

THE SCOTT-M'INNES LETTERS

The Ex-Lieut.-Governor Publishes Correspondence Between Himself and the Secretary of State.

Mr. McInnes Says He Had Seriously Contemplated Giving Up His Position and Re-Entering Dominion Politics.

To the People of British Columbia:

Having to-day been notified by the Hon. Mr. Scott, Secretary of State, that confidential correspondence between myself and the Dominion government would be laid before parliament, I feel at liberty to publish the letters referred to in my open letter to you of the 25th June last.

Mr. Scott is reported as saying in the Senate that he wrote to me, not as a member of the government, but as a personal friend, Senator Scott was never at any time, such a friend of mine as to warrant his writing friendly confidential letters to me.

I was glad that the charges made against you fell flat, and outside of the newspaper discussion, your action did not evoke much criticism in parliament. It must be admitted that the course you took in getting rid of the Turner government was a little more drastic than that usually adopted under similar conditions.

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portunity to pronounce upon the present political situation. However, as above indicated, I will follow your advice in the matter, and await a session in January. You express a hope that I am enjoying my present position. I cannot say that I have found it to be any particular pleasure so far, and I may tell you frankly that I seriously contemplated giving up at an early date a career in Dominion politics.

I sincerely hope that you are right in not attaching the same significance to the elections in Manitoba, Ontario or Prince Edward Island that I do. It is true that the Liberals in Ontario carried the provincial elections for twenty years, while the Conservatives carried the province for the Dominion. But do you not think that "the hiving of the Grigs" had something to do with that result?

You ask me to point out the precise way in which I think the situation ought to be improved. I shall try to indicate briefly, but frankly, what in my opinion, would make your administration more popular in the West—having more particular reference to the Territories and British Columbia.

(1) There should be recognition of the fact that the West is now in process of rapid development, continually presenting new problems and opportunities. The needs are radically different from those of the older parts of Canada—that the political sentiment is far more subject to change than in the East, and that the people will not respond in anything like the same degree to a party appeal.

(2) It is neither fair, nor expedient, that the responsibility of looking after the interests of the whole of Canada, west of Ontario, should be placed upon the shoulders of one man. The people of the far West are not only entitled to, but greatly need, a representative in the cabinet; and such representative, besides being possessed of the usual political qualifications, should be one who has resided a sufficient length of time in the West to become intimately acquainted with its various phases of life.

(3) The immediate enactment of some measure framed to meet the popular demand for more effectual restriction of Chinese immigration. (4) The assistance given by the government to large numbers of what are generally looked upon as undesirable alien immigrants in the Northwest has created dissatisfaction among British-born residents, and should either be discontinued, or greatly lessened.

(5) The establishment without delay of a Canadian mint in British Columbia. (6) The stories from the Yukon as to the corruption of Dominion officials, and the venality of their administration, are generally believed throughout the West, and have had a very bad effect. The administration of the Yukon should be in such a position as to challenge, rather than shun, the closest scrutiny by the enemies of the government.

(7) The establishment of a government railway in the Northwest has created dissatisfaction among British-born residents, and should either be discontinued, or greatly lessened. (8) The stories from the Yukon as to the corruption of Dominion officials, and the venality of their administration, are generally believed throughout the West, and have had a very bad effect.

(9) The establishment without delay of a Canadian mint in British Columbia. (10) The stories from the Yukon as to the corruption of Dominion officials, and the venality of their administration, are generally believed throughout the West, and have had a very bad effect.

new lists. The communications passing between the government and yourself are sure to be called for, and therefore they must not be addressed to me confidentially, as any letters marked private and confidential do not go on file, and this letter, of course, must be treated as confidential and destroyed.

Yours truly, R. W. SCOTT. Hon. T. R. McInnes, Victoria. Government House, Victoria, B.C. May 15, 1900.

(Confidential.) My Dear Scott: I fully appreciate the expressions of sympathy conveyed in your confidential letter of the 13th ultimo, respecting the difficulties with which I have had to contend in endeavoring to secure a stable government. Frankly, however, while I shall always be glad to receive a confidential letter from you, I do not quite appreciate the way in which you have conveyed official directions and instructions in the form of confidential communications.

And I will tell you why. Your letter to me of the 30th August last, although marked "confidential," and so excluded from the list of documents that may be laid before parliament, yet contained definite and specific instructions restraining me from bringing pressure upon my ministers to either call a session of the legislature, or bring on a general election at an early date.

And now, in your letter under reply, also one that cannot be laid before parliament, I am in effect censured for not having heeded the pressure upon my present constitutional advisers to compel them to bring on an early session of the legislature or a general election before the date already fixed. You end your letter by saying: "Any letter marked private or confidential must not go on file, and this letter, of course, must be treated as confidential and destroyed."

I may tell you that no one but my secretary and myself has seen anything of these confidential letters from you, and I do not think that there need be any occasion for taking them from the obscurity of private file, but I would point out to you that you now apparently find my course blameworthy, though having acted in strict compliance with the directions given in your letter of the 30th of August, reading: "Your ministers are the proper judges of the time to summon the assembly, keeping, of course, within the general limit."

Certain portions of that letter are quoted in my report to the Privy Council of the 27th March last. But you object that I could hardly do so, in justice to myself. I think it is done, in such a way, however, as to make further reference to the said letter unnecessary. I certainly should have preferred an official notification from the Privy Council if they considered that I had left anything unexplained or unexplained phase of my action throughout the present crisis.

Not having received one, however, I have undertaken to forward to His Excellency in Council a supplementary report of this date, dealing with the criticisms upon my conduct subsequent to the dismissal of the Semlin government, as far as I could gather them from the Ottawa press dispatches, and your letter under reply. I have stated fully all I have to say touching the points you refer to, without in any way referring to your letter itself. I am not setting up for a constitutional lawyer—but I do say that I have sought to discharge my duties faithfully, and probably as trying circumstances as a Lieutenant-Governor has yet been placed in Canada.

But the attitude taken toward me by some of my old friends and colleagues in Ottawa, at least as represented by the press and private report, has been a genuine surprise to me, and I cannot help thinking that they have been grossly misinformed and misled. Some of the provincial press contain references, and extracts from Ottawa letters, like the following taken from the Greenwood Times of the 27th ultimo: "A prominent Liberal member writes under date of April 11th, as follows: 'We hear to-day that the House is dissolved, and that elections will be held June 9th. Well I would not wonder if Mr. McInnes's scalp if Martin is turned down.'"

Another Liberal who is in close touch with Sir Wilfrid Laurier says: "Blame the Lieutenant-Governor. I know the views of our friends here, and it is very hostile to McInnes." "These views fairly express Sir Wilfrid's position. Very well. Let them 'blame the Lieutenant-Governor' if they will. But it may prove to be no wiser a course than that suggested by Mr. Dunsmuir, editor of the above mentioned paper, who, for doing that very thing, I understand, was expelled from the Liberal Association of Greenwood. And here in Victoria, at the annual election of officers of the Liberal Association, every officer with the exception of Mr. Drury, who has taken a perfectly neutral stand, was turned out, and others elected in their places, in consequence of having taken a somewhat similar attitude to that of Mr. Ross."

no analogy between the two cases. In the one there was a responsible government whose members had been endorsed by the people; in the latter case not a single member of the existing government had then or even has up to the present time received the approval of the people. Only one of them had ever been a member of the legislature, and he had no following; and I think it is without any parallel in the history of constitutional government that a body of men, five-sixths of whom had never been members of the legislature, should be permitted to carry on a government for three months without any public sanction or approval.

It is useless now to comment on it. I was very sorry at the time taken, and as you have observed by the public press all over the Dominion, the propriety of the action taken has been very severely criticised. I have always recognized that the conditions existing in British Columbia during the last eighteen months made your position a most difficult one—the bitter personal feeling shown between the rivals for place and power intensified the embarrassment, as the rivals were so nearly equal in numbers—you certainly have not had an easy task in your efforts to guide the ship of state.

Yours truly, R. W. SCOTT. Hon. T. R. McInnes, Government House, Victoria, B.C. SCHOOL FOR DEAF AND DUMB.

(Continued.) Friends of the school for deaf and dumb pupils will be glad to know that its sessions from 1 to 4 p.m. in A.O.U. W. building will be continued from Tuesday, July 3rd, to Friday, July 6th, inclusive. The distinctness with which the children utter many words repeated for them, seems to prove conclusively that it is only a question of time and training when they will hear and speak like other children, who have never been similarly afflicted. The following letter, which is self-explanatory, was lately received by their teacher, Miss Merritt, from Prof. Urbantschitsch, of the Obere Doehling Deaf Mute Institute of Vienna, to whom she had written a statement of work accomplished by them during the first eight and a half months of their instruction:

Dear Madam—I must first compliment you on your having hit a method for developing the sense of hearing in deaf mutes. For the last twelve years I have devoted much attention to this subject, and since the year 1898 I have repeatedly published my experiences. The most important of these you will find recorded in my book (1), "Uber Hoerhebungen," Vienna, 1895, published by Urban & Schwarzenberg. This work has been translated into French by Dr. Egger in Paris. (2) "Uber Hoerhebungen," Wien, 1899, published by Braumuller (treatment of persons who are not deaf mutes, but simply hard of hearing).

If, on your travels, you should come to Vienna, I can show you many interesting cases, at any time, excepting from the beginning of July till the middle of September. I am yours faithfully, DR. V. URBANTSCHITSCH. Vienna, June, 1900.

VICTORIA CUSTOMS RETURNS. Falling Off in the Chinese Revenue at Past Year—Monthly Statement. June 30th was the end of the fiscal year 1900-1901 in the custom house, and the returns of the twelve-month make an interesting showing. The total revenue for the year comes under that for 1899, the figures being \$961,890.00, as against \$913,222.78 for the period ending with last month. In order to make the comparison a fair one, however, \$3,397.02 for sick munitions funds and \$4,528.84 for steamboat inspection fees have got to be subtracted from the 1898 total, as these revenues are not included in the late returns. The comparison shows among other things a falling off in the Chinese revenue of \$10,830, the total income from this source for the last year being \$134,425. The total receipts for the month of June amounted to \$230,281.23, while the imports were as follows: Free, \$88,025; dutiable, \$170,749; total, \$258,774. The duty collected was \$77,278.90; other revenues, \$24,822.87; and the receipts at Bennett, \$28,183.16. The exports totalled \$88,333, \$464.26 being on the produce of Canada.

IT IS PERFECTLY RELIABLE. "We have sold many different cough remedies, but none has given better satisfaction than Chamberlain's," says Mr. Charles Holzhauser, Druggist, Newark, N. J. "It is perfectly safe and can be relied upon in all cases of coughs, colds or hoarseness. Sold by Henderson Bros., Wholesale Agents, Victoria and Vancouver.

THE FRASER. (Associated Press.) Lillooet, July 5.—The river has fallen about two feet since last evening. The weather is cloudy and cool. Soda Creek, July 5.—The water continues to fall. The weather is rainy.

Advertisement for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, listing various ailments like headache, dizziness, biliousness, etc.

Advertisement for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, mentioning 'Weak Man' and 'Headache'.

Advertisement for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, mentioning 'Headache' and 'Improvements'.

Advertisement for Kendall's Spavin Cure, featuring an image of a horse and text describing the medicine's effectiveness.