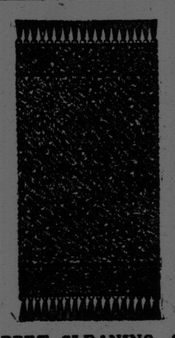
MC 2035 POOR DOCUMENT

HAPPENINGS OF DAY IN THE STORES AND IN THE STREETS OF THE BIG NORTH END



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NEWS NOTES FROM NORTH END OF CITY

Rev. M. E. Conran, M.A., will occupy the pulpit of Portland Methodist church for the first time tomorrow as pastor. He is a native of Chesley, Ontario, and comes to St. John well recommended, after a successful leadership of the Calvary Methodist church in Hamilton, where he has been since his ordination. This is only his second charge. During his pastorate of Calvary church, which is situated in East Hamilton, Mr. Conron set to work with the idea of building a new church, which was greatly needed, and after three years' of arduous work succeeded in having a church erected and dedicated. It has a seating capacity of 1,000.

Mrs. Conron, wife of the new minister, is a woman of charming personality, and has already begun to make many friends among the congregation. She was formerly Miss Rose Shore and was an evangelist of fame. She was well known throughout Great Britain and also preached through the Canadian west, where she was known as the "girl preacher."

Preliminary work has been begun for the paving of part of Main street, near Mill street. It is to be paved on the north side with granite blocks, similar to the pavement which was laid a few years ago on the other side of the street, and which proved so satisfactory. Satisfaction is expressed by merchants along that side of Main street on learning that the blocks are to be laid, and when the work is completed, the lower end of the street will be in excellent condition.

Work on the retaining wall for the reclamation of what was formerly known as the "dump," at the foot of Victoria street, is progressing favorably and a crew of men are employed to rush the work along. The filling has also begun and a novel idea is being carried out, filling in with the old wooden blocks which are being taken up from the street, where the new pavement is being laid. This will also be filled in with rubbish from the street and yards of Victoria street. Commissioner Potts visits the work nearly every day and gives suggestions and directs the work.

The strawberries season this year was very late and the crop also will be very short. The wholesale price at the Indiantown boats advanced yesterday afternoon and the luscious fruit was selling for twelve cents a box by the crate. The price advanced owing to the fact that many persons were looking for berries. It is thought that the supply will soon begin to decline.

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Anaemia is like a spectre that steals on you unawares and drives all happiness out of existence. It is a thief that robs you of your life and energy. Thousands of women in this country are the victims of anaemia (that is, bloodlessness), which spares neither rich nor poor, young or old. It robs woman of her health, her vitality, her beauty—of everything that gives a woman her charm. The chief symptoms of this trouble include a distaste for food, prostrating headaches, extreme langour, loss of weight, nervousness, pale cheeks, lips and gums, heart palpitations, dizziness and a constant feeling of wretchedness.

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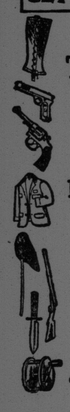

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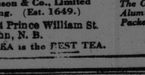

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PREMIER FORCED TO ADMIT THAT HE KNEW W. H. BERRY WAS COLLECTING THE FUND

(Continued from page 5).

with the Partington company. They had been classified, in B, I think. Mr. Robinson's lands were of a different class and we could not exact a different fee from them on the same block. The Partington Company asked that this be made the same as their other holding and we did so.

Q.—Then you did reduce the classification on lands in which James Robinson was interested?

A.—Perhaps, under those circumstances.

Q.—How many times did you talk over this fund with Mr. Teed during the next few months?

A.—I could not say.

Q.—Many times?

A.—I could not say.

More Objections.

Mr. Carvell was asking the witness as to how many times he had spoken to Mr. Teed about the matter, when he objected to answering again.

Mr. Carvell—He is purposely evading the answer because he knows what I am coming to.

Q.—You admit that you had a conversation with him (Mr. Teed), after he received the $22,000 in St. John?

A.—Yes, I did.

Q.—What did he tell you on that occasion?

A.—He told me he got certain moneys in St. John; that is why I got the information about the one amount of the Bathurst Lumber Co.

Q.—It is in evidence that Mr. Teed received $15,000 from Mr. Beattey on July 15; did Mr. Teed tell you about that?

A.—No, I don't think he did tell me that he got $15,000 from Mr. Beattey.

Q.—And you never knew that Mr. Cutler paid $15,000 until you heard the evidence here?

A.—I never knew it until I either heard it or read it in the newspapers.

Q.—Did you have a talk with Berry about these contributions?

A.—I had very little conversation about it at all.

Q.—Did you ask Mr. Berry what he was doing in Chatham when Mr. Teed was there?

A.—No, I don't think I did.

There were objections by counsel to the questions.

Mr. Carvell—Mr. Berry was an official of your department under your instructions?

A.—Yes, doing his duty.

Q.—Yes, and things that were not his duty as well?

A.—He did his duty very well as the results show.

Q.—Did you ever meet him in Fredericton?

A.—Yes, frequently.

Q.—After June 27, 1913?

A.—Yes.

Q.—After Teed told you of being in Chatham on that occasion?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Did you ask him what he was doing in Chatham on that occasion?

A.—No.

Q.—Did you ever ask him?

A.—No.

Q.—Did you ever talk to him after he took a hand in the collection of the money?

A.—No.

No Reprimand.

Q.—Did you ever reprimand him?

A.—No.

Q.—Did you ever threaten to discharge him?

A.—No.

Q.—Or to suspend him?

A.—No.

Q.—Well, will you swear that he disobeyed your orders?

A.—I could not swear that he did or not.

Mr. Fowler objected and Mr. Carvell said that if he could only get yes or no as an answer he would be able to shorten the examination very materially.

To witness—Did Mr. Teed tell you anything about going to see Senator Jones, of the Partington Pulp & Paper Company?

A.—I think he did.

Q.—When was that?

A.—Some time at the latter part of 1913.

Q.—Was it in the month of October?

A.—I think it may have been.

Q.—You accept that as being the time?

A.—I have no recollection of it.

Q.—What did he tell you about it?

A.—He told me that they had gone over in a car to the Partington place but he did not tell me very much except that Mr. Berry had gone in while he remained in the office or in the car.

Q.—Did he tell you that money was paid on that occasion or not?

A.—I don't remember that. I don't think he did.

Q.—Did he tell you that the money was not paid?

A.—I heard Mr. Jones give his evidence and my recollection is that—

Q.—Did you have two conversations with Mr. Teed about going to see Mr. Jones?

A.—I am rather doubtful but my impression is that my conversation was after the money was paid.

Q.—Did he ever tell you that he had the money from the Partington Pulp & Paper Company?

A.—I don't remember that, but I never knew what the Partington Pulp & Paper Company contributed until I heard it in court.

Q.—I want to know did Mr. Teed tell you the Partington Company had contributed?

A.—I did not know how much until I heard Mr. Jones give his evidence, but I believe Mr. Teed did say he got some money.

Q.—From whom?

A.—I don't know from whom, whether it was Mr. Jones or who he got it from.

Q.—And that he had nothing to do with it and that he stayed outside?

A.—Yes.

Q.—And you believe he was narrating the occasion when the money was paid to Berry?

A.—It might have been, I cannot say.

Mr. Teed objected and Mr. Carvell protested that he had never known a case where he was interrupted so often just as he was getting to his point. As soon as he got the witness in the place he wanted his friends objected.

Q.—Did Mr. Teed tell you he was making progress with the Partington Pulp and Paper Co.?

A.—I don't remember.

Q.—Didn't you know from Mr. Teed that he had gone there on at least one occasion and that he did not get the money?

A.—I may have heard it from Mr. Teed.

Q.—And you heard that he went there again with Berry and that Berry went inside and that the money was paid?

A.—I didn't know that he went a second time.

Q.—What did you think they had gone for unless it was for money?

A.—They may have gone for that purpose.

Q.—Did Mr. Teed tell you that they had gone for that purpose?

A.—Mr. Teed certainly did not go for that purpose because there had been no talk about it.

Q.—Didn't Mr. Teed tell you that he went for that purpose?

A.—I don't think he did.

Q.—You think they did not go for money?

A.—Mr. Teed, so far as I can recall the conversation about it, said he had gone in an automobile—

Q.—What for?

A.—I do not know what for, but that he had remained outside.

Q.—Didn't he tell you what they went for?

A.—He didn't tell me what they went for. He said the Partington Pulp and Paper Co. had contributed some money but how much I never knew until I heard the evidence.

Q.—Do you swear that Mr. Teed went there and did not tell you that they went there for the money?

Getting Warmer.

A.—I don't know.

Q.—Will you swear he did not tell you?

A.—I can't swear.

Q.—What did you think they went for?

A.—I think Mr. Berry went to talk the matter over.

Q.—What did Mr. Berry want to talk it over for?

A.—I don't know. It may have been to talk the mater over.

Q.—What matter?

A.—The matter you are referring to.

Q.—The $15 a mile on the timber limits?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Have you any doubt about it?

A.—I think he did.

Q.—I am glad we have one answer. Don't you believe Mr. Teed went there for that purpose?

A.—I think he did.

Q.—Didn't Mr. Teed come back and tell you that?

A.—I don't remember that.

Q.—Then you had knowledge that Berry in violation of your instructions went to the Partington Pulp & Paper Company to get the $15 a mile?

A.—That I had a knowledge?

Q.—You believed that Berry in violation of your instructions went to the Partington Pulp & Paper Company to get the $15 a mile out of them?

A.—I didn't say he went to get it out of them. He went to talk it over.

Q.—You draw that distinction, do you?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Do you believe it?

A.—It is impossible for me to say.

Q.—Don't you believe that Berry went there to get money on that occasion?

A.—Well, it is impossible for me to say.

Q.—I am only asking for your belief?

A.—It is impossible for me to tell. I assume that he likely talked about the money, judging from the evidence of Mr. Jones.

Q.—About the money?

A.—Yes.

Q.—That is a fair answer. Was Mr. Berry an official of your department, and when did you see him after this?

A.—I don't know—

Q.—With that belief in your mind did you make any reference to it to Mr. Berry?

A.—No.

Q.—Then you never reprimanded Mr. Berry for getting the money or attempting to get the money?

A.—No.

Q.—Did you understand that Mr. Brankley was to get the money from the St. John people?

A.—I did not understand specially about it.

Q.—Going back to the first conversation when Berry said that the lumbermen were to make contributions, did he tell you that Mr. Brankley was to have entire charge of the fund?

A.—I don't remember.

Q.—Did you then think that Brankley was to gather all the money?

A.—I don't know that I thought he was to go over the whole province or only a part.

Q.—Did Mr. Berry tell you that he was to gather the money for every part of the province?

A.—No, nothing about that.

Q.—That was not discussed between you and Mr. Berry at all?

A.—I don't remember it being discussed. I don't remember the conversation with Berry at all.

Q.—Was any person mentioned as the proper person to collect the money in the St. John end?

A.—The recollection I have was that Mr. Teed was in a position to get that. Outside of the information that came to me from Mr. Teed about the Partington Pulp & Paper Company having contributed something and the Stetson Cutler Company I don't know about any other.

Q.—You told me a little while ago that you did not know that the Stetson Cutler Company contributed anything?

A.—I said I did not know it was $15,000.

Q.—Then you believed they contributed something?

A.—I thought they had.

Q.—Didn't you know it? Didn't Mr. Teed tell you something?

A.—I am not sure about it, but he may have.

Q.—Now you say you knew they contributed something. I want to know from what source you had it?

A.—It is likely Mr. Teed. I had the impression in a general way from conversation that they had contributed something.

Q.—That is a distinct advantage. Were you surprised when Mr. Beatteay said he paid $15,000?

A.—Well, I was not greatly surprised but I did not know that he had contributed.

The Same Amount.

Q.—Was not that the exact amount that George Cutler mentioned to you some weeks ago?

A.—It is the same amount, though they had no connection one with the other.

Q.—Did Mr. Berry ever tell you that some of the lumbermen were afraid to contribute the money?

A.—No, sir. I don't remember that statement.

???shrdlu cmfwyp

Q.—Did Mr. Berry say the lumbermen in Chatham had consulted H. A. Powell professionally as to whether they would be criminally liable if they contributed according to Berry's demand?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—This is the first instance that you have heard that statement?

A.—Yes, the very first.

Q.—Did Mr. Powell ever tell you that these men had come to him professionally as to their legal rights?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—Did James Robinson?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—And you never heard that these lumbermen were afraid, that they were liable criminally for what they might be doing?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—It is all news to you?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Do you believe this money was a voluntary contribution?

A.—Yes, from the evidence of most of the witnesses.

Q.—Do you believe it was voluntary from all of them?

A.—Mr. Rundle's evidence did not sound as if it was.

Q.—Do you believe Mr. Rundle contributed voluntarily?

Mr. Teed objected to the question. After considerable argument the question was allowed.

Witness (answering the question)—From the evidence it did not sound like it.

Mr. Carvell—Do you now believe that Mr. Rundle contributed voluntarily? Yes or no.

Witness hesitated for a long time before he answered the question, then addressing the chairman he asked: Have I to answer the question "Yes or no?"

The Chairman—If you can.

Again the witness hesitated for about a minute and then replied: I can't decide in my mind whether to answer, Yes or no.

Mr. Carvell—Justification for asking the question, you see. Did you believe that Mr. Fenderson paid the money voluntarily?

A.—I ask the commission to tell me. I don't think I should be asked to submit judgment on the evidence of other witnesses.

Mr. Fowler objected formally and the witness added:

"I feel very strongly on the matter. I should not be asked to go over this evidence and say what I thought of the different witnesses. It seems to me it puts me in a position I should not be put into.

Mr. Carter—It seems to me to be asking him to be jury on his own case. (Laughter.) He added that if so the witness ought to have the whole of the evidence read to him.

The question was allowed and on its being repeated the witness said that he thought he ought to have the whole of the evidence read to him before he could answer.

Mr. Carvell—Mr. Carter, I congratulate you. The witness has picked up your hint very well.

A number of questions were then asked about the regulations of the stumpage rates and the talk before the bill was introduced.

Mr. Carvell—Was there anything said that there should be a continuous rate of stumpage for ten years?

Witness—No.

Q.—Had you not promised the lumbermen before that it should be there (in the bill?)

A.—As I stated yesterday the matter was discussed by my colleagues and it was agreed.

Q.—Didn't you tell some of the lumbermen personally that it should be there?

A.—As it was the intention——

Q.—Did not you tell some of the lumbermen personally that the provision would be there?

A.—No, I don't remember doing that.

Q.—Did you tell Mr. Berry it would be in the licenses?

A.—No, I don't remember telling Mr. Berry.

Q.—Did you tell Mr. Berry there would be a continuous rate of stumpage for ten years?

A.—I probably told Mr. Berry when we met at Fredericton either at the time the bill was going through the legislature or afterwards that it was the idea to revise the rates making new rates from August 1, 1913 continuous for ten years.

Q.—Didn't you tell Berry that the price of spruce, pine and cedar would be a dollar and a half?

A.—I don't think I told him.

Q.—Will you swear you didn't?

A.—No, I won't swear.

Q.—You heard the lumbermen say that Berry told them that the rate of stumpage would be that for ten years?

A.—The rate was not definitely fixed before the order in council was passed.

Q.—Was it fixed before June 27?

A.—My recollection is that it was finally discussed and fixed at that time (when order in council was passed) July 10.

His View of Rates.

Q.—Do you want to state that you had not told Berry prior to June 27 that the stumpage rate would be a dollar and a half for ten years?

A.—I never told Mr. Berry what was not true. I might have stated that my own views would be that an increase of 25 cents on spruce and pine and possibly a larger increase on some of the others—

Q.—You are taking a long time to say Yes or No, Mr. Flemming. Did you give him your view and was not your view one and a half dollars prior to June 27?

A.—I may or may not.

Q.—Did you tell him that before June 27?

A.—You did not ask me that.

Q.—Did you tell Mr. Berry that was your view before June 27?

A.—I may or I may not.

Q.—Is that the best you can do?

A.—I do not know that I had a conversation.

Q.—Did you or not tell him your view before the 27th day of June?

A.—I cannot answer that question, yes or no.

Q.—Will you swear you did not?

A.—No.

Q.—Did any of the lumbermen come to you about it?

A.—I don't think there was anything said for some considerable time because we made four new leases last year but I think Mr. Burchill, Mr. Ritchie and I am not sure, Mr. Robinson, called attention to it not being stated in the licenses about the continuance of the rate of stumpage.

Q.—Is that the first time they approached you?

A.—I had had communication with some of the lumbermen before that.

Q.—Did you have a conversation with Mr. Robinson in the Barker House before that? About the ten years?

A.—It is quite likely but I don't recollect.

Q.—Didn't you promise Mr. Robinson that you would attend to it that afternoon?

A.—I don't remember.

Q.—And as a result of your not attending to it a delegation came to see you?

A.—I don't know about that.

Q.—Did not Mr. Robinson tell you in no uncertain tones that it had to be passed?

A.—No. What do you mean by 'No uncertain tones'? If he had told me so I should have said it was a matter for the council. I have no recollection of having spoken about it except in an ordinary way. There was no dispute about it. The order in council was not passed because of any pressure by the lumbermen or because of the delegation but because the mater had been discussed while the matter was going through the legislature and it was an omission.

Q.—Do you swear that no pressure was brought to bear on you by the lumbermen?

A.—I will swear that it was not passed as the result of their representations.

Q.—Was there any pressure?

A.—Not as I understand pressure.

Q.—Any threats made?

A.—No.

Q.—No reference to this party fund?

A.—Never a suggestion.

Q.—Nothing that you called pressure?

A.—Nothing whatever.

Q.—It was passed by you, so far as you were concerned, voluntarily?

A.—Yes, as the result of what had happened while the bill was being considered and at the time the order was—

Q.—And did you then think, and do you now think that it was a proper proceeding from the standpoint of the province?

A.—Yes, I believed it would be a good thing.

An Unsigned Document.

Q.—Go back to the time these charges were laid in the legislature. Do you know anything of a document having been drawn up to be signed by Mr. Berry that there was no truth in the charges and no foundation for them? Did you know that such a document was to be drawn up-

A.—No.

Q.—Do you know that Mr. Berry had been asked to sign such a document, and do you know that such a document is in existence unsigned?

Witness asked permission to speak to his counsel and was permitted, and he then replied: I will not say I did not know, but I was told so by one of the counsel in the case.

Q.—Were you told by Mr. Berry?

A.—No.

Q.—Did he say he had been asked to sign this document?

A.—I am not very positive about that. He was in Fredericton at the time, and he came to my room next day and we talked about the charges, and he mentioned to me that he would be prepared to make an affidavit or a declaration, a sworn declaration in regard to the charges that they were not true. He seemed to have the impression at that time that if he did so it would be sufficient.

Q.—Did he mention Mr. Brankley's name?

A.—I don't remember.

Q.—Anyway that if he denied and Mr. Brankley denied, you would get through without a committee?

A.—That is what he said to me.

Q.—Did not you know that the document was drawn up?

A.—I didn't know.

Q.—Do you know that Mr. Berry refused to sign?

A.—I don't know.

Q.—Do you know where the document is?

A.—I don't know about it.

Q.—Have you heard that it is in the hands of his solicitor in St. Stephen?

A.—No, I never heard that before.

Q.—Did you talk about this document on your trip from McAdam to St. Stephen with him on June 3 last?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—Do you know of a document that was signed by Mr. Berry?

A.—That is a pretty broad question.

Q.—Regarding the truth or otherwise of these matters?

A.—No.

Q.—Do you know anything of a statement by Mr. Brankley that there was no truth in the charges?

A.—No.

Q.—Did you hear on Tuesday, April 7, that Mr. Brankley had made a statement that there was no truth in these charges?

A.—I think I did. I think I heard that Mr. Brankley had been talking about it and had expressed the opinion that the charges were not true, but I don't know that there was a document or that he had signed it.

Q.—Did you hear of it in the form of a newspaper interview?

A.—I think there was something published in the Gleaner.

Q.—No, it did not get into the Gleaner. It got into the Gleaner office but not into the newspaper.

A.—Speaking from memory I think there was something of Mr. Brankley being in the city and—

Q.—Did you hear that Mr. Brankley demanded the statement back from the persons?

A.—I never heard of it.

Q.—You never heard that he got the statement back before he went to bed that night and that Mr. Brankley had prepared a statement?

A.—No.

Q.—Did he suggest to you that you prepare a statement for the legislature and did you agree?

A.—I did not agree or disagree. He suggested it in conversation and he was in and out several times.

Q.—Did you agree to that or not?

A.—To prepare a statement?

Q.—Yes.

A.—I don't know that we made any agreement. The matter was talked over. He did not ask me to prepare a statement but I don't remember—

Q.—Did he say he would or not?

A.—He expressed himself as ready to prepare a statement that the charges were not correct.

Q.—And was that not prepared?

A.—I don't know.

Why Denial Was Delayed.

Q.—This brings me back to the other point. Why did not you make an announcement in the legislature that there was no truth in the charges?

A.—I was going upon the impression that the proper time to refer to it and to deal with it was the Thursday after it came up. Had it not been for that I should have referred to it.

Q.—You don't think that under the rules of the legislature you had the legal right to refer to it before Thursday?

A.—No.

Q.—Do you now think you had not?

A.—I do not know.

Q.—You still persist in saying that you did not know the rule of the house on that subject?

A.—I do not know that under a question of privilege it is different from the ordinary.

The royal commission adjourned at this point until Monday at 2 o'clock.

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