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DAILY HERALD

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1908

THE ELECTION PROTESTS.

Mr. George W. Fowler has placed himself on bad terms with his party in this province by his unreasonable attitude with respect to the election protests. Four of these were filed on Saturday, two against Liberals and the same number against Conservatives, and on Mr. Fowler rests the responsibility for the attack that will be made on the seats of the two Conservatives who sit in parliament from this province.

It was not the fault of Dr. Daniel or Mr. O. S. Crockett that Mr. Fowler did not desist from protesting Dr. McAllister's election. They pleaded with him and his agent for a whole day, they expostulated and begged him to let matters rest as they were; they brought every possible pressure to bear upon him, even threatened him with what would happen to him and the party if he pursued the course he had mapped out for himself, but all to no purpose. Mr. Fowler's protest was filed, and the Liberals resented by attacking the seats of Dr. Daniel and Mr. Crockett, while the Conservatives threw in one against Dr. Pugsley to even matters up.

What Mr. Fowler expects to gain in his attempt to reopen Kings' Albert, not even his friends can understand.

Evidently Mr. Fowler does not recognize the fact potent to everybody else—that he is politically dead, and that any effort he may make to recover his former place in parliament must result in failure.

Neither Dr. Daniel nor Mr. Crockett desire to contest another election, and the former is said to have declared that if Mr. Fowler persisted in his course he (Daniel) was done with politics, while Mr. Crockett is reported to have threatened to turn the batteries of his newspaper against the ex-M. P. for Kings' Albert, if he pushed the protest against Dr. McAllister.

There was trouble enough in the Conservative party before Mr. Fowler butted in with his protest, and it has certainly assumed a most acute character within the past forty-eight hours.

THE GOVERNMENT MEETING.

The local government is to meet here tomorrow evening, and in view of recent events in the provincial field, an interesting and animated gathering is anticipated.

Of course the public will never know the full details of the discussion that will take place within the sacred precincts of the executive chamber, but it may confidently be expected that fur and feathers will fly when the recent bye-elections come up for comment.

The results were not satisfying to the government as a whole, and in the case of Northumberland there is a serious division in the ranks.

Mr. Morrissey will naturally be the storm centre, for it is on record that he, a member of the government, assisted to elect to the legislature a recognized opponent of the government, placing his leader and his colleagues in an embarrassing position before the country, and arousing the hostility of some of them to such a degree that they have not hesitated to commence a campaign for the possession of Mr. Morrissey's official head, and one government supporter is said to be already on the war path to capture Mr. Morrissey's office.

The Chief Commissioner takes refuge behind the pretence that the Hazen government is a coalition, and that therefore he was justified in supporting a Liberal in Northumberland as against a Conservative, but Mr. Morrissey cannot be serious in that contention.

Mr. Morrissey knows that the moment Mr. Hazen got into power by the aid of Liberal votes, he forgot all about that condition and proceeded to constitute his administration a mere Tory machine, for the humiliation and punishment of the Liberal party, of which Mr. Morrissey is a member.

Mr. Morrissey has admitted that he had no assurance of support from Mr. Burchill for the government, and hence his course in assisting the opposition candidate to victory cannot be reconciled with his continuance in the government.

By every constitutional precedent Mr. Hazen is bound to call for Mr. Morrissey's resignation, but that gentleman has little fear of such action.

If Mr. Hazen could get along with Mr. Morrissey he might under pressure from a section of his administration call for the Chief Commissioner's resignation, but Mr. Hazen recognizes the fact that Mr. Morrissey can break the government if he chooses, and Mr. Hazen does not know how soon his colleague will take a course leading to that end.

It is safe to say that if Mr. Morrissey quits the government it will be of his own motion, and because that as a Liberal he can no longer

stand for the exploitation of the administration for the destruction of the federal party to which he belongs.

But the attitude of the Chief Commissioner will not be the only matter subject for consideration at the government meeting.

Provincial Secretary Fleming will naturally be called upon to account for the overwhelming government defeat in Carleton, but that is a matter in which most of the government members will be able to furnish testimony. Four of them besides Mr. Fleming were knee deep in that campaign, and they were long enough in Carleton to discover the great unpopularity of the government which most materially assisted in Mr. Upham's return.

Mr. Fleming will therefore have support in his explanations of the defeat, but having lost the grip on his constituency, he is in no position to cast stones at Mr. Morrissey.

Truly the executive meeting promises lively times, and the public would be prepared to put up a handsome purse for a stenographic report of the proceedings.

THE NEW PASTOR.

The people of St. Paul's who heard the initial sermons of their new pastor, Rev. Dr. Smith, are congratulating themselves on having secured so eminent and attractive a preacher, and one who promises to be an industrious and useful pastor. The church was filled at both services Sunday, and it is safe to say that none were disappointed. Dr. Smith comes to Fredericton with a fine reputation and he fully sustained all the good things that have been said about his force and effectiveness in the pulpit. He preaches without notes and his manner in the pulpit is easy, graceful, earnest and sympathetic, his language ready and eloquent in form, and great success for the church is looked for under his guidance and administration.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Mr. Pinder did not journey over to the North Shore for his health, nor for the well being of Mr. Morrissey.

The United States congress formally opened in annual session today, and tomorrow it will receive President Roosevelt's last message.

If all the election petitions filed in Canada get to the courts they will have a busy time of it. The protests number fifty-six, but doubtless there will be many saw-offs.

If the Tories push their protests against Dr. McAllister and Dr. Pugsley there will be a federal bye-election in York within a few months. Liberals have all the evidence necessary to unseat Mr. Crockett.

Since Commodore Stewart in the Chatham World advised Mr. Hazen to take a kindergarten course in politics, the suggestion has been made that the commodore is likely to send the local premier a teddy bear as a Christmas present.

The Tory press immediately after the federal elections declared that Colonel McLean won in Sunbury-Queens through the use of gross corruption, but his opponents failed to file a protest against his election. Mr. Wilmut knows when he has enough.

It will be a shock to the moral sense of the country if Mr. W. B. Dickson resumes his seat in the legislature, and it would be equally shocking to Mr. Hazen should Mr. Dickson resign. The Premier would be up against another bye-election in which his candidate would be beaten to a standstill.

Mr. Fowler is said to have spent a very lively Sunday. He had visits from some Tory politicians, who went to him in protest against the filing of the petition against Dr. McAllister. It was a shame to break in on Mr. Fowler, when he desired to enjoy the quiet and solemnity of the Sabbath, for the ex-M. P. is known as a man of deep religious convictions and must have resented the intrusion on his privacy.

The best thing Mr. Hazen can do with those spindle legged Kentucky race horses is to sell the whole lot before they eat their heads off while waiting for the embargo to be raised. It will probably be months before the animals will be permitted to enter this province, and there is no demand for them anyway. The government must have known of the prevalence of foot and mouth disease in the United States before they sent Mr. Clinch to purchase the horses.

Towne—Gee whiz! I wish I could catch the fellow who stole my umbrella.

Brown—Oh! cut it out! Why do you make such a fuss over a little thing like that?

Towne—Little thing. Why, I actually bought that umbrella.

They are not smart people, are they?

Oh, dear no, answered Miss Friverton. He wears last year's clothes and she uses last season's slang.

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