

The Midnight Guest

By FRED M. WHITE

Author of "The Crimson Blind," "The Corner House," etc.

Copyright by T. J. McBride & Son.

(Continued.)

Lord Ravenspur intimated that he should. From a pocket-book Dallas produced a photograph, carte de visite size, which had been torn into half a dozen pieces. The photograph was considerably faded, and in the tearing the actual face itself had been ripped out of all recognition. Still, judging from the small fragments, it was possible to make out that the picture had been that of a woman. One scrap of card bore the words "and Co., Melbourne." The rest of the lettering had apparently vanished.

"This must have been taken a long time ago," Ravenspur said. "It is so terribly faded."

"Not necessarily, my lord," Dallas said. "We know very little about the photograph as yet except that it was taken in Australia. Of course, it is fair to assume that the picture is an old one judging from the coloring, but your lordship must not forget that foreign photographs are always much fainter than those taken in this country, because the light is so much stronger and more brilliant. At any rate, the fact remains that we have found fragments of a photograph which points to some intrigue, with a woman at the bottom of it. Of course, I know nothing whatever about Mr. Delahay's moral character."

"Then I'll tell you," Ravenspur said shortly. "My late friend was the son of a nobleman. He was a very quick, passionate man, and he inherited his temper from his Italian mother. But the man was in a way of anything mean or dishonourable. He was genuinely in love with his wife, and cared nothing for any other woman. How that photograph came into his possession I don't know. Probably he never shall know. But you can at once dismiss from your mind the suspicion that Delahay was mixed up in that vulgar kind of business."

"Well, no," Dallas said, after a short pause. "There is nothing that strikes me, no suggestions that seem to need a doctor's opinion. We shall find that the cause of death is the small puncture over the heart that I spoke of. It is one of those glass stilettoes—the Concan type of weapon where the blade is snapped off in the wound. It leaves the smallest mark, and no blood follows—a difficult thing to trace without great care. Of course, the post mortem—"

CHAPTER III.

The Mark of the Beast.

A sudden quick cry broke from Ravenspur's lips. He fairly staggered back, his white face was given over to a look of peculiar horror. Yet, now I come to think of it, I recollect that, when I was painting a 'Borgia' subject once, my costume dealer spoke of one of those Corsican daggers. I did not take much interest in the conversation at the time. And so you have an idea that this is the way in which my poor friend met his death?"

Ravenspur was speaking quietly and easily now. He had altogether regained control of himself save for an occasional twitching of his lips. He paced up and down the room thoughtfully for a sharp second, utterly unconscious of Dallas' sharp scrutiny.

"I suppose there is nothing more you have to tell me?" he said at length. "This is evidently going to be one of those crimes which thrill a whole community for a week, and then are never heard of again. Still, if you can tell me anything, do for me, for I don't hesitate to ask for any assistance. I suppose we can do no more till after the inquest is over?"

Without waiting for any reply from his companion Ravenspur quitted the room, and went back to his brougham, and pulled three himself into a corner, and rumpled his hair over his eyes. For a long time he sat there immersed in deep and painful thought, and utterly unconscious of his surroundings. Even when the brougham pulled up in Park Lane he made no attempt to dismount till the footman opened the door and addressed him by name.

"I—I am going home," he said, "I am going home. I am not at home to anybody."

With this admonition Ravenspur passed up to his own private rooms, and carefully locked the door behind him. He took a cigar from his case, and lighted it, only to find it a moment later in disgust. He stood just for a moment with his hand on a decanter of brandy, and then with a smile for his own weakness poured out a glassful, which he drank without delay.

"I am a fool, and a coward," he muttered. "What can there be to be afraid of after all these years? Why do I hesitate in this way when boldness and decision would avert the danger?"

Ravenspur sat there, looking moodily into space. He heard the house resounding to the sound of the luncheon gong, but he made no movement. The mere suggestion of food was repulsive to him, clean as his habits were and robust as

his appetite usually was. The Lane and the Park were gay with traffic now; the roar of locomotion reached the ears of Ravenspur as he sat there. Presently the noise of the newboys came again, and the name of Delahay seemed to fill the air to the exclusion of everything else. Ravenspur rang his bell, and asked for a paper.

The flimsy, ill-printed sheet fairly reeked with the latest and most ghastly of London tragedies. Nothing else seemed to matter for the moment. Seven or eight columns were given over to an account of the affair. Before he set himself down to read it steadily through, Ravenspur glanced at the last paragraph to find that the preliminary enquiry had been adjourned for a week. Most of the florid sensational paragraphs contained nothing new. The only point that interested the reader was the medical evidence.

This was compact and to the point. Death had been undoubtedly due to a stab over the heart which had been inflicted by some long, pointed instrument, not much thicker, apparently, than a needle. So far as the police doctor could say, the weapon used had been an Italian stiletto. There was practically no blood. Indeed, the whole thing had been accomplished in a cool and deliberate manner by a man who was not only master of his art, but who must have possessed a considerable knowledge of anatomy. Evidently he had chosen a spot to inflict the wound with careful deliberation, for the deviation of half an inch either way might have produced comparatively harmless results. It was the opinion of the doctor that, had the fatal thrust been made through the bare skin, all traces of it might have been overlooked. It was only the adherence of the dead man's singlet to the tiny puncture that had caused sufficient inflammation to attract suspicion to the point of impact. All this pointed to the fact that the crime had been clearly premeditated and carried out coldly and deliberately.

(To Be Continued.)

BURNED A BABY'S BODY IN TOWN HALL FURNACE

Gloucester Authorities Said to Be Guilty of Barbarous Act.

Gloucester, N. S., May 13.—The town authorities of Gloucester have instituted a new way of disposing of human bodies which no one else will inter. The dead body of an infant was found in the room of a domestic employed in the home of an official of the Dominion Coal Co. The body was removed to the town hall where it was kept until the coroner's jury was held. The verdict of the coroner's jury was that death had been the result of some unknown cause.

The authorities then forthwith took the child's body and threw it into the furnace of the town hall and it was cremated. Thereafter, the coroner's jury was held, and the town council will investigate. The girl is in the hospital and will be arrested as soon as she becomes convalescent.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, ss.:

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business at Toledo, Ohio, and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS to the person who will produce evidence that the said firm has committed an act of fraud or other illegal act in connection with the sale of Hall's Catarrh Cure.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1907.

(Seal) A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is sold by all druggists and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by all Druggists, 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

KINGS CO. PROBATE COURT

Hampton, Kings Co., May 13.—Since the last report of proceedings in the Probate Court of Kings County, Emma A. Belyea and Wesley A. Walters have entered a caveat against the granting of letters testamentary of the will of William H. Walters, late of the parish of Westfield, on the ground of undue influence and incapacity of the testator. R. G. Murray, proctor.

Letters of administration, cum testamentary annexo, have been granted to Dr. L. R. Murray, of Sussex, on the estate of Mary Ann Wiley, late of Seaboard, deceased, and valued at \$16,000 all personal property. O. P. King, proctor.

Letters of administration have been granted to Thomas Coggon, of Sussex, on the estate of his son Beverly Coggon, who died at Calgary, Alberta, the same being valued at \$200 personal property. O. P. King, proctor.

Today Judge McIntyre disposed of the following business: Win. H. Culbert, Sussex, a creditor petitioned for letters of administration of the estate of Thomas Bardon, late of Sussex, deceased; property valued at \$10,000. A citation was issued returnable Wednesday, June 24th. Ora P. King, proctor.

In the matter of the estate of George Thomas Jamieson, late of Sussex, deceased, a citation returnable to-day on the petition of Jane Aitken, wife of David Aitken of Sussex, and of Mary Jane Jamieson, under her guardianship, to have the will of George Thomas Jamieson, late of Sussex, deceased, proved in solemn form. O. P. King appeared for the petitioners, and stated that he had been requested to say to the Court that Mr. Skinner appears for J. Herbert Jamieson, of Calgary, a brother, and J. A. Freeze for the executor, John Jamieson. The citation and affidavits of service were read, and on consent of all parties His Honor decided to adjourn the hearing of the case until Friday, June 22, then to be heard in Chambers at Sussex.

Estate of Miles E. Vanwart, late of Gray's Mills, Kingston; Mrs. Eliza E. Vanwart, mother of deceased petitioned for letters of administration on a valuation of \$650 personal property. Messrs. Wm. Patterson and Wm. J. Johnston were accepted as bondsmen. Homer D. Forbes, proctor.

BIG PULPWOOD FIRE

Berlin, N. H., May 13.—The immense pulp-wood pile of the Burgess Sulphite Fibre Company, containing nearly 20,000 cords of wood, was discovered to be on fire this afternoon, and although ten high pressure streams were directed upon it for hours, the prospect late tonight was that from 3,000 to 5,000 cords would be destroyed. It is estimated that the loss would be \$20,000 and might reach \$30,000.



GIRL'S SWEATER A LA JAPANESE.

Quite the newest and most novel adaptation of the Japanese idea is the Japanese sweater. It is a very attractive little garment, made in fancy stitch with surplice backs and fronts and sleeves which extend but halfway to the elbow, the mandarin armholes being a conspicuous feature of the garment. This sweater is finished at the waistline with a knit-in belt, which widens in the front and fastens with buttonholes and two pearl buttons. They come in white, red and gray, in both plain and fancy stitched.

WILL BE NO COMPROMISE ON MANITOBA ELECTION BILL

Obnoxious Clause Must be Dropped by the Government or the Federal Opposition Will Not Vote Supply.

Ottawa, May 13.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier's skilful attempt at compromise with the opposition will not be accepted. The debate on Mr. Aylesworth's election bill went on today and will continue, though possibly not again before Monday.

The withdrawal of the first section of the bill, that relating to the preparation of the voters' lists, was the demand of Mr. Borden this afternoon and for this opposition arose. The leader of the opposition spoke for an hour before the house adjourned at 6 o'clock.

Mr. Borden said he did not understand exactly what Sir Wilfrid meant to suggest by his proposal but took it to mean that the alteration of the voters in a polling division cut in two by boundary of a federal division would be made by the county court judges instead of by returning officers. No change would be necessary if the returning officers were always honest and impartial. "But," said Mr. Borden, "inasmuch as we have had some experience in Manitoba, pointing to the conclusion that this is not the case, we are quite prepared to accept the proposition in that regard and to view the proposal as a desirable one from that standpoint. But beyond that whether the government intends to adhere absolutely to the terms of this bill I do not know. We think, on this side of the house, subject to what I have already said that the first section of the bill ought to be withdrawn altogether."

"We do not consider it fair that two provinces which have reasonable laws upon their statute books for preparation of the voters' lists should be singled out merely for the reason that some persons within those provinces have made complaints to this government as to unfair operation of these laws."

Five men in the employ of the Shivers Lumber Company, were engaged in repairing the chain in the mill slip, in a boat about 120 yards from the shore. While attempting to drop anchor, it slipped and knocked a board out of the side of the boat, which immediately filled and sank.

Only one of the party, Henry Savidant, was able to swim and he reached the shore in safety. The other four, Fred Clark, Jos. Rouse, Barney Maltais and Simon Tannier, clung to the boat and were drowned.

Parties immediately set out in boats to grapple for the bodies but up to the time of writing they had only succeeded in finding one, that of Rouse. The body was taken to Graham's undertaking rooms and prepared for burial.

The men were all married and have families and were all residents of this place.

ABRUZZI SEES KING ABOUT AMERICAN BRIDE

Rome, May 13.—The Duke of the Abruzzi arrived this morning from Naples. He went at once to the Quirinal and had a long conference with King Victor Emmanuel regarding his marriage to Miss Katherine Elkins, daughter of Senator Elkins, of West Virginia.

It is announced that an agreement was reached on this subject with the duke's brothers during a recent conference with them on board the battleship Regina Elena. The duke had luncheon with the King and Queen. He will leave Rome tonight for Spezia.

FREDERICTON NEWS

Fredericton, May 13.—The firemen were called out at noon on account of a small fire between the walls of a house in King street owned by N. J. Smith. The damage was slight.

Peter Clinch is here on behalf of the Fire Underwriters, inspecting the water works system and re-rating the city.

A celebration of Empire Day on the 22nd of May is being planned. School children will assemble on the square in front of parliament buildings, and will be addressed by the lieutenant governor and premier.

William Goodins died at French Village yesterday.

NEW HIGHWAY ACT DISCUSSED IN LEGISLATURE YESTERDAY

The First Division of the Session Shows Straight Government Majority of 16---Robinson and LaBillois Say Last Highway Act was Failure Because of Bad Weather.

Fredericton, N. B., May 13.—The new highway act was discussed this afternoon and evening and the proceedings were more than usually lively. The first division of the session was taken on section 4 which has to do with constitution of highway boards and resulted in a government majority of 16.

Twelve members voted for the opposition and twenty-eight for the government. Three independent members from Gloucester voted with the opposition and Mr. Sweeney was absent.

Cy. McKeown, who were elected as Robinson supporters for Madawaska, acted with the government.

The absentees on the government side were Messrs. Flemming, McInerney, Prescott, Woods and Clarke.

Hon. Dr. Landry made his maiden speech during the debate and created a very favorable impression.

Fredericton, N. B., May 13.—The legislature met at 3 p. m. today. Hon. Mr. Hazen moved that the order for the third reading of the bill to create the parish of St. Charles be read and the bill be recommitted to the committee of the whole for further consideration.

Hon. Mr. McLeod presented the report of the committee on standing rules.

Hon. Mr. Robinson presented the petition of C. A. Murray, a resident of the bill to incorporate the Westmorland Power Company.

Mr. Hatheway presented the petition of Hon. J. V. Ellis and others, and members of the St. John branch of the Canadian Women's Suffrage Association, in favor of a bill to amend the N. B. elections act to extend franchise to women.

Mr. Copp introduced a bill relating to the town of Sackville.

Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced a bill to amend the registry act, which he explained was rendered necessary on account of acknowledgements taken before a deputy registrar not being under the seal of the registry and some objection was evidenced at times to titles on account of the seal not being affixed. This bill provided that the seal of the registrar should be affixed in all cases whether the acknowledgment is taken before the registrar or his deputy.

Hon. Mr. Maxwell introduced a bill relating to certain short term debentures issued by the city of St. John; also a bill to amend 52 Vic. Chapter 27, an act to unite the city of Portland and the city of St. John, and to amend the charter of the city of St. John and the law relating to the city government.

Mr. Wilson introduced a bill to regulate coasting on the hills in the city of St. John.

Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced a bill to amend the acts relating to inferior courts which he explained was to restore to the statutes a clause which was in the consolidated statutes in force prior to 1903 and had been left out of the present edition. Under this clause the judges in the courts might be taken before justices of the peace if no commissioner for oaths was available.

Hon. Mr. LaBillois presented the petition of the Restigouche Boom Company in favor of their petition.

Mr. Pinder presented the petition of the Gibson Water and Fire Commissioners in favor of their bill.

Hon. Mr. Robinson introduced a bill to authorize the school trustees of Moncton to issue debentures, also a bill to authorize the Moncton council to operate or lease an electric street railway, also a bill to authorize the Moncton council to issue debentures and otherwise relating to the city of Moncton; also a bill to authorize the Moncton council to fix the value of certain real and personal property in the city for purposes of civic taxation.

Mr. Currie gave notice of enquiry with reference to the liquor licenses in Campbellton.

Hon. Mr. Robinson gave notice of enquiry with reference to the dismissal of a member of the Highways Board.

Hon. Mr. McKeown gave notice of enquiry as to whether Hon. Wm. Pugsley had been paid or credited with, by the receiver general, any sum in respect of certain services rendered by him outside his duties as attorney general.

Mr. Hart introduced a bill relating to Charlotte county valuation.

The house then went into committee. Mr. Sproul in the chair, to consider the bill for the appointment of a commission to investigate the Central Railway.

The bill having been read, Mr. McKeown said that while he did not oppose the bill he thought the provisions of some of the sections were a little hard. It was unlikely that any person would refuse to give evidence before the commission, but assuming any person did not want to answer any question put to him, the powers conferred on the commissioners were somewhat drastic, more so in fact than the criminal code. In a criminal case, although a witness may not refuse to answer any question, he is not entitled to a certificate excusing him from the consequences but under the provision of the section being discussed there was no such protection afforded him, and the commissioners were consequently clothed with more power than was possessed by criminal courts of the country.

Then again if a person refused to answer, the bill provided that he might be confined in prison for the rest of his life, which he thought was rather too large a power to be held by the commission. It might be, of course, that the government felt the gravity of the case was such as to require these drastic provisions.

Hon. Mr. Hazen said that the bill had been most carefully considered and the government felt that it was desirable that all the provisions should be incorporated in the investigation should be thorough, in fact he thought all Hon. gentlemen were agreed on that question. It could readily be seen that if a witness refused to answer a question he might easily plead that it was usual now a days for a witness not to be excused, but in criminal proceedings, if he made a full disclosure, to give him a certificate freeing him from any liability to prosecution. This provision was contained in other acts and was common to other provinces and also to Great Britain. It was no new provision. Having placed the provision in the bill regarding civil proceedings they afforded the only protection in their power.

Another matter he would like to mention was that he had been charged with violating his election pledges in that he had given the job of re-flooring the bridge at St. John without tender. It was impossible under the circumstances to wait for tenders. The matter was one which would not wait, due to the negligence of the old government, and he had no other course open to him unless they desired some accident to happen. So long as he was head of the department of public works every job which could be let by tender would be so let, but it would sometimes happen that from public necessity this could not be done.

Mr. McKeown asked if it was possible that the government would applaud the sentiment that there must be a man on the highway board to prevent the municipal councils from running away with the money. The sentiments uttered by the members from Gloucester represented the voice of the people and surely the government would not go back on their promises so completely. He advised letting the section stand for amendment.

Hon. Mr. Robinson said that it was an amazing thing that the opposition were afraid of the voice of the people. Ever since the third of March the phantom of the wrath of the people had haunted their sleep but they need not fear for the government in this case, because in this act it was carrying out the promises made to the people and in a way which the people would commend. In fact by the formation of the highway board the control was going even closer to the people than if these boards were appointed by the county council, for the people when electing their councillors would know that they would also electing away members who would control their highway board.

The committee took recess. The committee resumed at 8 o'clock.

Mr. Lowell said the premier expressed his willingness to give to the county of St. John more control over the highways than they possess at present time but instead of doing so he was taking away the rights they had enjoyed for thirty years. The premier went on the county pledged to give to the municipalities the sole control of the roads. Instead of doing so he was creating a board of paid officials who were not wholly appointed by the municipalities with him.

He had always been opposed to any change in the law which would take control of the roads in the county of St. John, out of the control of the municipalities, and the Hon. Mr. Maxwell had stood out against the reform with him and agreed to the same thing. The additional expense to St. John county alone would exceed \$800 and there was no occasion for anything of the kind.

Mr. Robinson agreed with the last speaker that instead of giving the control of the highways to the municipalities they were giving them nothing at all but simply creating a highway board which would be an independent body. In his election platform the premier said he would give the power to the municipalities to appoint all the officials. The bill gives nothing of the kind. The government made certain pledges to the electors and were elected on them and the highway question was the most important of them all. The people expected the control of the highway to be handed over to the municipalities and if that was not the premier's intention then the people did not understand him. He gave a measure of support to the last act, and it was an honest attempt to provide a good road law and if it had been found to be a failure it was not because it was a bad act but because of the kind of the money to properly carry it out. And moreover the weather conditions had been bad. As soon as he became the leader of the government he realized the condition and admitted the failure and expressed his willingness to amend the law.

Section 5 stating that each school district should be a highway district was replaced by the following section: "The board shall divide the parish into as many highway districts as it may consider necessary for the proper carrying out of the purposes of this act and shall appoint a commissioner for each district. It may also, if it deems it desirable so to do, divide each district into as many sub-districts as it may find desirable for the proper carrying out of this act and appoint a surveyor for each such sub-district. Such sub-districts shall be designated by numbers. In any district where labor is not permitted the appointment of surveyors shall be in the discretion of the board."

Sections 6 and 7 were passed and section 8 providing for the mode of tax to be imposed provided a lengthy discussion.

Hon. Mr. Hazen moved that the rate of poll tax be \$2 and that the property tax be 20 cents upon \$100. Mr. Robinson thought that the young men from eighteen years up should pay a poll tax.

Hon. Mr. Smith thought that the act should stand as at present and the young men not taxed until of age. It would be a hardship, he said, for a farmer with three or four boys at home.

Mr. LaBillois agreed with Mr. Smith as did also Mr. Tweedie.

Hon. Mr. Fleming said he had found that the people of the county preferred the law of 1896 to that of 1904, largely on account of its statute law provisions. Under that law the poll tax was \$1.50 and the rate allowed per day was five cents per day. It thus took a man three days to work out his poll tax. Under the proposed law the poll tax was \$2, but the rate allowed per day \$1, therefore the tax payer got off with two days work instead of three.

In regard to the property tax he said the situation, as it existed today, must be faced. The people want roads on which they can travel and a large expenditure is required. In the last four years the highways had gone from bad to worse rapidly and the management of the late government and if government was to be had there must be a higher tax than twelve cents on the \$100. Unless this question was seriously grappled with there would be no roads at all.

Mr. LaBillois defended the act of 1904, claiming that if last year had been a dry one the roads would have been better today than they ever were before in the history of the province. The proposed act would weigh heavily on the poor people, for under it the rich man could send his man and team on the road and, by working out his tax, deprive the poor man of a chance to earn money. The act had been popular in Restigouche county as was shown by the recent elections and had given the county good roads.

Hon. Mr. Morrissey said the International Railway and certain drafts had more to do with carrying the Restigouche election than the highway act.

Hon. Mr. Hazen said he failed to see where this act was hard on the poor man. Under it he could work out his tax with two days' work while under the old act it took him three days.

The house adjourned at 11.15 p. m.

possible under the circumstances to wait for tenders. The matter was one which would not wait, due to the negligence of the old government, and he had no other course open to him unless they desired some accident to happen. So long as he was head of the department of public works every job which could be let by tender would be so let, but it would sometimes happen that from public necessity this could not be done.

Mr. McKeown asked if it was possible that the government would applaud the sentiment that there must be a man on the highway board to prevent the municipal councils from running away with the money. The sentiments uttered by the members from Gloucester represented the voice of the people and surely the government would not go back on their promises so completely. He advised letting the section stand for amendment.

Hon. Mr. Robinson said that it was an amazing thing that the opposition were afraid of the voice of the people. Ever since the third of March the phantom of the wrath of the people had haunted their sleep but they need not fear for the government in this case, because in this act it was carrying out the promises made to the people and in a way which the people would commend. In fact by the formation of the highway board the control was going even closer to the people than if these boards were appointed by the county council, for the people when electing their councillors would know that they would also electing away members who would control their highway board.

The committee took recess. The committee resumed at 8 o'clock.

Mr. Lowell said the premier expressed his willingness to give to the county of St. John more control over the highways than they possess at present time but instead of doing so he was taking away the rights they had enjoyed for thirty years. The premier went on the county pledged to give to the municipalities the sole control of the roads. Instead of doing so he was creating a board of paid officials who were not wholly appointed by the municipalities with him.

He had always been opposed to any change in the law which would take control of the roads in the county of St. John, out of the control of the municipalities, and the Hon. Mr. Maxwell had stood out against the reform with him and agreed to the same thing. The additional expense to St. John county alone would exceed \$800 and there was no occasion for anything of the kind.

Mr. Robinson agreed with the last speaker that instead of giving the control of the highways to the municipalities they were giving them nothing at all but simply creating a highway board which would be an independent body. In his election platform the premier said he would give the power to the municipalities to appoint all the officials. The bill gives nothing of the kind. The government made certain pledges to the electors and were elected on them and the highway question was the most important of them all. The people expected the control of the highway to be handed over to the municipalities and if that was not the premier's intention then the people did not understand him. He gave a measure of support to the last act, and it was an honest attempt to provide a good road law and if it had been found to be a failure it was not because it was a bad act but because of the kind of the money to properly carry it out. And moreover the weather conditions had been bad. As soon as he became the leader of the government he realized the condition and admitted the failure and expressed his willingness to amend the law.

Section 5 stating that each school district should be a highway district was replaced by the following section: "The board shall divide the parish into as many highway districts as it may consider necessary for the proper carrying out of the purposes of this act and shall appoint a commissioner for each district. It may also, if it deems it desirable so to do, divide each district into as many sub-districts as it may find desirable for the proper carrying out of this act and appoint a surveyor for each such sub-district. Such sub-districts shall be designated by numbers. In any district where labor is not permitted the appointment of surveyors shall be in the discretion of the board."

Sections 6 and 7 were passed and section 8 providing for the mode of tax to be imposed provided a lengthy discussion.

Hon. Mr. Hazen moved that the rate of poll tax be \$2 and that the property tax be 20 cents upon \$100. Mr. Robinson thought that the young men from eighteen years up should pay a poll tax.

Hon. Mr. Smith thought that the act should stand as at present and the young men not taxed until of age. It would be a hardship, he said, for a farmer with three or four boys at home.

Mr. LaBillois agreed with Mr. Smith as did also Mr. Tweedie.

Hon. Mr. Fleming said he had found that the people of the county preferred the law of 1896 to that of 1904, largely on account of its statute law provisions. Under that law the poll tax was \$1.50 and the rate allowed per day was five cents per day. It thus took a man three days to work out his poll tax. Under the proposed law the poll tax was \$2, but the rate allowed per day \$1, therefore the tax payer got off with two days work instead of three.

In regard to the property tax he said the situation, as it existed today, must be faced. The people want roads on which they can travel and a large expenditure is required. In the last four years the highways had gone from bad to worse rapidly and the management of the late government and if government was to be had there must be a higher tax than twelve cents on the \$100. Unless this question was seriously grappled with there would be no roads at all.

Mr. LaBillois defended the act of 1904, claiming that if last year had been a dry one the roads would have been better today than they ever were before in the history of the province. The proposed act would weigh heavily on the poor people, for under it the rich man could send his man and team on the road and, by working out his tax, deprive the poor man of a chance to earn money. The act had been popular in Restigouche county as was shown by the recent elections and had given the county good roads.

Hon. Mr. Morrissey said the International Railway and certain drafts had more to do with carrying the Restigouche election than the highway act.

Hon. Mr. Hazen said he failed to see where this act was hard on the poor man. Under it he could work out his tax with two days' work while under the old act it took him three days.

The house adjourned at 11.15 p. m.

Moving Picture Machines

Edison and Powers, and all standard makes of machines and supplies at lowest prices, ready for immediate shipment, also slightly used films from 3c per foot