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DAILY HERALD

WEDNESDAY MARCH 6, 1907.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Hon. Dr. Pugsley in his capacity as premier has called to his aid in the government, the gentlemen who have served with him under the late premier, and has added Hon. C. W. Robinson to the executive with the reversion of the provincial secretaryship before an appeal is made to the country.

The gentlemen who form the cabinet, from the premier to the fore-castle member, are experienced in public affairs and enjoy the esteem and confidence of the legislature and the country, whose business may be safely entrusted to their hands.

Premier Pugsley and his colleagues resume office under peculiarly favorable circumstances, and may be expected to continue their valuable service to the country, which is prepared whenever the occasion offers to sustain and endorse the government and its progressive policy and administration.

THE RETIRING MAYOR.

Kind words were spoken in the city council of the retiring Mayor, Dr. McNally, and they were well deserved.

While the Herald has differed from His Worship on some points, it is bound to give him credit for good motives and a faithful effort to discharge his duties to the city, and we are sure he retires with excellent feelings towards him from all classes of citizens.

There is a disposition to think and speak lightly of the character of the duties which a mayor has to perform and to minimize the authority and influence a gentleman in that position is able to exercise, but Mayor McNally has demonstrated that the chief magistrate of a city like Fredericton is not necessarily a figure head, but is largely able to direct the civic business and render service of great importance to the citizens.

MANITOBA ELECTIONS.

The general provincial election in Manitoba occurs tomorrow, and the province is in fever heat, with considerable uncertainty as to the result.

The Tory government led by Hon. R. P. Roblin had the support of more than two thirds of the last legislature, and with the prestige of its strong position and the patronage at its disposal might reasonably be regarded as likely to win, but there seems to have arisen during the last days of the campaign a very strong feeling of antagonism to the ministry which may find an effective reflex at the polls.

For some reason or another Roblin appears to have aroused the opposition of the churches and other moral forces and many of the preachers have spoken from their pulpits in condemnation of him and his administration. Notable among these is Rev. C. W. Gordon of Winnipeg, who in literature has won great fame under the nom de plume of "Ralph Connor," whose books are widely read all over the English speaking world.

Mr. Rogers, a member of the government, gets back at the preacher and author in a very wicked way, but he will not win much credit for good judgment by referring to the Ralph Connor books as "silly novels," which the preacher was trying to advertise.

College professors have also taken part in the campaign against Roblin, and we have before us a letter addressed to the press by Rev. Dr. Bland of the Methodist College, who roundly denounces the government for its subservience to the liquor interests. Mr. Bland in part says:

"No government, as far as I know, has ever betrayed and flouted temperance people like the present government of Manitoba. Their scorn of pledges, their broken faith, their multiplication of licenses, their thrusting of licenses on protesting communities do not merely stir my indignation as a temperance man and a Christian, they make every drop of British blood in me tingle."

The same clergyman also strongly condemns the government on its general policy and administration. "The government itself," he says, "is intolerable. Some of the leaders have

shown a carelessness of speech and a disregard of consistency, which have shocked and bewildered me. Their land policy inspires me with a profound distrust of their guardianship of the public assets. Their subservience to two powerful corporations makes me feel the interests of neither city or province are safe in their hands."

In concluding his powerful arraignment of the government Mr. Bland says: "On the one side we have an administration whose return to office would seem to me to be, morally at least, nothing less than a calamity, on the other hand a man (opposition leader Brown), whose character, ability and public spirit, have won for him business success, and the confidence of his fellow citizens; and who has frankly pledged himself to a platform which for progressiveness, breadth, economy, and moral elevation, seems to me to be wholly admirable. The whole man seems to me instinct with sincerity."

Such appeals as Mr. Bland's, Mr. Gordon's and other clergymen have stirred the people against the government and has sent Mr. Roblin into a paroxysm of rage, as evidenced in the attacks his colleague has made on the gentleman of the cloth.

The voting tomorrow, however, will tell the tale whether Manitoba is to continue under a Tory government, which has so aroused the moral elements in antagonism to it, or whether the reins of office shall be entrusted to the Liberal party which seems to be admirably led by Mr. Edward Brown.

NEW CROWN REVENUE.

In the Saskatchewan legislature, Hon. Mr. Calder, a member of the government, has introduced a measure which, if carried, as doubtless it will be, will provide a large addition to the revenue of that province, without unnecessarily burdening any private interest.

The bill is designed to raise an additional amount for educational purposes and provide for a tax of a cent an acre on taxable lands in the Province, other than those included in village and town school districts.

Mr. Calder estimated there are 33,000,000 acres of land available for taxation, which would realize \$330,000. Of this ten million acres were included in school districts already organized. Of the revenue to be acquired he proposed expenditure as follows: Five per cent., \$16,137.50, towards the support of the Provincial Agricultural College; 5 per cent. towards the support of a Provincial university; 10 per cent., or \$32,275, for the support of secondary educational institutions, such as high schools and collegiate institutes; 8 per cent. for the support of primary or common schools. The difference of \$7,250 is to cover the cost of collecting the tax, which cost is fixed at 2 1/2 per cent. Mr. Calder pointed out that, although village and town school districts were exempted from the tax, all collegiate institutes, high schools and intermediate schools were made free of tuition and other fees to every resident of the province.

Furthermore, whereas organized rural school districts paid in only \$100,000 of this tax, they would have distributed back to them for their primary schools \$238,000, or nearly \$2.40 for every dollar of taxes paid in under this legislation.

The House approved of the principle of the bill and is discussing its details.

CURRENT COMMENT

Hon. Jason M. Mack of the Nova Scotia legislative council, has been admitted to the Murray government without portfolio, and will be government leader in the upper chamber. He is a resident of Liverpool, and first entered the political arena in 1882 as one of the members for Queens in the assembly. He was an unsuccessful Liberal candidate for the Commons in 1887, and was appointed to the legislative council in 1889.

When the item of tombstones was reached in parliament's discussion of tariff changes Tuesday, Mr. Foster jocularly remarked that a good many of the members were getting interested in that item and therefore should discuss it. Mr. Foster probably was thinking of himself and Mr. Fowler when he made the observation. Their political careers seem to be drawing to a close. But stay, it was not an ordinary tombstone that Mr. Fowler wanted. In view of the great service he had rendered to his fellow land dealers by getting the ear of Shaughnessy and Mann, and a favorable location of lands, Mr. Fowler suggested to "Dear Lefurey" that a monument should be erected to his (Fowler's) memory.

At the nomination proceedings at Grand Falls, Tuesday, Senator Costigan announced that it was his in-

tention to hold a monster picnic there next summer and invite all his friends to be present on that occasion. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and other leading statesmen would probably be present and the day would be one of enjoyment and oratory.

Governor Tweedie must feel grateful at the pleasant things that were said of him in the legislature by the premier and Mr. Hazen. Most politicians have died before political opponents publicly acknowledge the virtues of the deceased, but the governor has the satisfaction of receiving his just meed of praise from an antagonist, while the subject of the eulogy is still very much in the flesh.

Supposing Governor Tweedie had forgotten his constitutional duty and called upon Mr. Hazen instead of Dr. Pugsley, to form a government, is it reasonable to suppose that the opposition leader could have been induced to make the sacrifice?

The Halifax Chronicle, the chief Liberal organ at the Nova Scotia capital is strongly opposing the prohibitory measure which has been introduced in the legislature of that province.

Ald. Colter has been most active and aggressive in the discharge of his duties at the council board and in committee, and the city loses a faithful servant by his retirement.

Those North Shore men have a way of getting there.

Mr. Fowler, M. P., has the full text of the insurance commission's report before him, and the document refers to the member for King's-Albert and his land deals in anything but a complimentary way, yet he has not presented his promised charges on "wine, women and graft."

Yesterday was a day of love feasts in Fredericton. In the legislature and in the city council the politicians, big and little, dropped business to say pleasant things to each other.

BITS OF NEWS.

The largest and most valuable nugget yet found in the history of Cobalt camp, Ontario, has been taken from shaft No. 26 of Nipissing. It weighs 4,000 pounds, and is estimated to be 65 per cent silver.

In honor of serving fifty years in the ministry, two of the most conspicuous and honored leaders in the Canadian Methodist church, Rev. Dr. Carman and Rev. Dr. Potts, were tendered a banquet in the school room of the Metropolitan church, Toronto, Tuesday evening.

City Opera house tonight—The W. S. Harkins' Company in "THE CRISIS."

ELECTION CARD.

To the Electors of the City of Fredericton, Ladies and Gentlemen: At the request of a number of electors I have consented to offer myself as a candidate for alderman to represent St. Ann's Ward in the city council for the ensuing year. If elected I will do my best to look after the interests of said ward, and do my share in transacting the city's business. I respectfully request your votes in the election to be held on Monday next.

CHAS. A. HALL.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the Legislative Assembly at its present session for the passing of an Act to vest the property plant and assets of the Fredericton Boom Company in the Saint John River Log Driving Company and to amend the Acts respecting said last named Company.

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1 Parlour Suite, Mahogany finished frame, Upholstered in Silk Brocatelle sale price \$27.00, reg. \$40.00.
1 Parlour Suite, Upholstered in Turkish Rug, sale price \$39.50 reg. \$60.
1 Parlour Suite, Upholstered in Silk Brocatelle, silk plush trimmings, sale price \$32.75, reg. \$50.00.

CARPET SALE, COMMENCES MARCH 12th.

WAIT FOR IT.

Albert E. Colwell,

John T. Jennings

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Remember we carry the largest line of optical goods in the city. A large stock of smoked spectacles and eyeglasses. Just the thing to protect your eyes from the snow.

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MARCH 6th, 1907.

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