Trying.

Mr. David Pringle, the well known hunter and guide of Stanley, is now in charge of a large game preserve at Grand Island, Lake Michigan. There are a number of elk on the preserve, and in a recent letter to a friend in this city Mr. Pringle expresses the opinion that these beautiful game animals would do well in New Brunswick. Here is what he has to say on the subject:

"I have just come down from the upper part of the Island, where we were building a stable for the horses. I just took two men up with me and I don't think either of them ever saw one built, but we got it up and the roof on we built it out of logs, just like a camp in the woods. I came down to try to get over to town, but I do not think I am going to be able to make it out, for there has been no crossing for four days."

"The elk are coming in around the barn now to be fed. The first winter they were on here they kept them around the barn and fed them and every winter they come in, and bring some more with them. It is only cows and calves that venture in. Well, I don't see why elk would not do well in New Brunswick, and I think they would if some could be got there. They live on pretty much the same food as the moose and they seem to be about as hardy. They are doing well here and the woods on the Island are just the same as they are at home, and say, the winters here are as hard as they are at home."

If the elk could be got, it would help hunting in New Brunswick, for they are fine looking animals when they have their horns."

PLEASED WITH THE CHANGE.

The St. John delegation, which was here yesterday opposing the election bill, returned home by the evening train. Speaking with a representative before his departure, Mr. A. O. Skinner said he was well satisfied with the amendment to the bill, introduced by Premier Pugsley. The best feature of it was that it gave the citizens of St. John the right to adopt any election system they saw fit without coming to the legislature. The bill also reduced the number of aldermen by two and he considered that an important concession.

His Honor Lieutenant Governor Tweedie arrived from Chatham by the I. C. R. this afternoon and is a guest at the Queen. Mrs. Tweedie will arrive this evening by way of St. John.

Tired Ted—Yes, madam, I've been a solicitor for fifteen years. Mrs. Handout—A solicitor? Tired Ted—Yes'm, I solicited cake and pie.

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A nice line of Caps and Tams for Spring Wear

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The Trojan War. The Trojan War was a conflict between the mother country and some of the strongest colonies and would have been fought if Helen and Achilles and Agamemnon and the rest had never been born.

Japan's Cave Dwellings. Cave dwellings of elaborate construction have been familiarly known and used in Japan from time immemorial.

Lumber Laden Derelicts. Lumber laden derelicts are the most troublesome to navigators. It takes them a long time to sink. One such reported in the early nineties drifted over 7,000 miles in 850 days. She was sighted thirty-eight times during that period, showing that she was frequently putting herself in the way of chartered ocean travel.

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