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DAILY HERALD

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1907

THE HOSPITAL TROUBLE.

The trustees of Victoria Hospital are anxious that no act of theirs with respect to its management shall prejudice it in the public confidence and regard.

They are gentlemen who give much of their time to the institution from purely philanthropic motives, and receive no reward for their services, except the satisfaction that they are doing something towards the betterment of the community and for the good of humanity.

There is no member of the board who does not desire to do the very best he can for the hospital's interests, and no doubt all feel the delicacy of the present conditions.

The doctors, nearly all of them, and the nurses, without exception, are in rebellion against the matron, whose methods and administration they criticize and condemn, yet the trustees have some reasons for faith and confidence in her management of the institution. She is said to be a good business woman, scrupulously honest and economical, but there are the objections which the medical board and the nurses put forward and which the trustees cannot ignore.

A strike of the whole nursing staff is threatened in two weeks if the matron is not removed, and some of the doctors for many months have sent patients to the hospital only when they could not find accommodation elsewhere.

These are the stern facts, and what is to be done about it?

No doubt, considerable gossip floats around the hospital trouble, as in every other case, and the trustees will find difficulty in sifting the wheat from the chaff, to distinguish between truth and fiction, as presented to them in the enquiry, especially as it is not under oath, and the board has no authority to compel people to testify.

If there are persons who know good reasons from actual experience, why there should be a radical change in the hospital management in the public interest, they should be heard during the present investigation.

If there are medical men who in private are not slow to impeach the management, and give their reasons, and it is their duty now to present their complaints in a formal way to the trustees and enable the board to reach a just conclusion, and to act for the best interests of the institution and its patrons.

The matron is entitled to a fair trial, and doubtless will receive it at the hands of the trustees, and the public, but no personal considerations, no maudlin sympathy must stand in the way of the hospital fulfilling the mission for which it was created and for which the public annually contribute a large sum of money.

INJURED INNOCENCE.

The Montreal Star is quite inhuman because the Liberal newspapers have dared to criticize the contribution of \$29,000 making the ex-premier to his which its proprietor, Mr. Hugh Graham, made to assist the Tory party in twenty Quebec constituencies in the general election of 1904, as revealed in the records of the Quebec courts, and proceeds to read Mr. Graham's critics a lecture which will no doubt be received with due submission and awe.

Why should not Mr. Graham be criticised in the matter. His paper claims that he made his large contribution to the Tory

reptile fund from philanthropic rather than political motives, but that will scarcely be accepted.

In the campaign of 1904, Mr. Borden, as now, was running around the country advocating political purity, and clean elections, while his friends, Graham and Russell, were contributing their thousands to corrupt the electorate.

There is the hypocrisy of the situation, and the Star and Mr. Borden will find it difficult to convince the people of Canada that they were not in alliance, and that Mr. Graham's money was contributed with the Tory leader's knowledge and consent.

CURRENT COMMENT

Mr. Foster was billed to address a political meeting at Amherst a few nights ago, but he did not turn up. It is believed the leading Tories of the town kicked against Mr. Foster's appearance there and hence his giving the place the go-by.

Mr. Borden and his stumping tour are disappearing from front page display in the newspapers. He is repeating his Halifax speech as he travels westward, and it is staling very rapidly. The people like originality in a political leader, and they have not found it in Mr. Borden, who is rapidly losing the confidence of his own party.

The Moncton Times gravely asserts that the late Hon. A. G. Blair was a Conservative in 1887, and led a Conservative government. How foolishly absurd. Mr. Blair in the federal general election of that year, was active on the stump for the Liberals, and the government of which he was the head was a coalition, with more Liberals in it than Conservatives. The Times should be content with slandering living Liberals, and let the dead alone.

Mr. Borden is condemning Sir Wilfrid Laurier for going outside Parliament for cabinet ministers but it is well known that Tory leaders have made advances to Premiers Whitney, McBride and Roblin, and ex-Premier Haultain to come to the party's rescue in the federal arena. Mr. Borden, like Sir Wilfrid, would pick up the best men he could get, were he called upon to form a government, and he certainly could not find sufficient cabinet material among his present parliamentary supporters.

The Tories of York, who are to meet here next week, to nominate candidates for the legislature, are finding difficulty in reconciling the alleged claims of parties who think they should have places on the ticket. The inclination of the leaders is said to be the nomination of the ticket defeated in the last election, but opposition to the selection of Mr. Pinder is developing. They feel that the result of the municipal election disposed of Mr. W. L. McFarlane, but Dr. Mullin is said to be insistent, and if he is substituted for Mr. Pinder the latter's friends will be much annoyed. The latter think that so recent a convert as Dr. Mullin should be content to serve and wait in the ranks.

The St. John Globe, which at first was indifferent, if not coldly critical in its attitude towards Hon. Dr. Pugsley's leadership in New Brunswick Liberalism, and as a minister, is apparently convinced that Sir Wilfrid Laurier exercised his usual wisdom and discretion in summing the ex-premier to his cabinet. The Globe is good enough to say: "Hon. Mr. Pugsley is the man of the hour, and the newspaper announcements plainly show that he is displaying great activity. He is here, there and everywhere; and he is getting one minister to do this, and the other to do that with wonderful ease. He is evidently shaking up his administration as it was never shaken up before, and it is getting to work."

EXHIBITION TIME

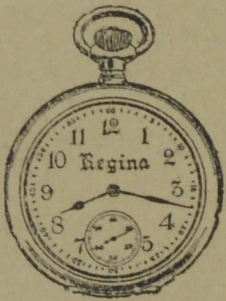
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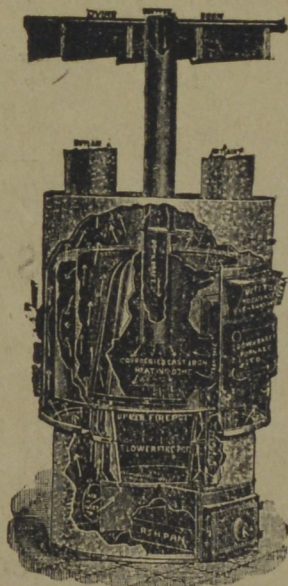
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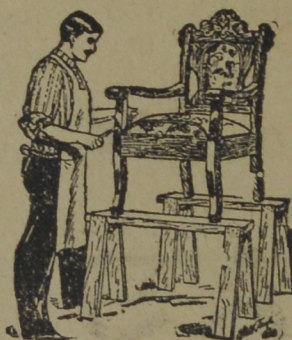
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