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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 1913.

THE SCANDAL MANIA.

The Opposition has got the scandal mania and it cruelly tortures them. It haunts them by day and by night. It disturbs their waking hours and makes the darkness of the shadow of the Interior—who is a specialist in scandals since the McGillicuddy affair—had thrown in a few crocodile tears over the rights and duties which the white man owes to the Indian, there was placed before the House as pretty a piece of unadorned fiction as any novelist of the impressionist school could weave out of a fertile imagination.

Mr. Frank Oliver moved the adjournment of the House yesterday afternoon to discuss the alleged sale of the Kitchikan Indian Reserve at Vancouver. A distinguishing feature of the whole incident, which occupied the attention of the House for four hours, was the liberty of debate given to the Opposition, though the House resolution had already passed into law. There was none of that harsh application, the image of which had for two weeks driven the Opposition into a frenzy of passion over free speech and the liberty of the subject. In fact there was no application at all and the machinery of the House moved along as quietly as in the days when real business was being transacted.

Mr. Oliver quoted from papers the statement that Attorney General Bower of British Columbia had paid on behalf of his Government a quarter of a million dollars to secure the land in Vancouver belonging to the Indians which consisted of eighty acres. Mr. Oliver stated that, according to the information which he had, the transaction had been actually closed and the Indians had left the reserve. He maintained that the land was in reality worth far more than \$250,000 and that the Indians had been cheated.

Now the Member for Edmonton thought he saw a scandal and endeavored to drag in the Dominion Government by stating that they had the responsibility of protecting the Indians, both as to their person and property, and that the alienation of land can only take place under the Indian Act with the consent of the Dominion Government. According to Mr. Oliver the government had allowed the British Columbia authorities to deal with the sacred rights of the Indians as though it was an ordinary real estate speculation. That was the piece of fiction which Mr. Oliver presented to the House, with vehement expostulations of which he is the grand master.

Now it must be remembered that this transaction of which Mr. Oliver has spoken is not legal until the Dominion Government had given their assent. Was that given? All the documents in the Interior Department showed that no official notification of the case had come before the Government. When it comes then the Government will know how to do their duty. In other words, outside some newspaper clippings upon which Mr. Oliver had based his case, there was no ground or justification for the mythical scandal with which he took up the time of the House.

The amazing impertinence of the whole affair is disclosed by Mr. Hugh Guthrie's announcement in his speech that he commended the action of Mr. Oliver in "warning" the Government of what might happen, because there had been so much of a questionable nature already brought to light this Session. The Opposition is so solicitous for the success of the Government that they now waste whole afternoons in teaching them what to do in case something of a certain nature may be presented to them for a decision. The Members of the Opposition have not yet lost the idea that they still govern the country. Like King Lear, the loss of a kingdom has made them mad.

PARCEL POST.

Parcel post stamps to the value of over \$25,000,000 have been issued since the service in the United States started, less than four months ago. Similar success may be anticipated in Canada when the Ottawa postal authorities perfect their plans for its operation.

HYPOCRISY.

Mr. Pugsley's organ, the Times: "Any Canadian Government, with the weapon of closure placed in its hands by Mr. Borden and his supporters at Ottawa last night, would have no difficulty, as Hon. Mr. Emmerson pointed out, in looting the treasury of Canada."

Following this argument to its just conclusion, it is fair to assume that all the acts and deeds of the late Laurier Government were white as the driven snow. Unarmed with "the weapon of closure" no questionable transactions were even attempted. Under the lynx-eyed inspection of the Conservative Opposition the straight and narrow path of rectitude was always followed. "Looting the treasury of Canada" was unknown.

As the self-constituted keeper of the late Government's conscience, Mr. Emmerson may now look forward to quite a busy time, for there are many scandals which the Conservative Opposition "fancied" they unearthed during the fifteen years of the late Government's regime. As there was no Closure, Mr. Emmerson should have no difficulty in making the thick clouds of reproach, which still hang over many transactions of the late Government, vanish into thin air.

Take the "Saw-dust wharf" scandal, for instance. It will afford Mr. Emmerson an opportunity near at home. The main features are well known, but may be briefly recalled. The "Saw-dust wharf," a property of ten acres, was bought in 1902 for \$400 by Mr. Richard O'Leary, a prominent and successful business man and the largest property owner in Richibucto. It was the remains of a wharf built forty years previously on an old mill site, and was composed of saw-dust and mill refuse. Much of the wharf was washed away. It has been unusable for many years. In 1908, the year of the General Election, the emissary of the Liberal Party in Kent County approached Mr. O'Leary and finally secured the "Saw-dust wharf" for \$700. The deed was signed on May 19th, and on June 4th following this emissary of the local Tories signed a document agreeing to sell the property to the Department of Public Works, over which Mr. Pugsley was the presiding genius, for \$5,000. On September 11th following an order-in-Council was passed by Mr. Pugsley, authorizing the purchase, and the payment of \$5,000 therefor.

The General Election was to be held on October 26th. Funds were scarce in Kent County, and time was fleeting. On September 18th the chief engineer of the Public Works Department at Ottawa, received a telegram enquiring if "wharf matter passed Council, this matter important to Mr. Leblanc."

Mr. Leblanc was the Liberal candidate for Kent County. The appeal had its effect and on October 6th a cheque for \$5,000 was mailed from Ottawa to close the transaction.

There was, naturally, an enquiry demanded by the Conservative Opposition as "the Blockers' Brigade" would allow was taken. On April 20th, 1910 in the House of Commons, Mr. O. S. Crockett moved that:

"The evidence taken before the Public Accounts Committee and submitted to this House touching a payment of \$5,000 to T. O. Murray in connection with the purchase by the Public Works Department of the sawdust wharf at Richibucto, New Brunswick, as set out at page V-138 of the Auditor General's Report for the year ending March 31, 1909, discloses that said purchase was a corrupt and fraudulent transaction which deserves the severest condemnation of the House."

The motion was stoutly opposed by the Government and defeated by a vote of 111 to 63.

The foregoing is but the bare outline of the history of a transaction which brought Mr. Pugsley into notoriety throughout the Dominion. It is but one of many similar transactions laid at the door of the late Government during fifteen years in power. Hon. Mr. Emmerson will have his time well occupied if he starts out to prove that the Closure has removed the "difficulty in looting the treasury of Canada."

The Government in power today hold the reins of office by the will of the people. The men who constitute the Government are men of honor and integrity. Their record is above reproach. The Closure is a wise measure and will tend to expedite public business. By means of the Closure, debates will be shortened and confined to the question under discussion. It is, perhaps, not surprising that Mr. Emmerson should see in this measure an arch-enemy to be defamed without mercy. No hon. gentleman will feel the effect of the new rule more keenly than the Member for Westmorland, whose two-hour speeches have long wearied the House and the country.

A Wilsonian Talisman.

(Syracuse Post-Standard, Rep.)
Gridstones are to be true probably because more people will have to put their noses to them when the tariff bill is adopted.

DIARY OF EVENTS

HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA

A POLITICAL UPRISING.

One of the worst political uprisings in the history of Canada occurred in Montreal sixty-four years ago today, April 25, 1849, following Lord Elgin's assent to the Rebellion Losses Bill. Hisses, jeers, paving stones and missiles of all sorts greeted the Governor as he drove away from Parliament House. An excited and violent mob, speedily gathered and soon became uncontrollable. Forcing their way into Parliament House, the rioters drove out the members, and then applied the torch to the edifice. The buildings were destroyed and with them many of the valuable records of Upper and Lower Canada.

Another riot followed a few days later, and Toronto was also the scene of demonstrations. On account of the disgrace of these proceedings Parliament was not more in the Canadian metropolis. For a decade the legislators met in Quebec and Toronto, and then Ottawa, by the Queen's favor, sprang into being as the capital of the nation.

SIR GORDON DRUMMOND.

Ninety-seven years ago today Sir Gordon Drummond, Governor of Lower Canada, formally refused the demand for troops for the protection of the Red River Colony, and enjoined Lord Selkirk, founder of the settlement, to end to the warfare between the colonists and the voyageurs of the North-West Company.

THE HUMAN PROCESSION

PRINCESS VICTORIA.

Princess Victoria Alexandra Alice Mary, only daughter of King George and Queen Mary, will be sixteen years old today, having been born on April 25, 1897. She is the third-born of the six children of the British royal household. Although now just emerging from the early period of a girl's life into young ladyhood, she is remarkably self-possessed in public, and her showy signs of diffidence despite the attention riveted upon her by curious and admiring eyes. Fathers usually have a special fondness for an only daughter, and the Princess is no exception, for Princess Victoria is the "apple of his eye."

The allowance given the Princess for personal expenditures would be sniffed at by many pampered girls of middle-class rank, but from it she has saved enough to establish a goodly bank account. Until the last year or two she often went in person to the post office, opposite Marlborough House, to deposit her savings, but that matter is now attended to by a lady of the court. She is not permitted to wear any jewels except a simple gold chain with a diamond locket, and, on state occasions, a string of perfectly matched pearls.

Queen Mary has let it be understood that no one is to give Princess Mary jewelry of any kind until she passes her seventeenth birthday a year hence. It is said that the Princess has confessed to the ladies of the court that the article of this kind which she most desires is a pair of earrings set with diamonds and rubies.

Officially Princess Mary is still a child, although she is being educated in the social graces preparatory to a formal debut two years from now, when she will be eighteen. Among other things the Princess is being instructed in the art of modelling in clay, and is said to entertain an ambition to become a sculptor. In this she follows the example of her great-aunt, the Duchess of Argyll, who was the pioneer artist among aristocratic women.

THE PASSING DAY.

MARCONI'S TRIUMPHS.

Wireless messages of congratulation were showered today upon Guglielmo Marconi, for the "youngful genius" who triumphed over myriad difficulties and accomplished the seemingly impossible by this day the fortieth year of his wonder-working life. The inventor who made the world gasp at his achievement was born in Bologna on April 25, 1874, of an Italian father and an Irish mother. It was while he was a student at Bologna University that the idea of wireless telegraphy came to him. One day he threw a stone into a pond and idly watched the waves widening all around. Then in a flash of inspiration came the thought:

"If I ring a sound into the air, will it not make sound waves corresponding to those on the pond?"

That thought, in the brain of an inventive genius who had already made a thorough study of electrical science, was the genesis of wireless telegraphy. Newton's apple was hardly more wonderful in its results than Marconi's stone.

Ill fortune as well as good has attended Signor Marconi in the last year. He lost the use of his right eye in an automobile accident last year, and the eye had to be removed. He now wears an artificial eye, so ingeniously contrived that it is not to be distinguished from the natural eye. The young inventor has recently been subjected to bitter personal attacks as the result of the controversy over the Marconi Company's contract with the British government for a chain of wireless stations over the Empire. Signor Marconi's wife is a daughter of the fourteenth Baron Inchiquin. She comes of a family that traces its descent to Brian Boru, through his third son Demetri, who was king of Munster in the twelfth century. The two children of Signor Marconi are more Irish than Italian, though they bear Italian names. The inventor's son and daughter, Giulio and Dagna, have often been described as "the most beautiful children of Europe."

OPHELIA'S SLATE



IN LIGHTER VEIN

Reflections.

Don't use cocktails when trying to feather your nest. Frequently a bull in the market comes out bare.

Odd that it gives one a start to see one's finish. Some men can't have a corking time without a lot of uncocking. Sometimes instead of having an idea we only have an idea that we had. Although there are many in it, fiction writing is a novel business. A girl may be very light-headed and yet not shine in conversation. One would expect them to serve hasty pudding at quick lunch places, but they don't—Boston Transcript.

Can You Beat It?

Victor—Oueh! Say, you advertise that you draw teeth without pain, don't you?
Dentist—Exactly! If you'd asked me to draw your tooth, I'd have done it. Her face is of beautiful contour usually tanned by the sun, with the pink of health showing through. Brown, with her five brothers, she has participated in their games and recreation, and is equally skilled in many sports. Her brothers, especially the three eldest, are of the same type as her preceptor and as the arbiter who will justly settle their disputes.

Revenge in Art.

"That," said the futurist, pointing proudly to the canvas with which he had just finished, "is my attempt to interpret the infinite."
"What did the infinite ever do to you?" asked the innocent bystander. —Chicago Record-Herald.

A Slice of Ill-Luck.

The Patient—Ere, nurse, I don't like my bread buttered on both sides. The Nurse—But it isn't buttered on both sides.
The Patient—Then which side is buttered?

The Inference.

Adolphus—It's an awful shame. My little nephew got hold of that poem I wrote to you and tore it to shreds. Augusta—So the little fellow can read already!

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Diamonds.

The price of Diamonds is continually increasing, but that does not mean that you cannot afford to buy a Diamond.

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Possibly She Had.

Edith—You haven't seen my engagement ring yet, have you?
Marie—I don't know, dear. Who's the man?

Quite So!

Patch—To write fiction I suppose the first requisite is imagination.
Penley—Yes; you have to imagine that your stories will sell or you won't begin.

Flattery Defined.

Tommy—Pop, what is flattery?
Tommy's Pop—Flattery, my son, is having someone else tell us the nice things we have always thought about ourselves.

Refuting Slander.

A man can thread a needle all right if he feels the sewing has to be done and there is no woman around.—Atlantic Globe.

The Solution.

"Ma has solved the servant girl problem."
"That?" "How?"
"She's decided to do the work herself."



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Very Pleasant Entertainment Under Auspices of Sons Of England.

Ven. Archdeacon Raymond, the Orator of the Evening, Delivered Patriotic Address on England's Patron Saint.

The Sons of England celebrated St. George's Day last evening by holding a smoker under the auspices of Marlborough Lodge, No. 207, in the Forster's Hall on Charlotte street, and while their mode of honoring the occasion may have been eclipsed in splendor by the function of St. George's Society, it had more of the spirit of Merrie England, and was enjoyed to the hilt. The virtues of stolidity and reserve which an orator at the St. George's Society function said were the outstanding characteristics of the Englishmen were conspicuous in their absence, everybody entering into the spirit of the celebration in a way that showed the English democracy still preserves the instincts of comradeship, and the joy of life, that characterized it in the days of Elizabeth. Postmaster Sears, enthroned behind a pipe of the size Raleigh used to use, acted as master of ceremonies, being supported in his exalted position by Archdeacon Raymond, Com. Wigmore and Wm. Hawker.

Archdeacon Raymond delivered an interesting address on the Day we Celebrate. He spoke on the importance of the annual reunions in honor of England's patron saint, in encouraging the spirit of loyalty to the Mother Country, and strengthening the ties of brotherhood in the new country. He hoped Canada would never abandon the ideal of one throne, one flag, one feast. Hundreds of thousands of immigrants were pouring into the country; but fortunately many were coming from the Mother Country, the climate would keep out the undesirable element from Southern Europe, and if we did our part in keeping alive right ideals of government, there would be no danger of the decay of British ideals and British traditions. The speakers told many humorous stories, illustrating various types of English, and their experiences in Canada.

W. Hawker said the noblest aspiration a man could entertain was to be an Englishman, not in name only but in spirit and in manner of living, adhering to those ideals of honor and fair dealing which had made the Englishman respected all over the world. Proud as he was of the achievements of Englishmen in war, in the arts of peace, in the upbuilding of the Empire, he felt still prouder of the character of the Englishman which expressed itself in his integrity, his love of justice and liberty.

Speaking of the banquet of the St. George's Society, he said he had been greatly pleased by the speech made by the United States Consul, H. S. Culver, a speech that he felt breathed the right spirit, since what we needed to do today was not to protest against tyranny, but to advance the welfare of the democracy, the bone and sinew of the Empire.

Interesting addresses were also made by Com. W. W. Wigmore, T. H. Carter, the chairman, and a varied programme of musical and vocal selections, comic sketches, etc., were carried out. There was a song by Bro. Cawdell a flute solo by R. E. Edwards, a song by E. C. Gilvan, a duet by Messrs. Bailey and Ester, a song by Bro. Brindle, a musical number by Messrs. Bond, Bagnell and Burton, selections by the Waldron Bros., and Mr. Punter, a duet by the McEachern Bros., and songs by Bro. C. Marley, Bro. Garth and Bro. Punter. Many of the songs were of a patriotic character, and the gathering joined in the choruses with great enthusiasm.

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