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W. K. C. PARLEE,  
Manager.  
L. C. MACNUTT,  
Editor.

## DAILY HERALD

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## PROPOSED NEW LOAN.

Mr. Fleming who has been on a borrowing trip to Montreal, says his government will be able to renew that \$1,500,000 loan maturing in August on more favorable terms than were obtained by the late government. Wonderful is it not?

Mr. Fleming probably knows that the severe financial stringency which existed a year ago, making it difficult for even governments and wealthy corporations to raise money, has practically passed away, that the rate of interest on all loans where the security is undoubted has very materially dropped, and no government or corporation or individual would expect to pay as high a rate of interest in 1908 as in 1907.

The city of Fredericton, for instance was compelled to pay 6 per cent to the banks for overdrafts, which were secured by placing civic bonds as collateral, but this year the authorities are able to secure what money they want at 5 per cent. If a comparatively small corporation can make loans at 5 per cent, the local government should be able to renew its maturing obligations at 4 per cent at the highest, and possibly less.

Mr. Fleming, therefore, makes a very empty and meaningless boast, when he attempts to manufacture capital for his government by asserting that the new loan can be placed at a more favorable rate than paid by the late government when the financial stringency was at its worst. Of course he can do better, and if he cannot do a great deal better, he is not fit for the position of provincial financier.

## ELECTIONS' AFTERMATH.

Later returns from the Ontario elections indicate the defeat of Mr. Whitney's Minister of Agriculture in North Perth, but the government's lead is increased by some changes in other constituencies from the results as first announced. The new House will be composed of 87 Conservatives, 18 Liberals and one independent. The government will be seriously embarrassed by its enormous majority.

The final returns in Quebec bring the opposition and Nationalists up to 17, as against the government's 57. Mr. Bourassa says he has no ambition to lead the opposition, but as both of its leaders, LeBlanc and Belletier, perished at the polls there does not seem to be anybody else capable of leading the party but the man from Labelle. Mr. Bourassa still claims to be a Liberal with nothing in common with the Tory party, which in the Quebec legislature finds itself practically wiped out as an active fighting force, and looking to Mr. Bourassa to pilot its destinies. It is a very humiliating condition in a province in which the Tories professed themselves able to give Laurier his death blow.

## CURRENT COMMENT.

Rumors are again current of the probable sale of the Telegraph to a syndicate representing the Liberals. Mr. McKane, the present proprietor, is said to be tired of the luxury of journalism.

A correspondent suggests that possibly the present mosquito plague, which seems to have moved from the lowland Sunbury districts to Fredericton, is a manifestation of the disapproval which the construction of certain public works in this city met from the adjacent districts.

Tories furnished the funds for Bourassa's campaign in Quebec, and the great Nationalist leader goes to the legislature with only one associate. The Tories thought by the Bourassa movement they would break Laurier's hold on his native province, and look what a dismal failure they made of it.

It may not be generally known in this province that another native New Brunswicker besides Chief Justice Wetmore, is prominent in the public affairs of the new province. The Montreal Star (Tory) declares that "the Gouin government is left with an overwhelming majority to carry on its program, and in the province at large, its hold upon the people is not at all shaken, as a result of the elections."

Saskatchewan. Hon. Thomas Macnutt, Speaker of the Saskatchewan legislature, and a member of the former North West Territories legislature, is a native of Campbellton. He is 58 years old, a farmer and

real estate agent, and resides at Saltcoats, in the district which he represents in the legislature.

Come to think of it the Borden family (the R. L. Borden family) is not doing too badly with respect to drawing money from the federal treasury. Mr. R. L. Borden himself is in receipt of \$9,500 a year, and his brother, an official in the militia department, is down for \$2,800 a year, a total of \$12,300 annually for the two brothers.

Premier Hazen has laid down the rule that any official of his government who becomes a partizan (presumably he meant only against his government) will take his official life in his hands, and may be subjected to instant dismissal. Yet he invites Judge Landry, who is an official of the Dominion government to become chairman of a partizan enquiry. Mr. Hazen is strong on preaching excellent doctrines, but exceedingly weak in practising them, except wherein he may achieve a political advantage.

Hon. Lomer Guion, the Conservative premier of Quebec, who with his party achieved such a success at the polls on Monday, is one of the most popular men that province has produced in many years. He's a leading lawyer, practising at Montreal, and is 47 years old. He has been in the legislature since 1897, was Minister of Public Works in the Parent administration, and became premier three years ago. His wife is the daughter of the late Hon. Honore Mercier, a former spectacular Quebec premier, now deceased.

The object of Prov. Sec'y. Fleming's first trip outside the province since assuming office was to borrow money for the government. Think of the finance minister in Mr. Hazen's economical government actually interviewing Montreal bank managers, with the object of making an enormous loan. When in opposition Mr. Hazen and his associates tried to create the belief that there would be no more borrowing—no more over-expenditure if they were but returned to power, but here we have the premier and his provincial secretary tramping around Montreal looking for loans.

The Pictou, N. S., Standard, Tory organ, admits that Sir Herbert Tupper has abandoned all intention of contesting that constituency for parliament, although beseeched by his friends to make the fight. Last summer Sir Herbert went down to Pictou, and in a very spectacular way accepted the nomination, declaring his intention to take off his coat and fight for all he was worth to bring Nova Scotia back to the Conservative fold. But Sir Herbert has grown wiser since that time, and abandons the field in Pictou to Mr. E. M. Macdonald, the present popular M.P., and will make no fight for Toryism in his native province.

## SEEKING KNOWLEDGE.

Mr. Hazen's Agricultural Commission will interview the Farmers to Qualify his Commissioner of Agriculture for His Job

The Agricultural Commission created by Act of the legislature at the late session, held a preliminary meeting in St. John recently and organized for work. To W. W. Hubbard was delegated the duties of Secretary prescribed under the Act. The office of the Commissioners will be in the House of Assembly, Fredericton, and correspondence is invited from every one interested in the Agricultural development of the province; letters should be addressed "Agricultural Commission, House of Assembly, Fredericton." Forms, stating the subjects upon which the Commissioners desire to be informed, are being prepared and will be sent out to prominent men in every school district. It is expected that the traveling work of the commission will begin during the fourth week in June, and continue until such time as haying operations prevent farmers from attending the various meetings. These meetings will be held at convenient centres in the various counties so that representatives of every school district may be within convenient driving distance and will be open to the public and the press, and all residents of the County wherein the meeting is held shall have, as far as possible, an opportunity of expressing their opinions upon any matter connected with the work of the commission, but the spokesmen, representing the various school districts, shall first be heard. All newspapers are invited to send representatives to the meetings.

As much of the province as possible will be visited before the haying season begins, and the work will be resumed in September and continued until all parts of the province shall have been visited. It is proposed to first visit Carleton County, following with Victoria, Madawaska, York, Sunbury, Charlotte and St. John in the order named.

Should haying be early it may not be possible to include all these counties. So soon as the various localities interested shall have been heard

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from, the places and dates of meetings will be announced. In the meantime, officers and members of agricultural societies and the public generally, are invited to make suggestions and to call the attention of the Commission to any particular matter in any way affecting the agricultural and industrial interests of the province.

But remember, my dear, that you and I are one.  
She looked at him scornfully.  
One! she echoed. Nonsense. We are 10. I'm the one and you are the cipher.

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