The West

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UNION LABEL

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1910

PUGSLEY LAY DOWN

Busy Mr. Pugsley's latest "vindication" is receiving the satirical comment of the press. Listen for example to, the Hamilton Herald, an Independent paper. "The Dominion Government," it says, "allowed Contractor Mayes to win his suit by default. No evidence was submitted. The government could better afford to pay Mayes all he claimed than to have McAvity subjected to cross-examination."

That is exactly what occurred. Here was the Department of Public Works with three counsel ready to defend the suit, an array of witnesses ready to testify, a strenuous denial on the record that Mr. Mayes was entitled to a cent, all the forces of the department lined up to fight a litigious contractor, and what happened? The Crown's defence suddenly collapsed like a house of cards.

Less than twenty-four hours before the hearing, Mr. George McAvity had been subpeonaed to give evidence as to his dealings with Mr. Pugsley and Mr. Mayes. Mr. Pugsley appears in court, ignores counsel, witnesses and the Crown's defence, takes the case into his own hands and settles it by paying Mr. Mayes nearly $10,000 and costs. And the item for $5,000—the only one in Mr. Mayes' claim, be it noted, in which Mr. McAvity's evidence was material, and which Mr. Pugsley himself had repeatedly said was not owing—he agrees to pay in full.

As was sarcastically remarked by the St. John Globe,—a Liberal paper: "This case in Mr. Pugsley's department as handled by the minister himself is a most excellent precedent, striking in its originality, notable in its simplicity and wonderful in its results."

BRIBERY BY PUBLIC WORKS.

When E. M. Macdonald, M.P., served notice on the city of Lethbridge that it would get no post office until it voted Liberal, he was simply following the regular Liberal plan of bullying constituencies by promising unnecessary public works if they vote Liberal and threatening to withhold needed public works if they vote Conservative. Here, for example, is the sort of campaign which the Liberals ran in Halifax against Mr. R. L. Borden and his colleague Mr. Crosby:

Promise of bringing the Grand Trunk terminal to Halifax.

Promise that the Canadian Pacific would come to Halifax.

A union depot.

A steel bridge across the Narrows.

A steamboat pier at Dartmouth.

The Halifax and Musquodobolt Railway.

In addition it was urged that the Government had incurred an expenditure of $5,000,000 on the port; that it had built a $250,000 Customs House; that it had spent $200,000 in improving the Post Office had spent $100,000 on the coast of Halifax County; that it had re-opened the dockyard; that it had manned the forts with Canadian troops.

Then when Halifax voted Conservative the Liberal newspapers served notice that the Nova Scotia constituencies which had dared to vote Conservative must expect punishment. The Halifax Chronicle said on the day after the election: "In this election all the most important public interests that Liberals in Halifax have been struggling for, and that Tories have pretended to desire, were hanging within our reach. The Government policy meant the beginning of a new era for the port of Halifax. . . . And now, just at the appointed time, when these things were within our grasp, our own people, misled by a treacherous Tory newspaper, and by unpatriotic Tory leaders, have by their votes thrown our great opportunity to the winds." And later on: "If the Government takes the people of Halifax at their word, who will have cause to complain?" And again: "They have declared by their votes that they do not want these things, and if the Government is disposed to take them at their word, and extend these favors to other constituencies and other ports which have been loyal to their interests, the Tories of Halifax and their dupes will have themselves to blame."

The Chronicle said in the same issue: "Halifax has, if the verdict of the electors means anything, declared that it does not want to share in the great traffic of the Dominion, and does not want the N. T. R. and the All-Red line. Certainly it will never get either by the election of Borden and Crosby. Let there be no mistake about that."

Afte rhaving had time for reflection, the Chronicle returned to the subject as follows: "Halifax, Colchester and Cumberland, through which the national highway runs, have declared against the All-Red Line, national ports, etc. Let the Liberal Government take heed of these emphatic expressions of opinion, for they are unmistakeable. . . . Let, then, our statesmen like good constitutional governors revise their plans, and so remodel them as not to encroach on forbidden ground. Fortunately there were other constituencies which were not purblind, and which will make room, so that the splendid structure may not lose its symmetry, nor be shorn of its usefulness to Canada. With these exceptions, so far as these Maritime Provinces are concerned, let the good work go on."

That is the political school in which Mr. Macdonald has been trained. That is the manner in which the Laurier Government spends the money raised by taxing all the people of Canada, Liberals and Conservatives alike.

CHICKENS COME HOME TO ROOST

Liberal newspapers are demanding sympathy because of the attacks made on the Laurier Government in the bye-election in Drummond and Arthabaska. But who taught the Nationalists to see in every expenditure of public money for purposes of defence a deep laid scheme to entrap Canada into Imperial wars?. None other than Sir Wilfrid Laurier himself. His victory in 1896 so far as it was won in Quebec was based upon a campaign of abuse of the Conservative Government for spending about a million dollars to arm the Canadian militia with modern rifles instead of the old Snider gas-pipes in the face of the American threat of invasion over the Venezuela affair.

Mr. Armand Lavergne, one of the leaders of the Nationalists, made an interesting remark in this connection. His father, Judge Joseph Lavergne, represented Drummond and Arthabasga in 1896 and was an intimate friend of Mr. Laurier as the Liberal leader then was. Mr. Armand Lavergne has stated that his father ran his election in 1896 on a denunciation of Sir Charles Tupper for buying those rifles. If Sir Wilfrid Laurier taught the father to see in the spending of one million dollars for rifles a plot against the liberties of Canada, who taught the son to see a similar plot in the spending of fifty or sixty millions on a navy?

In 1896 L'Electeur, which proclaimed itself to be the organ in the city of Quebec of the Liberal party had this to say: "Old Tupper has an arrangement with Chamberlain, under which we are to take part in the wars of the Empire. Some day the British officer will visit you, and take the son from his mother, the husband from his wife, the young man from his betrothed, and all will be sent to Africa or to India to whiten the plains with their bones."

Here is another passage from the same newspaper:

"One of old Tupper's whims is Imperial Federation, which signifies an intimate alliance between England and her colonies, especially Canada. One of the conditions of this alliance would be that in time of war Canada would be called upon to pay its share in money and men. In return England would create these droll baronets, knights of this and commanders of that. But the people will remain food for the cannon. Why all these armaments if we are not to have war? Why fight for England? The electors should remember that the big chiefs who are ready to throw us into war for the benefit of others will not be the ones to support the burden of it. It is the electors who will have to use these carbines and these cannon. The Tuppers, the Angers, the Taillons, will be in their ministerial demises when they will send us to fight for England. With joy in their hearts and a glass of champagne in their hands, they will send our children to Africa or to Asia, where they will never return. If you vote for the Blue candidate you approve of these preparations for war."

In conclusion, the French-speaking voters of Quebec were advised to "vot voters of Quebec were advised to "vote for Laurier and his candidates if you wish to see your country enjoy tranquility and not expose yourselves to leave one of these fine mornings for distant shores, leaving behind your wives, your children, and all that is dear to you."

There are some peculiarly fine touches in the above, that in regard to sending the children of the province to Africa, for instance, and that in regard to the creation of "those droll baronets, knights of this, and commanders of that." There have been a lot of these latter.

What is worrying Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1910 is, therefore, just what his friends, on the press and on the stump, in 1896 made use of to worry his Conservative opponents, and made use of with effect. There is no occasion for extending to the members of the present Government any sympathy because of the course the Nationalists are now pursuing. The weapons of Mr. Bourassa and his associates were forged by the friends of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, which friends also showed how such weapons could be used."

QUEBEC AND THE NAVY.

One of the most moderate and responsible of the Conservative politicians of Quebec is Mr. T. Chase-Casgrain, who for some years represented Montmorency in the House of Commons. Finding it impossible to make headway against the methods employed by the Liberal politicians he finally withdrew from politics. His withdrawal undoubtedly was a loss to the Conservative party and to Parliament. In consequence of the feeling excited by the contest in Drummond and Arthabaska he has addressed a letter to The Montreal Gazette which deserves consideration. He declares that the present generation of French-Canadians has been taught by its leaders that they owe nothing to England, that although they are in the British Empire, they are not of it, that English influence must be combatted at every step and that they must reap all the advantages of the happy situation in which they find themselves, without assuming any of the responsibilities or obligations which such a state of welfare would naturally create. "Ever since 1885," he says, "it has been the aim and object of the Liberal leaders to segregate the electors of the province of Quebec from the other citizens of this country, and to band them together in a solid phalanx."

He points out that when he was standing for election in 1896 he was held up to public execration as the supporter of Tupper, Angers and Taillon, "who had spent a million dollars in purchasing rifles to rearm the militia." He quotes an extract from Le Soir as follows: "Why do you want us to fight for England? Let the electors remember that the high and mighty Conservative leaders who purchased these guns will not go to the wars, but that your children will be sent to Africa and Asia, from whence they shall never return. Vote for Laurier and his candidates if you want the country to enjoy its present tranquility and do not wish to oppose yourselves to be sent some fine morning to distant lands, leaving behind you your wives, your children, and everything that is dear to you."

He quotes from a speech made by Mr. Brodeur in the House of Commons in which he said: "I always believe that if war was waged against Canada we would be able to count on the protection of England, that the only reason for the maintenance of the colonial tie was that if we had any international difficulties we could count upon the help of England. I regret to learn that in the present instance the Government has purchased these rifles, not from a private concern, but from the British Government itself, and that the latter is demanding the price thereof. Is this the protection that we were promised by England? Is this the position which is made to us as a colony?"

Mr. Chase-Casgrain declares that the cars of the International Railway were flooded with posters denouncing the Conservative leaders for conspiring to send every available man in the Province of Quebec either to Africa or Asia or some other far-off country to fight battles for England. He recalls that when Sir Wilfrid Laurier returned from the Imperial Conference of 1907, he was hailed by his followers as the saviour of his country, who had rescued us from militarism and imperialism, because, forsooth, he had resisted the proposition made by certain other members of the conference that the colonies share in the maintenance of the British navy." He continues: "I am a living witness to and a victim of the intense racial prejudice which was created against the Conservative party, and in the campaigns of 1896, 1900 and 1904, I was hounded by Liberals, who are now either members of the Legislature or the House of Commons or Senate or Provincial Ministers, who denounced me from every husting in the district of Quebec as an Imperialist, who wished to drive Sir Wilfrid Laurier from power so as to crush the influence of the French-Canadians."

Mr. Chase-Casgrain says that during all the years that have elapsed since 1896 Sir Wilfrid Laurier knew what was going on and what was being said by all his henchmen and although he was too shrewd to commit himself "he acquiesced in the education his followers were giving to the people, and he was implicitly lending encouragement to the builders of a wall of prejudice and passion which was being erected to protect him and his party against the assaults of his political adversaries.' He points out, however, that nothwithstanding these appeals the Conservative party in Quebec in the election of 1908 polled 100,000 votes, or 45 per cent. of the total vote cast in the province. This he regards as conclusive evidence that there are many voters in Quebec who cannot be carried away by appeals to passion and prejudice. He asks, however, if under the circumstances it is surprising that the French-Canadian is not an enthusiastic supporter either of the naval policy of the Government or of any policy by which the resources of this country are to be used to create a state of things from which the Canadian taxpayer will not reap an actual, tangible and visible benefit.

He insists that if the Mother Country were in danger, if her influence or prestige or power were imperilled, and if the advantages derived by Canada, and particularly by the Province of Quebec, from British connection, were thereby put in jeopardy, every Canadian of French origin would vote to go to the rescue either in men or money against the world. He denies that the result in Drummond and Arthabaska proves that French-Canadians are disloyal and opposed in a body and under all circumstances to aiding Great Britain when assistance is really needed. He admits that there were some imprudent and misguided utterances during the campaign, but suggests that a whole party or a whole race should not be condemned for the hasty declarations made by youthful politicians in the heat of an ardent battle. He argues that the majority in Quebec believe that the navy, involving the expenditure of millions of dollars which will be diverted from more profitable uses, is not only a useless toy, but an engine dangerous to Canada and affording no sufficient aid to Great Britain. He contends that historically the assertion is correct that the Dominion cannot be governed by a party out of sympathy with or opposed by the bulk of the French Canadian vote, and he concludes: "This is a country in which parliamentary institutions govern. The majority must rule, and I have no doubt that once the majority had given its verdict, every Province, the Province of Quebec as well as the others, would patriotically bow to the supreme will of the electors. Where the error was committed, bringing in its wake strife, division, distrust of the Mother Country itself, was to reject the wise counsels of men who advised submitting the whole matter to those who make and unmake cabinets and policies."

Unquestionably Mr. Chase-Casgrain states his views with candor and with moderation. The News cordially agrees that French-Canadian Conservatives have shown remarkable steadiness and consistency in face of the desperate racial appeals of their opponents, and it is not difficult to understand that they would go far in order to revenge themselves upon the politicians who have made free discussion and free exercise of the franchise almost impossible in the French Province. The mapority, however, must govern, and if it is the clear decision of the Canadian Parliament that we shall contribute to the protection of our own coasts and sea-going trade in co-operation with the Imperial authorities, the opposing forces should submit and it cannot be in the permanent interest of Quebec that it should isolate itself from the other Provinces on a question which certainly involves no special injustice to French-Canadians and lays no special burden upon them.—News.

KAISER FORBIDS BANNS

Won't Permit His Sailor Son to Marry Until He Reaches Certain Rank

Berlin, Nov. 12.—Adalbert Ferdinand Berengar Victor, sailor son of Kaiser Wilhelm, wants to wed. But Kaiser Wilhelm forbids him. "You're too young to marry yet," says the kaiser.

Good-looking Adalbert F. B. V., aged sentimentally 26, met his destiny while motoring through Thuringia's ancient hills. Adalbert met a princess on the brow of an ancient hill. Her motor car, the only one in papa's broad dominions, had broken down, and the only competent mechanic was in the pay of a rival state. Being handy with his fists, as novelists' sailors always are, Adalbert mended the princess' car and—broke her heart. She fell desperately in love with sunburnt Adalbert, and, enchanted Adalbert visited her father's feudal castle and demanded her hand. The princess' name her love, her beauty, poverty, were all communicated to Kaiser Wilhelm, who forbade the banns. Against the princess Kaiser Wilhelm says nothing. But he strongly holds that Sailor Adalbert ought not to marry until he reaches a certain rank.

DIVORCES INCREASING

Larger Number of Applications Before Parliament this Year

Ottawa, Nov. 15.—Indications are that the private bill legislation of the coming session will be about the average. So far there are 82 applications for private bills, about the same number as at this period of the last session although the total number of private bills passed last session was 140.

The aplications include eight for the incorporation of railway companies, 29 for amendment to existing charters, 10 for incorporation of miscellaneous companies, 7 for amendments to existing company charters, one for extension of letters of patent, and 27 applications for divorce. The latter is a record. Last year there were 25 applications for divorce, of which 20 were granted.

It is noteworthy that while from 1867 to 1900 there were only 149 divorces granted, in the last ten years there have been 90, an average of 10 a year, against an average of less than four per cent. in the period from 1867 to 1900.

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The Revolutionists

Portugal's revolution was led by three men, two of them among the most noted students in the country, the other a coarser fibred dynamo of a man, who did the cart-horse work. They are described in a recent article by a correspondent of the London Times, who writes from personal knowledge. That the two cultured revolutionists will measure up to their new responsibilities he does not doubt but he is not certain that the third will make as good a Minister of Justice as he did an agitator. His impression is, however, that for the moment the affairs of Portugal are in safe, strong hands.

The President is Senhor Theophile Braga, formerly president of the Academy of Sciences. He is known in and out of Portugal as a man of great erudition and command of language. His political ideals, which are as lofty and far-reaching as those of any contemporary statesman, have made him one of the most esteemed men in his native land. Every Portuguese knows Braga for a clean-handed politician. His patriotism is above suspicion, but some of his admirers have the idea that he is inclined to be visionary, and that he would lengthen his years by curbing his headlong enthusiasm. Braga is one of those statesmen whose philosophy includes other countries than his own. He has dreamed for years of a Republican Federation for the peninsula ,and though he is no longer a young man, he hopes to live to see his dream come true.

Senhor Affonso Costa, the new Minister of Justice, is a more typical revolutionist. He has been the leader of the most radical and vociferous band of Republicans in the chamber for two or three years, and was one of the ringleaders in the abortive uprising of 1908. On this occasion he was caught red-handed and imprisoned. Undeterred by this experience, he was one of the most daring defenders of the assassination of Carlos. In the chamber he was able, by obstructive tactics rather than by criticism, to figure prominently in the downfall of five or six government. Senhor Costa is a man of great impetuosity and energy, but whether he is capable of constructive statesmanship is a question that the future must decide.

The great man of Portugal today appears to be Dr. Bernardina Machado, the Minister of Foreign Affairs. He is better known in Europe than any of his colleague, and speaks and reads several languages fluently. For a short time he was Minister of Public Works under Dom Carlos, but he resigned his position when the King desired him to make some alterations in one of the royal palaces at the public expense. Up to this time he has been a supporter of the King, but when he quarrelled with Carlos he concluded that the monarchical principle in Portugal could never be reconciled with either retrenchment or reform.

He returned to his University, but in 1907 he espoused the cause of certain undergraduates in conflict with the church, and the Clericals made his position so unpleasant that he ceased lecturing. Since then he has devoted himself wholly to the cause of Republicanism. Fortunately for Dr. Machado, he was able to do so without sacrifice, since he is a man of means. Strongly opposed though he was to the Braganzas, Machado was ever a believer in a bloodless revolution. He hoped and believed that the abolition of the dynasty could be accomplished without the shedding of blood. That so few lives were lost in the events of a fortnight or so ago is due largely to Dr. Machado's influence.

The Times correspondent says that Machado is one of the idols of the Portuguese people. To statesmanlikc vision he adds a personal kindliness and private benevolence that endears him to the poor. Even mhen Manuel was on the throne the public receptions given him were surpassed by the ovations tendered Dr. Machado when he mingled with his people. Dr. Machado has always professed English sympathies, but he joins his colleagues in insisting that the alliance between the two countries should be national and not merely dynastic.—Mail and Empire.

TRAVELLERS' OFFICERS

Twenty-Eighth Annual Meeting of N. W. Association at Winnipeg

Winnipeg, Nov. 14. — The twenty-eighth annual meeting of the Northwest Commercial Travellers' Association was held on Saturday night in the Travellers' building.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the following officers for 1911 were appointed: President, G. W. Barrett; vice-president, J. H. J. Murphy. E. L. Thomas, president for 1910, becomes a director for 1911. The following were nominated for directors for the ensuing year: J. E. Holland, J. Brockest, A. E. Wayte, P. H. Wilson, Wm. Stitt, W. J. Litster, E. H. Lee, J. Suttie, P. Paxton, Chas. Holden, C. M. Scott, C. McAllister, T. E. Elliott, G. R. Bolton, J. M. Scott.

The vice-presidents nominated for the various western cities were as follows:

Calgary—E. M. Adams.

Edmonton—Frank Morgan.

Regina—Norman Musgrove.

Vancouver—A. R. McFarlane. Directors, C. P. Ballantyne and G. H. Hewitt.

Victoria—H. B. McKelvie. Director, Max Leiser.

New Westminster—Director, F. J. Lynch.

Kootenay—Director, G. W. McBride.

The folowing scrutineers were appointed by the president: F. H. Agnew, F. Smith, J. A. McTaggart, A. Leonard, J. E. McRoble, F. H. Nesbitt, J. H. Murphy and G. W. Barrett.

A Delicate Operation

Chicago, Nov. 12.—A successful exchange of a bone from the leg to the arm, in the case of a ten year old girl who was exhibited to a throng of surgeons from all over America who are holding clinics here today, was described in a remarkable address by Dr. John A. Murphy of the Chicago Surgical society.

The little girl, who seemed normal in every way, was operated on last September. Oowing to disease, six inches of the bone of her upper arm was cut out directly under the shoulder joint, and the section repliced by a splinter from the tibia, one of the bones of the leg.

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