

The Herald

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AT 81 QUEEN STREET CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND.

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At The Federal Capital

A wonderful transition has taken place in climate conditions in this part of the Dominion. Summer has succeeded winter, without the intervention of Spring. The snow has about completely disappeared. The only places where some remnants lurk are in the sheltered nooks and crevices of rock along the river bed, though this is true as far as the city is concerned, it is not improbable that snow may be found in some of the outlying wooded districts. No sooner had the snow departed than the grass sprang up. The slopes of Parliament Hill are now quite green. The great lawn in front of the Houses of Parliament is completely covered with grass, and not improbable the lawnmower will soon be at work. Looking down on the river from Parliament Hill, and observing the great white sheets lazily floating down the rapids, one would be disposed to think at first sight, that these were the remains of the ice covering of the river, breaking away under the influence of the mild spring weather. But a little further observation shows that these are nothing more than the product of the operations at the Chaudiere Falls. Far beyond the Falls, as far as the eye can reach up the river, open water is visible at every point. But this turbulent barrier persistently and incessantly throws over its architrave tumbling, swirling, seething waters in mighty waves of foam which break and separate and float down in great detached flecks, as just remarked.

The new Parliament Building has made very considerable progress. It would seem that the main walls have now reached their maximum height, and it is probable that the work of erecting the roof will be entered upon without very much delay. When completed, it will be a magnificent pile, and in every way worthy of the purpose to which it is dedicated. After the destruction of the old building and the removal of the debris, the Parliamentary Library, which alone had escaped the destructive flames, seemed the sole guardian of Parliament Hill. With its grand polygonal dome, smoked begrimed in proof of its passage through the fiery ordeal, it stood in stately isolation, the custodian and guardian of its most valuable contents. Now the gradual and inevitable rise of the walls of the main building is, day by day, shutting out this architectural remnant of Canada's first Parliament Building. Everything around Parliament Hill indicates the advance of summer, even the Lovers' walk has dried up and affords an opportunity to those desirous of quietly pursuing their peregrinations round the base of Capital Hill.

The work of Parliament is going on quite briskly, strenuously indeed, we might say. The daily sittings run far into the night. Adjournment seldom takes place before twelve o'clock and sometimes later. Although much valuable debating has taken place and important measures have been passed along from stage to stage, nothing of a very exciting nature has engaged the attention of Parliament for the last ten

days or so. A very interesting debate took place on Monday the 8th instant, initiated by Mr. Nickle of Kingston, who introduced a resolution of which he had formerly given notice, having for its object the abolition of hereditary titles in Canada. The resolution was in the following words: "That, in the opinion of this House, an Address should be presented to His Most Excellent Majesty the King in the following words:—

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty, Most Gracious Sovereign,

"We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the House of Commons of Canada, in Parliament assembled, humbly approach Your Majesty praying that Your Majesty hereafter may be graciously pleased to refrain from conferring any hereditary titles upon Your subjects domiciled or living in Canada, or any title or honour upon any person other than the person in recognition of whose services the honour or title has been conferred. All of which we humbly pray Your Majesty to take into Your favourable and gracious consideration."

Mr. Nickle backed his motion with a very long and interesting speech, during which he quoted at length from opinions on the subject both here and in Great Britain. After the motion had been discussed, both in the afternoon and evening, Sir Robert Borden took up the matter, and he surprised not only Mr. Nickle but surely every member of the House by the light he threw on the subject under discussion. The facts he produced showed that he had been deeply interested in them after and had given the subject serious consideration. He read to the House Orders in Council and other valuable contributions on the subject, and showed that he had already gone further in this matter of abolishing hereditary titles in Canada than Mr. Nickle or any other Member of the House had thought of. The last proposal presented by Sir Robert was one drawn up by him in the consideration of which is not yet completed, but it is to be taken up by him with the authorities in London when he goes over there some time this summer. Sir Robert's contribution to the debate shows that he is a democrat of democrats, it appeared in conversation after the House was over that so far as his own knight-hood is concerned, he repeatedly declined the offer, and that as a matter of fact he was prevailed upon, or practically speaking, he was forced to accept it. But his contribution to the debate under review and the documents that he has drawn up in connection therewith, show that he is most anxious that Canada shall not be overloaded with these undeserving and more-than-useless titles, especially hereditary titles.

Among other matters taken up during the week beginning April 8th, was a resolution by the Minister of Railways, looking to the furnishing of equipment of Canadian railways, and a vote of \$50,000,000.00 was passed in order to furnish cars and engines and other equipment during the present year. The Prime Minister's Bill asking for a grant of \$500,000,000.00 for war expenditure passed its second reading and was considered in committee. General Mewburn's statement of the military situation in England and France was given to the House, and the Bill for the civil re-establishment of soldiers also passed its second reading. The Woman Suffrage Bill went through its third reading and was passed. Several other bills of importance were passed from stage to stage. By this it will be seen that at this early stage, Parliament had done a tremendous amount of work. At the present rate the Session may not be very long.

The very serious condition of affairs at the front is engaging the attention of the Government, night and day, are most important amendments to the Military Service Act are about to come into force. We have arrived at the stage when, as General Haig says we are fighting with our backs against the wall. The very existence of our Empire is trembling, in the balance. Liberty and civilization itself are in jeopardy and the time has arrived when every citizen of the Empire should consider that he or she is called upon to make some personal sacrifice. The anticipated Amendments to the Military Service Act will be most drastic, and it is likely that all exemptions will be recalled. Men are wanted and must be provided, if we are to preserve the Empire. An unprecedented Parliamentary departure is expected to eventuate on Wednesday the 17th. A secret Session of the House of Commons is to take place. The Senators will be admitted to the Session as well as the Commoners, but no others. No reporters no members of the press, or anyone else except the Members of both Houses. This has been intimated to the House by the Prime Minister and by the Leader of the opposition, whom the Prime Minister has taken into his confidence. The purpose of the secret Session is, we may be sure, to discuss in the freest manner possible, the strenuous war conditions, and the discussion without restriction on either side of the most suitable steps to be taken to meet the serious situation in which we find ourselves.

The Budget Speech

On Wednesday evening last, Premier Arsenault delivered his first budget speech.

The Premier rose to move the House into committee of supply at 8.50 p. m. and before discussing fiscal questions he wished to say that during the session so far there had been very little useless debate, the members had been more serious than usual probably on account of the great war crisis through which the Empire is now passing. At the present time many of our boys are shedding their blood and dying on the blood-soaked fields of Europe that the life and liberty of our country may continue. So that it is no wonder that the rivalries of peace are hushed in the awful strife of war.

In proceeding with the budget speech, he would say very little of the past as this was a time when the present and the future concerned us more than ever. The public accounts have been tabled showing that the difference between cash received and cash paid out was about 22000, but as all the money paid out was not for the expense of running the province such as money paid into the sinking fund and for the redemption of debentures, the province had not gone behind. There was no deficit on the year's transactions as shown by the report of the External Auditor.

It might be said, that in time of war the Government should economize but Public Works had to be kept up and at an increased cost for labor and material. Under the old system Road Inspectors and overcares cost over \$5000 while they collected taxes on 19000 horses and 10,000 persons. Under the present system the roadmasters cost something more but they collected commutation money on 26790 horses and 14443 persons taking all into consideration we are \$3000 a year better off than under the old system.

All contracts of \$10 and over are offered to public competition and are so carried out except where it is not considered expedient, and in all such cases the work has been done cheaper and better.

Last year Falconwood Hospital cost \$26000 extra but this is small in view of the increased cost of materials and labor required. Some of the increases in cost of materials and labour are as follows: Coal \$ 7228.29 Beef 2377.00 Flour 2452.00

Dry Goods & Clothing \$2735.77 Wages 1443.00 Hardware 600.00 Tea Sugar, Oatmeal, etc. 800.00

Compared with similar institutions elsewhere we stand well as the following statement of cost per patient per year shows.

Table with 2 columns: Province, Cost per patient per year. Ontario 7 Hospitals \$183.00, British Col. 2 " 223.00, Saskatchewan 1 " 308.00, Manitoba 3 " 256.00, N. Scotia 1 " 250.00, N. Brunswick 1 " 156.00, P. E. I. 1 " 148.00

In the revenue there have been some shortages. The Fox tax that was originally \$35000 this year yielded almost nothing owing largely to the transition of taxes from animal to pelt basis. Succession duties too have been smaller than usual while there was an increase in Education expenditure on account of the change in vacation. Teachers he considered were still underpaid although some increases had been given in late years. The School Districts were doing better work and no doubt would continue to do so. The following table shows how Government and School Districts compare with the other parts of Canada:

Table with 3 columns: Province, Read by Gov't, Read by District. Ontario 5.8 p.c. 94.2, Quebec 16.3 " 83.7, Nova Scotia 25.4 " 74.6, N. Brunswick 34.8 " 65.2, Manitoba 20 " 80, Sask. 13 " 89, Alberta 6.7 " 93.4, B. Columbia 49.4 " 50.6, P. E. I. 71 " 29.

On consideration of this table people will realize that they must pay more.

Last year in many cases the Annual Meetings did not vote Supplement enough to get a teacher and in several instances second meetings had to be called to vote more money.

The right to vote at Annual Meetings has been given to the mothers of Pupils in the Public Schools. This was not generally taken advantage of last year, but no doubt when the matter has become better known it will be taken full advantage of, much to the advantage of education.

During the year much time has been spent by the Acting Superintendent the Inspectors and teachers in revising the course of studies which he hoped to be able to lay before the House before it rises.

With regard to agriculture he did not wish to say much as the officer who controls that department no doubt would deal fully with the question.

However he wished to say with regard to exhibitions this year they had been discontinued. No exhibitions are being held in the other provinces and the Dominion Government has practically cut off the grants that they used to give for these exhibitions.

These fruitful rivalries of peace are now hushed in the awful strife of war and waste that is now going on in the world. Win-the-war is now the great incentive to greater production and to doing anything that will assist our Empire to come out victorious in the great struggle.

We will have extra expenditures this year. The Opposition has approved of the grant made to the sufferers in Halifax.

The \$5000 given by the Dominion Government has to be duplicated.

While the war has given us extra expenditures it has given us no extra revenue, as in many of the other provinces.

Delegates To Ottawa Return

The joint delegation to Ottawa from the Provincial Government and the Boards of Trade of Charlottetown and Summerside consisting of Jas. Paton and J. J. Johnston from the Legislature, N. Batesbury and W. F. Tidmarsh from Charlottetown Board of Trade and Oref McArthur and J. LeRoy Holman from Summerside Board of Trade returned on Saturday.

This delegation in conjunction with the Island representatives in the House of Commons and Senate urged upon the powers at Ottawa the great necessity of having the P. E. I. Railway

changed to standard gauge as soon as possible.

Messrs. Paton and Johnston had a special interview with the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Borden and on their return home the delegation had an interview with Mr. C. A. Hayes General Manager of Government Railways, and other officials, at Moncton.

It is to be hoped that the road gauge which now, by means of the Car Ferry has been extended to our Island shores, will soon begin to extend itself over the Province and, once begun, no doubt will be completed as soon as possible.

Provincial Legislature

The House met on Tuesday at 12.25. The bill for the appointment of commissioners to provide for uniformity of legislation in Canada was considered. The idea of the bill is to make legislation in the Provinces more uniform in order to avoid any conflict of laws. Commissioners in each province will be appointed to carry out the purpose. The expense of this commission will not exceed \$100.

At 5 o'clock His Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the House and gave assent to the bill entitled "An Act Respecting Time." It was necessary to have this bill assented to now in order that it might go into operation immediately.

At the evening session further consideration, in committee, was given the bill to consolidate and amend the Prohibitory Liquor Act—Dr. McDonald in the Chair. Progress was reported.

On motion of Premier Arsenault, the House went into committee on a resolution respecting town planning. Mr. McNeven in the chair. Premier Arsenault said that Point Burden should be built up as an attractive town. It is the first part of the Province that will be seen by visitors. First impressions are strongest. This is a matter which concerns the whole province. It is important that the town there shall be built up on pleasing lines. The bill to be introduced will not entail any charge upon the Province.

Mr. Bell said that he was in accord with the object of the resolution. He understood that there was disagreement among the owners of property at Point Burden, and he considered it opportune that the law should step in to bring about an agreement. There should be regulations as to the style of the architecture.

The resolution was reported agreed to; and, in pursuance with it, Premier Arsenault submitted a bill respecting Town Planning and Development. Read a first time.

On Wednesday Hon. Mr. Arsenault submitted a resolution looking to a War and Health tax to supplement the ordinary revenue. The House went into committee on the resolution, Dr. McDonald in the Chair, Mr. Bell, Mr. A. E. McLean, Mr. George E. Hughes, and Mr. Howatt took exception to the proposed tax as inequitable and unnecessary; and it was deferred as essential and equitable by Hon. Mr. Arsenault, Hon. Mr. McKinnon and Mr. Dewar. After considerable discussion the resolution was reported agreed to on division, 13 to 7. The routine business of the day was then taken up.

In the evening the Premier delivered the Budget Speech, an account of which appears elsewhere.

Mr. Bell began his reply to the Budget on Wednesday evening, concluding on Thursday afternoon. He made suggestions along the lines of agricultural grants, medical inspection in schools, the abandonment of exhibitions, the distribution of mussel mud. He suggested that in standardizing the railroad the old rails might be used. He criticized the report of the External Auditor saying that, through the fault of the Government, it was not reliable.

Hon. Mr. Daltor pointed out the smallness of the Opposition in opposing, at this time, of great danger to the Nation, a bill granting a few thousand dollars for war and health. Mr. Saunders then spoke and was followed by Mr. Stewart who delivered a brief and excellent address in support of the Government.

(Continued on page 3.)

Military Service Act, 1917

INSTRUCTIONS

All men within Class One, who were twenty, twenty-one or twenty-two years of age on registration, are hereby notified to make all necessary arrangements at once in preparation to being called to the colors.

No leave will be granted for such purpose after they have been taken on strength of the Depot Battalion.

W. W. STANLEY Registrar M. S. A.

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You Want a New Overcoat

You have been planning to get one for weeks now, and of course you want to get the Best Overcoat that your money will buy.

You will be helped to the best \$15.00 Overcoat—in this big men's store of ours.

Here are the specifications:

FUR COLLAR OVERCOAT.....\$15.00

Men's Black Beaver Cloth Overcoat, made in a 50-inch Double Breast Style, with barrel buttons and loops. The fur collar is of 1-piece Black Persian Lamb warm quilted lining, 2 outside pockets, and a feature about this coat is the heavy knitted wristlets. All sizes. Price.....\$15.00

Have you seen our range of \$15.00 Winter Overcoats? You will say they are the best you ever saw. As many have said they are big values for little money. They are made from a good heavy English Tweed, full lined, double breast style, convertible collar that will button up closely round the neck. These coats have a good appearance and will supply the very best in winter comfort. They come in fancy brown, grey and mixed tweeds. Length 50 inches. Breast 36-44. Price.....\$15.00

Mail Contract

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon, on Friday, the 31st May, 1918, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed Contract for four years, six times per week Over Rural Mail Route No. 2 from Armadale, P. E. I. land, from the 1st July next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Office of Annapolis, and at the office of the Post Office Inspector, Charlottetown, April 24, 1918—21.

TENDERS

FERRIES—QUEEN'S COUNTY

China Point Ferry and Elliot River Ferry

Sealed Tenders will be received at this Department until noon on Thursday, April 25, 1918

From any person or persons willing to contract for carrying passengers, baggage, vehicles, horses, sheep, calves, swine, grain, flour meal and vegetables over and across the above ferries for the term of three years from the first of April 1918, in terms of the Act 3, William 4, Cap. 8.

Tenders must express the rates of ferrage on the above severally, baggage, flour and meal at per 100 lb. and grain and vegetables at per bushel.

The names of two responsible persons willing to become bound for the faithful performance of the service must accompany each tender.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

L. B. McMILLAN, Secretary of Public Works, Department of Public Works, Charlottetown, P. E. I. April 17, 1918—21

In the matter of an Election of a Member for the House of Commons of Canada for the Electoral District of King's, in the Province of Prince Edward Island, holden on the Nineteenth day of November, 1917, and the Seventeenth day of December, 1917.

Statement of Legal Expenses of James McIsaac.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. To J. W. McPhee \$ 53.65, B. I. S. Hall 5.00, Laura Knight 5.00, Angus McCormack 5.00, Hudson McDonald 2.00, Elmer Jenkins 2.00, Henry B. McDonald 5.00, George J. Moran 15.00, Ch'town Examiner 50.00, Ch'town Guardian 81.00, Postage 2.00, Telephones .95

By cash A. F. McQUAID, Legal Agent for James McIsaac, Souris, P. E. I., Feb. 16, 1918. April 17, 1918—21

Mail Contract

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon, on Friday, the 10th May, 1918, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed Contract for four years, six times per week.

Over Rural Mail route No 4 from St. Peter's Bay, P. E. Island, on the First July next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Office of St. Peter's Bay, and at the office of the Post Office Inspector.

JOHN F. WHEAR, Post Office Inspector, St. Peter's Bay, P. E. I., April 17, 1918—21

JOHN F. WHEAR, Post Office Inspector, Charlottetown Railway Station from the Postmaster General's pleasure. Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Office of Charlottetown, and at the office of the Post Office Inspector.



Mail Contract

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon, on Friday, the 31st May, 1918, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed Contract for four years, six times per week.

Over Rural Mail Route No. 3, from Hunter's River, P. E. Island, from the Postmaster General's pleasure. Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Office of Hunter's River, Wheatley River, Rustico, and at the office of the Post Office Inspector.

JOHN F. WHEAR, Post Office Inspector, Hunter's River, P. E. I., April 17, 1918—21

Mail Contract

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon, on Friday, the 10th May, 1918, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed Contract for four years, six times per week.

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JOHN F. WHEAR, Post Office Inspector, St. Peter's Bay, P. E. I., April 17, 1918—21

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