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CASSELLS' REPORT FEELS EXCUSES FOR OFFICIALS

Poorly-paid Officials Sorely Tempted, and Harding and Gregory Are Gently Dealt With—Ministers of Marine Given Good Character.

A BOARD OF EXPERTS TO BUY ALL SUPPLIES

OTTAWA, Jan. 22.—(Special).—That the entire business of purchasing supplies for the government should be entrusted to a board of experts. That the cure for graft lies in the awakening of the public conscience; that officials on small salaries are subjected to temptations of which the ordinary citizen knows little or nothing.

These are the observations in chief which Judge Cassels makes upon his investigation into the marine department. The report was tabled in the commons to-day by Hon. L. P. Brodeur, minister of marine and fisheries. The evidence fills 14 volumes of about 150 pages each.

Incidentally Judge Cassels condemns the late Hon. Raymond Prefontaine and Hon. James Sutherland, as ministers of marine, from any responsibility for the existence of graft and bribery payment in the department over which they presided, and gives Hon. Clifford Sifton a clean bill of political health in the matter of contracts with the department. In all the report there is not a whisper of suspicion against the fisheries branch.

"I am not here to judge Mr. Prefontaine or his policy or the manner in which his department was administered," says Judge Cassels. "There are but two places where I would consider any reflections are cast upon him. The one I have referred to in dealing with J. F. Fraser, the other in a statement made by Mr. Gregory in his defence given at Quebec. He stated in reference to Davis, who gave for a period of about eleven years to Mr. Gregory the sum of \$500 per annum, that he was very friendly with Davis, but did not think that so reason for him to ask for anything, and when his minister said 'Try and get some money out of those who can afford to pay,' he replied that I do not know any man who could trust himself with Davis, and if he would lend him the money he would take care of it."

The judge proceeds: "It has to be borne in mind that for years preceding this alleged graft and for a long period prior to Mr. Prefontaine's resignation had been receiving yearly sums from Davis. I think it would be very unjust to the memory of the deceased to state that he accepted such evidence as that of Gregory or J. F. Fraser as casting any slur upon him, and I feel it my duty to state that I do not so accept."

"Nearly all the officials of the department have been examined before me, and I have formed a high opinion of the honesty of the majority of them. I have not the slightest imputation of wrong-doing, not that I desire to convey that those named are guilty of wrong-doing, I have reported on each and given my conclusions."

Mr. Borden resorted to figures and blamed it on the gerrymander. If we had proportional representation, which previous to 1896, Sir Wilfrid strongly favored, the government would have a majority of 404, or without the Speaker's vote. According to Sir Wilfrid's logic, the last election had been fought on the most infamous gerrymander perpetrated in the history of the member representing 6520 votes, while each Liberal represented 411 voters. No doubt the right hon. gentleman, with his sense of honor, would redress the grievance.

Mr. Borden touched on the Hocken letter, the case of the Hon. N.S. He became aware that the pamphlet was being circulated in the constituency previous to 1896, and a certain religious belief. He had not seen it before, but within 24 hours he had learned that a pamphlet had been sent from Halifax to papers in Montreal, that the pamphlet had made its appearance contemporaneously with his arrival.

Producing a copy, Mr. Borden read this slip attached: "This is a sample of the literature circulated by Conservatives in Orange and Protestant centres. Sir Wilfrid Laurier is a Catholic, and because he is a Catholic he must be defeated. (Liberal hear, hear.) Will you stand for this?" The statement, commented Mr. Borden.

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MORSE FORCED OUT OF THE G. T. P.

General Manager Resigns Because the Government at Ottawa Refuses to Further Deal With Him.

IN EARNEST

MONTREAL, Jan. 22.—(Special).—The Dominion Government, having absolutely declined to treat any longer with F. W. Morse, vice-president and general manager of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, that gentleman has placed his resignation at the disposition of the board of directors, who will consider, and, no doubt, accept the same without delay, while Mr. Morse has sailed for the Mediterranean.

Altho he left New York yesterday, the resignation was not known generally in the city before 5 o'clock this afternoon, yet so sudden a move on the part of so well-known a railway man did not fail to create almost a sensation in railway circles here.

Charles M. Hays, president of the Grand Trunk Pacific, gave out a statement this evening to the effect that there was no friction between the president and vice-president, and that he regretted the departure of Mr. Morse, and that the work of the general manager would be always considered as a tribute to his ability and knowledge as a railway man.

The president absolutely refused to further discuss the departure of Mr. Morse. It is a well-known fact that the members of the Laurier government, and more especially those who have been brought into close contact with the vice-president, have been very hostile to the young railwayman.

It is quite probable that several things contributed to create this misunderstanding. In the first place, every contractor in the country was an open enemy of Morse, and again his supporters of the ministry were being generally rubbed down the wrong way by him. It was stated many times that Mr. Morse was too partial to American contractors.

The manner of his departure was exceedingly dramatic. This afternoon, about 5 o'clock, letters written on board the train between Montreal and New York were delivered to the members of the press in this city, saying that Mr. Morse had resigned, and that he would explain his position at a later date. W. Stewart, the G.T.P. contractor on the first hundred miles east of Prince Rupert, saw Mr. Morse in New York last night, and altho he told him that he was sailing for the south of Europe, the news came as a complete surprise to the government, and Hon. G. P. Graham and his colleagues will not discuss the matter.

Surprise at Ottawa. The government is much disturbed to-night by the resignation reported by cable from London of F. W. Morse from the management of the Grand Trunk Pacific. The news came as a complete surprise to the government, and Hon. G. P. Graham and his colleagues will not discuss the matter.

TO OPPOSE TEMPLEMAN

Conservatives to Contest His Election in Comox-Atlin.

VICTORIA, B.C., Jan. 22.—(Special).—Hon. Sir Templeman will have to fight for Comox-Atlin, altho his predecessor, Mr. Sloan, was elected by a narrow margin. Three hundred Conservatives in provincial convention here to-day favored placing an organizer at once in the constituency, and the nomination of Mr. Sloan as a candidate.

Premier McBride congratulated the association on its effective work in organizing within two years over eighty clubs throughout the province, and Woodworth of Vancouver was elected president, succeeding G. H. Barnard, M.P.

CHURCH STIRS BIGAMY CHARGE

Pressed, Quebec Authorities to Order Arrest of Woman Under Peculiar Circumstances.

MONTREAL, Jan. 22.—(Special).—A warrant issued for the arrest of Mrs. C. F. Cleveland of Richmond, Que., on a charge of bigamy, has not yet been served, as it is the general opinion that she is still across the border. Her husband has been confined to his house for some time by illness.

The history of the case is as follows: Mrs. Cleveland, secretary-treasurer of the town, whom she knew before leaving Richmond, and during one of her visits became acquainted with John D. Smith, a hardware merchant on Main-street, St. Simon's Church, Montreal. They lived together for a few years and then separated. Mrs. Smith went to South Dakota, where she resided for a time and applied for a divorce, which was granted.

She then returned to Richmond and was soon seen frequently with E. F. Cleveland, secretary-treasurer of the town, whom she knew before leaving Richmond, and during one of her visits became acquainted with John D. Smith, a hardware merchant on Main-street, St. Simon's Church, Montreal. They lived together for a few years and then separated. Mrs. Smith went to South Dakota, where she resided for a time and applied for a divorce, which was granted.

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LORD NORTHCOTE, Former Governor-General of Australia, Who, it is Reported, Will Succeed Earl Grey as Governor-General of Canada.

LONDON, Jan. 22.—The Times states that the waterways treaty gives the United States 20,000 feet of Niagara water per second, and Canada 38,000 feet.

THE WATERWAYS TREATY WHAT CANADA GETS

NEW YORK STATE has cancelled the unlimited charters given to the two companies to take water some distance above the falls.

Canada gets half the flow of the St. Mary's River question. The generating of power on the St. Lawrence River near Cornwall is not specially dealt with.

CAN'T HAVE THE MONUMENT

South Crosby Man Wanted a Statue Near Sir John Macdonald's. BROCKVILLE, Jan. 22.—(Special).—At the inaugural meeting of the Kingston Council a communication was had from a Brockville firm of solicitors stating that according to the terms of the will of the late John Cannon of South Crosby, the testator desired that a bronze monument should be erected to his memory in the city park near the site of Sir John Macdonald's.

The will required the local surrogate court officials to-day. J. P. Teit of Newboro was named as trustee, with specific instructions for converting the estate into money and applying it for the purchase of a statue and a marble monument over his grave, if enough was left for that purpose. Teit refused to act and T. G. Leach of Newboro has been granted administration. The estate, which is valued slightly over \$500, will be distributed among the brothers and sisters after a suitable monument is erected on his grave. The other portion of the will cannot be complied with.

PHYSICIAN REFUSES PAROLE

TRENTON, N.J., Jan. 22.—Dr. Reuben E. Thompson, who was sentenced to eighteen years in state prison on January 1, 1902, on conviction of murdering in Monmouth County, refuses to leave prison on parole on the ground that unless he gets a pardon he cannot be reinstated as a physician.

C. M. A. VOLT CITY INSURANCE MATTER

Want Some Action Taken to Compel the Underwriters to Give Better Rates—The Other Side.

"It is an attempt to create ill-feeling between the city and the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association, on the part of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association that is entirely uncalculated for," said J. A. Robertson, secretary of the Western branch of the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association, when asked what he thought of a resolution sent by the C.M.A. to the mayor yesterday.

The resolution, dealing with the reduction in rates accorded by the underwriters' association following completion of the new high pressure system, was passed at a meeting of the executive council of the C. M. A. The resolution says that: "Whereas, immediately following the Toronto conflagration of April, 1904, the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association placed a special surcharge of one dollar per hundred dollars on fire insurance rates on all business except fire proof buildings and risks protected by automatic sprinklers within the district of the city called the congested area, and in August of the same year introduced a new system of rating with a key rate of 1 per cent, which had the effect of still further increasing the rates; and in October, 1907, at a joint meeting of the underwriters, the board of trade, the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and the board of fire control, it was agreed that, on the completion of the high pressure system the key rate would be reduced to 50c on buildings and only 5c on contents."

"And, whereas it now appears that the new rates being issued by the underwriters' association do not average a net benefit of more than fifteen per cent, on buildings, and 10 per cent, on contents, on the rates existing at the close of 1908."

"And, whereas it would appear from the returns submitted to us that the reductions now being made do not average a net benefit of more than fifteen per cent, on buildings, and 10 per cent, on contents, on the rates existing at the close of 1908."

"Be it resolved, that the Canadian Manufacturers' Association thru its executive council protest against the adequate recognition by the Underwriters' Association of the large amount of money spent by the city in improvement in the waterworks and fire department, and in the installation of the high pressure system, and that they are of the opinion that the council thru the mayor and the board of fire control should not only demand from the Underwriters' Association an explanation of their present action, but that they should also pursue the subject further with a view to securing for the citizens an adequate return on the money expended in the improvement of the fire fighting appliances."

"The association would also urge upon the mayor and council the desirability of bringing the waterworks system and the department in a condition that would secure fire insurance rates not higher than those in force prior to the conflagration of 1904."

"When I say that we are quite prepared to substantiate the various statements made above, I am sure that the matter will appeal to yourself and to the members of your council as one of sufficient importance to warrant an investigation on the part of the city."

"The accompanying letter from Secretary Murray concludes: 'I need scarcely say that we shall be glad to appear before the council at any time that you may desire to hear us in support of our contention.'"

Robertson, commenting further, said that if the letter, which he had written in any of its statements it gave a wrong impression in supposing that the city has carried out the requirements on which reduction was promised.

"They have not carried out the requirements," contended Mr. Robertson. "Admitting that we promised to reduce the key rate, we have actually carried out the reduction on all buildings. On stocks, more than the full equivalent of improvement has been made, leaving out of sight altogether the fact that it is not over four years since the agreement was made and in the meantime conditions have changed."

"In regard to the paragraph stating that it now appears that in the new rates being issued by the underwriters the reduction of 50c on building key rates is not being carried out, it is absolutely untrue, as it is being carried out. The key rate was \$1 and is now 50c."

"The only thing they can say is that because there was an intermediate reduction made we are only allowing 25c, but the key rate is absolutely reduced," he said.

Regarding the protest against the inadequate recognition by the underwriters' association of the large amount of money spent by the city in improvement in the waterworks and fire department, and in the installation of the high pressure system, and that they are of the opinion that the council thru the mayor and the board of fire control should not only demand from the Underwriters' Association an explanation of their present action, but that they should also pursue the subject further with a view to securing for the citizens an adequate return on the money expended in the improvement of the fire fighting appliances."

RUSSIAN LOAN A SUCCESS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 22.—(Special).—A special cable from Moscow says that the Abruzzi-Elkins wedding has been fixed for June, and that the duke will brook no royal interference. He has not renounced his titles and will not unless commanded by the king.

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