

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 17, 1914.

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## FULL ENQUIRY DEMANDED—NO LIMIT

It may be inferred from the letter of Acting Premier Clarke to Mr. Dugal that the government will make a desperate effort to prevent any full and impartial enquiry into the Valley Railway charges. This will surely not be tolerated by the house, and would receive the severest condemnation in the country. The people want to know who got the money from the contractors, and the fullest exposure of the whole matter.

The action of the government in the face of the charges made by Mr. Dugal is most extraordinary and can only be interpreted as an expression of fear of the disclosures that may be made. Only the fullest enquiry will satisfy the people. Whoever attempts to choke it off is an enemy of the public welfare.

## THE DUGAL CHARGES

The question of the Dugal charges comes up in the legislature this afternoon. So far as the Liberals are concerned it only needs to be said that despite all rumors and hints in the government press, designed to create a false impression, they only desire to have a complete investigation of the charges made against members of the Flemming government. If there have been any suggestions about compromise or a make-believe inquiry they have certainly not come from Mr. Dugal's side of the house. He has made his charges and has asked for a full and complete investigation. The trend of events since these charges were made has merely confirmed the people in the view that such an investigation is needed, and in the interests of the public must be held. There are evidently members in the legislature and out of it who are eager to prevent a full exposure of the facts in relation to the charges made. They have been seeking to belittle the issue and to divert public attention from it by showing their opponents. Every honest man in the legislature and out of it will welcome a full inquiry and will have nothing to fear. Mr. Dugal believes, however, that there are some men in the legislature and out of it who are not honest, and that he can establish by evidence the fact of their misuse of public funds and their violation of public trust. If the case goes to an impartial commission, with power to bring out all the facts, that is all Mr. Dugal asks and the public interest requires. But let the inquiry be full and complete.

## AN INQUIRY TO CANADA

In his great speech on the report of the Guelish Commission, Hon. George P. Graham dealt with the following clause in that report:—

"We find that the Transcontinental Railway Commission, the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, and those having charge of the construction of the railway, did not consider it desirable or necessary to practice or encourage economy in the construction of this road."

Mr. Graham pointed out that this was not only a sweeping assertion against men who had spent the whole of their lives in the service of the public, among them eminent professional men, including every engineer who was engaged in the work, but against the Grand Trunk Pacific officials, including the late C. M. Hays and his successor Mr. Chamberlain. Continuing Mr. Graham said that this charge had been placed, not only before the people of this country, but before the financiers of the mother country, who are being asked for money to carry on this great project. We quote further:

"I say this matter will never be complete until the gentlemen who made this report are compelled to substantiate that charge against the Grand Trunk Pacific or retract it on behalf of the Dominion of Canada. Is it an attack on the Grand Trunk Pacific only? Not at all. Even that is serious enough. At the very time when the financial situation in Canada is tense, when some of our great industries are finding it difficult to finance their transactions and carry on their undertakings, when the weak ones in the industrial world are being crowded to the wall, when capital is exceedingly sensitive and it is difficult to obtain it even on good security, this charge is being heaped on a company which is linked up with the Dominion of Canada in a great enterprise. That charge against this company is a charge against the Dominion of Canada and the way it manages its affairs. What will the finance minister think when he goes to the old land and that charge meets him? What will representatives of industrial concerns think when they go to the old land, as some of them have done, and are met with this unfounded charge against an old company? . . . This government has a duty which is as clear as the noonday sun, and that is on behalf of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company and on behalf of the good name of Canada to repudiate the charge which has been made against that company, and which has not one iota of foundation. This unfounded charge has

had its influence. Men are out of employment in one of the big cities of this Dominion on account of the publishing of that unfounded report. Some of the leading men of Montreal, close friends of the prime minister, politically and personally, have no hesitation in saying that this attack is unwarranted, should not have been made, and will injure the Dominion of Canada if not repudiated. . . . We have in this country great industries. We have great enterprises that are going to the old land every day asking for financial aid, and what we in this house ought to do, and what is the duty of the government above all, is to see that the legitimate enterprise is protected, and that the legitimate borrower is not deprived of his rights by any false reports such as the one before me. I am speaking thus strongly because the matter before me has been pressed on my attention during the last few weeks by many prominent men who have no sympathy with the Liberal party whatever. But they feel that a great error has been made in the present financial situation at least in allowing a report of that kind to be spread broadcast, not only throughout Canada, but throughout the old land and throughout the United States, where it is having the effect, and must have the effect of injuring the credit of Canadian industries and Canadian enterprises, unless the prime minister of Canada, in the words of an eminent statesman, is honest enough to be bold and bold enough to be honest, and repudiates at least that part of this report. I am not pleading at all that he should repudiate the part of the report in which attacks are made of a political nature; we will look after them ourselves in the country. But I am asking him on behalf of the industries of Canada, and on behalf of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, not to allow his government to be tied up to such a report as that, because the injury to Canada from such a report cannot well be estimated."

In the course of his speech Mr. Graham amply proved from the report itself that its statements were not justified. The efforts of Mr. Guelish and Mr. Lynch-Staunton will not injure the Liberal party, but they have inflicted very grave injury upon the country.

The war in Mexico lacks the verve and sustained vigor of the mayoralty contest which has opened in St. John.

Rumors that the opposition are not in earnest in their expressed desire to have the charges against the Flemming government probed will be set at rest as soon as the investigation has been fairly opened.

Quintet, the golfer, is said to have captured the hearts of several young ladies in England. Of course, everybody knows that Mr. Quintet is a prime favorite at two parties.

The majority of the young ladies in high society in Ottawa are said to be cigarette smokers. Which is another way of saying that Ottawa young ladies in high society have very little to do that is worth doing.

We appear to have been too hasty in packing away our snowshoes and taking in the rabbit snares. Winter has been playing a rather shabby trick by pretending to go away and then coming back again with such a chilling demeanor.

It would have been much wiser at the Catholic banquet in Winnipeg if those responsible for the programme had followed the usual custom in Canada and in all parts of the British Empire of placing the toast to the king at the head of the list.

The budget debate at Ottawa makes it more and more clear that the people of Canada need not expect or hope for any relief from tariff burdens while the Borden government remains in power. The tendency of the government is to increase rather than to ease the burden.

President Huerta has agreed to salute the American flag as an apology for the wrongful arrest of American blue-jackets. The English press is somewhat critical of President Wilson's action, but it appears to have been justified by the result.

The action of the city council in granting one thousand dollars for the relief of the widows and orphans in Newfoundland is heartily approved by the citizens. The need is great and prompt relief is of double value. Doubtless there will also be private subscriptions, but all the citizens share in the public grant, and in this case that is most desirable.

The Chatham World gives currency to very grave personal charges against Mr. H. M. McLeod, M. P. Mr. Stewart, publisher of the World, is a Conservative and a member of the legislature, and calls for an investigation of the charges which he prefers, "and others of the same kind," before another two million dollars is given to the St. John Valley Railway Company.

## BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

FRIDAY, APRIL 17.

John Macoun, F. R. S. C., assistant director and naturalist of the Geological Survey of Canada, who was born eighty-two years ago today in County Down, Ireland, may well be regarded as one of Canada's grand old men of science. He emigrated to this country when only eighteen and became a farmer. Then he developed a fondness for botany and took up the study of the science, eventually becoming a professor in Albert College, Belleville. A government job followed in 1879 and he was with Sir Sanford Fleming's party which crossed the continent soon after. He was made botanist of the Geological Survey in 1882 and received his present appointment five years later. He has written several books and conducted numerous investigations on behalf of the government.

## LIGHTER VEIN.

The big man with the I-know-it-all expression intently watched the little man who was eating from a sack of peanuts.

"Down where I come from we use peanuts to fatten hogs," remarked the big man.

"That so?" asked the little man. "Here, have some."

"Farm products cost more than they used to."

"Yes," replied Mr. Cornstossel. "When a farmer is supposed to know the botanical name of what he's raisin' an' the zoological name of the insect that eats it, and the chemical name of what will kill it, somebody's got to pay."

One afternoon the bookkeeper employed by a certain corn dealer called into the private office and timidly approached the desk of the boss.

"Mr. Jinks," said he, after some hesitation, "during the last week I have been doing the clerk's work as well as my own, and this being pay day, I thought I would remind you of that fact."

"Let me see," responded the boss, thoughtfully. "You make \$10 a week and the clerk makes \$5. Is that right?"

"Yes, sir," answered the bookkeeper, with a hopeful expression.

"Good!" smiled the boss. "Then as I figure it out you made half a week for yourself and half a week for the clerk. I will tell the cashier to fix the amount at \$7.50."

## Spring Jewelry

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Mrs. M. T. Gardner, Chicago, Ill., says: "After a very serious operation I was a total invalid for nearly a year and a convalescent for months thereafter. I gave the remedies of a number of eminent specialists a thorough trial, but without deriving the slightest benefit. Vinol was recommended. Without the least faith in the merits of the medicine, I took it faithfully, and it seemed to bring back the old color to my cheeks and the elasticity to my step which I had despaired of ever recovering. I can say, conscientiously, that for nervous, run-down people, Vinol is an excellent remedy."

Try a bottle of Vinol. Your money will be returned if it does not restore your vitality and strength. Chas. R. Wasson, Druggist, St. John.

## MEISNER-GIBSON

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert F. Gibson, Bath, N. B., was the scene of a very pretty home wedding when their only daughter, Celia Anna, was united in marriage to George Albert Meisner of Halifax, N. S. on Wednesday, April 15 at two p. m. Rev. Hasen F. Rigby, rector to the Episcopal church at Centerville, N. B. officiated. The bride, who was given away by her half-brother, P. N. Crane, wore a gown of ivory satin caught up with pearls, and a Juliet cap and veil, with string of pearls. She carried a shower bouquet of rich carnations and ferns. Miss Ruth Kearney of Fort Fairfield, Me., acted as bridesmaid. She wore a gown of blue silk crepe de chine and carried a bouquet of pink carnations and ferns. The groom was supported by Hudson E. Rainey of Crossburn, N. S.

Mrs. Gibson, mother of the bride, wore black silk trimmed with brocade satin. The wedding march was excellently played by Mrs. Garfield Larlee. The room was very prettily decorated in pink and white by friends of the bride. After the ceremony a sumptuous lunch was served. The bride is very popular with her acquaintances and has received many exquisite presents. Mr. and Mrs. Meisner left on the afternoon train on a tour of the maritime provinces.

## Log Driving Plans

At a meeting of the St. John River Log Driving Company in the board of trade rooms yesterday afternoon, J. F. Gregory presiding, it was decided to pursue the same policy as last year regarding steam driving. Fred Grant, of Fredericton, will have charge of the work. Mr. Gregory said after the meeting that the drive this year, about 54,000,000 feet, would not be enough if the mills were run on full time. The cut had been small because of poor market conditions. A very heavy freight is now feared by the lumber operators.

## A 22,000 Mile Janst

J. H. Davies, of Liverpool, Eng., arrived in the city yesterday to sail for home on the steamer Virginia. He has had an interesting trip of 22,000 miles having passed through Korea, Siberia,

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## KEEP THE TANGO BUT AS ORIGINALLY DANCED

Paris, April 17—Fifty professors, forming the first international congress of dancing, have given the tango a new lease of life. It was feared that after the hostile campaign waged by the European press against the Argentine dance it would be dealt a death blow by the professional judges. Some members wanted entirely to suppress it. Nothing of the kind happened, but it was decided that it should be maintained as the original Argentine Tango, most refined and quite unobjectionable as thus interpreted. The tango and the furlana also successfully passed the international tribunal censors.

Boston, April 16—Charles S. Mellen, formerly president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Company, may become the active head of a federated body supreme among the various organizations of the United States with which 2,000,000 railroad employees are affiliated.

Washington, D. C., April 19—Although there has been no formal announcement from the White House as yet of the date for the marriage of Secretary McAdoo and Miss Eleanor Randolph Wilson and many guesses have been made as to the time, friends who are in a position to know say that Friday, May 8, has been tentatively selected. It is expected the wedding will be private with Mr. McAdoo's colleagues in the cabinet practically the only guests outside of the two families.

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