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Thursday, October 9, 1924.

Labour's Collapse

The defeat of Great Britain's first Labour Government on a Liberal motion, which was tantamount to a vote of censure, has not come as a surprise.

Indeed, the MacDonald ministry has enjoyed a longer life than many expected.

The Labour Government came to power in circumstances which made a long tenure of office impossible.

A minority party, they had held office so long, only because of the benign attitude of the Liberals who have consistently voted with the Government on Conservative motions of censure.

It is expected that Ramsay MacDonald will ask for a dissolution, and a general election will probably be held in November.

In the meantime, it seems obvious that the three party system which permits a minority party to govern is most unsatisfactory.

The only solution appears to lie in an amalgamation which will see the disappearance of the Liberal Party, part of which will unite with Labour and the remainder with the Conservatives.

Fall Closing Hours

The Importers' Association have this year thought it advisable to have the Water Street stores open earlier than usual. As will be seen by the news story in another column, the Association decided at yesterday's meeting to have the stores open until 10.30 each night from Monday next to November 10th.

Moreover, a meeting is to be held in the interval to discuss such further night opening as may be necessary.

With the wisdom of this decision we are not in a position to argue.

Several reasons have been advanced in its support, chief of which is the fact that owing to the fine weather experienced this year the making and marketing of fish has been made possible at an earlier date than in previous years.

Consequently the fall trade will be earlier, since for the next month at least many outport men will be in St. John's disposing of their fish and obtaining fall supplies.

Moreover, it was stated at the meeting that certain Water Street firms who are not members of the Importers' Association have been for some time keeping their shops open after 6 o'clock, and it was felt that to meet this competition, all other stores should open also.

With respect to this matter, we understand that it is the intention of the Association to ask the Legislature to empower them to control the opening hours of all Water Street business houses with a view to abolishing what they consider unfair competition.

We feel sure that the Importers' Association would not have decided upon this early fall opening unless they were convinced that the prospective trade warrants it.

While employees may consider it a hardship, nevertheless the employers have their interest at heart, and we are assured

that this night opening will continue no longer than is necessary.

We heartily applaud the decision of the Association to make November 11th, Armistice and Thanksgiving Day, a general holiday.

Regatta Committee Meeting

IMPROVEMENTS OF LAKESIDE DECIDED UPON.

The Regatta Committee held a meeting at the T.A. Armoury last night, with President Hiscock in the chair.

Mr. L. Rogers, Coxswain of the Truckmen's crew, which won the championship race at the annual Regatta, was present, and President Hiscock presented him with the medals for this race. Through no fault of the Committee the medals were not ready for presentation on Regatta Day, but were ordered immediately.

Mr. Hiscock congratulated the winning crew, and wished them further success. At the final meeting of the Committee, held on August 25th, a committee was appointed to interview Sir Edgar Bowring, with a view to taking some steps to improve the Lakeside, and it was to receive a report from this Committee that last night's meeting was called.

The Committee reported that they had two interviews with Sir Edgar Bowring at which the matter was discussed, and plans for the improvement of the Lakeside had already been undertaken. City Engineer Ryan had made a plan of the proposed improvements which he brought to the meeting, and from it he explained what it was proposed to do. It was pointed out that everything could not be undertaken at once, for several reasons, but Mr. Ryan had drawn up a plan for building a road down the lakeside. This road will be from 30 to 35 feet wide, will extend the whole distance down the north side of the lake and a part of the pond will be filled in to make it properly. Arrangements have been made to have an entrance to the road from the King's Bridge Road. With regard to terracing, this cannot be undertaken this year, as it is necessary to raise the soil, and replace them before the frost comes, and the year is too far advanced for this to be undertaken. However, the work on the west end can be levelled off.

It was decided to write the Municipal Council, asking for permission to undertake the work of making the road immediately.

With regard to the grounds it was decided that some effort should be made so that they cannot be commercialized, and for that reason the Committee felt that any steps taken to acquire the property should have the support of the public. The purchase price of the site is set at \$11,000.00 and it was thought that the Municipal Council would consider purchasing it if they received a guarantee of the payment of the interest from the Regatta Committee, and it was the opinion of those present that this amount would not be difficult to raise each year, and the Sub-committee was empowered to proceed with negotiations for the purchase of the property.

Engineer Ryan was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his assistance to the Committee. Secretary Ellis, on behalf of St. Joseph's Regatta Committee invited all to be present at St. Joseph's Hall to-night, when the watches donated as prizes for the Championship Race at St. Joseph's Regatta will be presented.

The meeting then adjourned until the Sub-committee is ready to report again.

Busy Day on Waterfront

Quite a number of schooners with cargoes of fish arrived in port yesterday and in consequence it was a busy day along the waterfront. Prices of fish have advanced and \$9.50 was paid for No. 1 shore. Six dollars and fifty cents per qtl. is being paid for Labrador cure.

Smuggler Fined

Captain William Mosher, of Sydney, master of the schooner Catherine W., appeared before Magistrate Scott, at Curling, yesterday on a charge of smuggling, and pleading guilty to the charge was fined \$500. The schooner arrived at Curling a few days ago. The contraband goods arrived by last night's steamer, express in charge of Detective Tobin.

Presentation and Reception

On the first Wednesday of October at the regular meeting of the Women's Assn. of Cochrane Street Church a choice presentation was made to make her home in the States. Mrs. Dwyer, who is one of those longest connected with the Association, having filled every office in turn, made a neat speech of thanks and then surprised the association as much as they had surprised her by asking the members to meet her at afternoon tea yesterday at the Association Room in the Church. It is the intention of the Association to ask the Legislature to empower them to control the opening hours of all Water Street business houses with a view to abolishing what they consider unfair competition.

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FIVE FORMER PUBLIC SERVANTS INDICTED.

Sixty-Six Counts Against Ex-Premier Sir R. A. Squires.

The Grand Jury in attendance at the Supreme Court to-day were addressed by His Lordship Chief Justice Horwood as follows:—
 Mr. Foreman, Gentlemen of the Grand Jury.

You will be asked to consider to-day five Bills of Indictment which the Attorney General is preferring against the different parties for larceny of the public money. The first Bill which the Crown proposes to lay before you is against Sir Richard Anderson Squires. Its first count charges larceny contrary to section 2 of the Larceny Act of 1916. This section declares that "Stealing for which no special punishment is provided under this or any other law for the time being in force shall be simple larceny." For the purposes of the Larceny Act, 1916 a person steals who, without the consent of the owner, fraudulently and without a claim of right made in good faith, takes and carries away anything, capable of being stolen with intent, at the time of such taking, permanently to deprive the owner thereof; provided that a person may be guilty of stealing any such thing, notwithstanding that he has lawful possession thereof, if he being a bailee or part owner thereof, he fraudulently converts the same to his own use or the use of any person other than the owner. The particulars of the offence laid in this count are that he, on the 13th day of November, 1920, at St. John's, stole \$1,000.00, the property of His Majesty the King. This Bill consists of 66 counts, each charging a separate offence; 33 of which charge him with larceny and the remainder with receiving stolen money. The particulars under the succeeding larceny counts are that the accused stole the following sums of money the property of H.M. the King at the several dates named; namely:—

On the 27th November, 1920, the sum of \$1,000.00.
 On the 4th December, 1920, the sum of \$900.00.
 On the 4th December, 1920, the sum of \$1,055.00.

On the 26th January, 1921, the sum of \$200.00.
 On the 19th March, 1921, the sum of \$265.00.
 On the 7th May, 1921, the sum of \$1,000.00.

On the 10th May, 1921, the sum of \$78.76.
 On the 8th July, 1921, the sum of \$200.00.
 On the 11th July, 1921, the sum of \$200.00.
 On the 8th July, 1921, the sum of \$100.00.

On the 4th August, 1921, the sum of \$300.00.
 On the 11th August, 1921, the sum of \$200.00.
 On the 17th August, 1921, the sum of \$500.00.
 On the 22nd August, 1921, the sum of \$200.00.
 On the 13th September, 1921, the sum of \$500.00.
 On the 19th September, 1921, the sum of \$900.00.
 On the 19th October, 1921, the sum of \$500.00.
 On the 21st November, 1921, the sum of \$200.00.
 On the 5th December, 1921, the sum of \$2,000.00.
 On the 19th December, 1921, the sum of \$4,000.00.
 On the 23rd December, 1921, the sum of \$3,000.00.
 On the 28th January, 1922, the sum of \$250.00.

On the 3rd March, 1922, the sum of \$2,000.00.
 On the 6th March, 1922, the sum of \$200.00.
 On the 8th March, 1922, the sum of \$200.00.
 On the 22nd March, 1922, the sum of \$100.00.
 On the 26th April, 1922, the sum of \$100.00.
 On the 1st May, 1922, the sum of \$200.00.
 On the 18th May, 1922, the sum of \$100.00.
 On the 7th June, 1922, the sum of \$2,000.00.
 On the 20th June, 1922, the sum of \$1,000.00.
 On the 27th July, 1922, the sum of \$500.00.

Then follows a series of 33 other charges against Sir Richard Anderson Squires alleging that he received stolen money contrary to section 33 (1) of the Larceny Act of 1916. This section is as follows:—"Every person who receives any property" (the term property here includes money) "knowing the same to have been stolen or obtained in any way whatsoever under circumstances which amount to felony or misdemeanour shall be guilty of an offence of the like degree (whether felony or misdemeanour)." The particulars of these offences are the same particulars as those specified in the previous counts for larceny contrary to section 2 of the Act. I should explain here that a person may be indicted for larceny or as an alternative for receiving stolen property

contrary to the Act and it is left to the jury to decide under which charge they will convict under a general verdict is not returnable. Therefore, following the usual practice, this Bill of Indictment charges against the accused in regard to each alleged offence both larceny and receiving stolen property. If you are satisfied by the evidence that there is sufficient substance in these charges to put the accused upon his trial it is for the jury to say whether he is innocent or guilty of all or any of them.

The Crown witness will give evidence before you upon these charges, and you may avail yourselves of the Crown Counsel to assist you in examining the witnesses. Your duty is to enquire and true presentment make of the matters given you in charge. It is not your province to determine the guilt or innocence of the accused nor to consider that defences may be made to these charges, but you have to pass upon each charge separately and be satisfied that there is substance in the several charges laid, and that a prima facie case has been established sufficient to warrant you in returning a true bill in order that the accused may be placed upon his trial for the crime with which he is charged. It is a general principle of our criminal law that there must be, as an essential ingredient in a criminal offence, some blameworthy condition of mind or, as it is called, a guilty intent. This is ordinarily gathered or to be inferred from the facts or circumstances of the particular case, and the evidence submitted for your consideration should satisfy you that money, the property of H.M. the King, has been stolen by the accused, that the accused has received money from the property of H.M. the King knowing the same to have been stolen, and that a principal criminally responsible for an offence committed by his agent, it must be shown that there has been some act or illegal omission on the part of the principal whereby he abetted the offence or that there has been some prior instigation.

There will also be presented for your consideration a Bill of Indictment charging John T. Meaney with larceny contrary to Sec. 17 (2) (a) of the Larceny Act of 1916, and embezzlement under Sec. 17 (2) (b). These sections read as follows:—

A. "Every person who being employed in the public service of His Majesty... steals any chattel, money or valuable security belonging to or in the possession of His Majesty or entrusted to or received or taken into possession by such person by virtue of his employment shall be guilty of felony."

B. "Every person who being employed in the public service of His Majesty... embezzles or in any manner fraudulently applies or disposes of for any purpose whatsoever except for the public service any chattel, money or valuable security entrusted to or received or taken into possession by him by virtue of his employment shall be guilty of felony."

There are three counts under sub-section (a) and respectively that he being employed in the public service of His Majesty stole the sum of \$147,042.76 the property of H.M. the King; that he stole money and or alcoholic liquors of total aggregate in value of \$147,042.76. There are also three counts under sub-section (b) alleging respectively that he fraudulently applied the sum of \$147,042.76 entrusted to him by virtue of his employment for purposes other than for the public service; that he fraudulently disposed of alcoholic liquors for purposes other than for the public service; and that he fraudulently applied moneys and or alcoholic liquors aggregating in all the value of \$147,042.76 entrusted to him by virtue of his employment for purposes other than for the public service. The Bill also contains a count charging him under the Falsification of Accounts Act, 1875, with having between the 1st day of June, 1921, and the 30th day of June, 1922, he being employed in the public service of His Majesty the King, with intent to defraud omitted or concurred in omitting from the books of the Liquor Control Department belonging to His Majesty the King material particulars, that is to say, the disposal of His Majesty's property of H.M. the King during the said period.

Alexander Campbell is charged with larceny under Sec. 17 (2) (a) of the Larceny Act of 1916, which I have already read to you. The first count declares that he during the month of February, 1923, at St. John's in the District of St. John's East, being His Majesty's Minister of Agriculture & Mines fraudulently applied to his own use the sum of \$2.00 the property of His Majesty the King entrusted to the said Alexander Campbell by virtue of his said office. The second count

Britain's Parliament Dissolved

London, Oct. 9th.—(Canadian Press)—The House of Commons will be dissolved to-night and a general election will be held on October 27th, it was announced, this afternoon, after King George held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace at which he signed a Proclamation dissolving Parliament.

charging embezzlement alleges that during the month of April, 1923, he fraudulently applied to his own use the sum of \$72.00 the property of His Majesty the King entrusted to the said Alexander Campbell by virtue of his office, and the third count, also charging embezzlement, sets out that during the months of March, April and May, 1920, he applied to his own use the sum of \$600.00 the property of His Majesty the King entrusted to the said Alexander Campbell by the virtue of his said office.

James Whitford McNelly is charged with larceny contrary to Sec. 17 (2) (a) of the Larceny Act of 1916 in 12 counts. The particulars set forth that he, being employed in the public service of His Majesty at St. John's, on the 31st day of May, 1916, stole the sum of \$93.00 the property of His Majesty and received by the said James Whitford McNelly by virtue of his employment. The particulars under the succeeding larceny counts are that on the 31st day of May, 1917 he stole the sum of \$4.120; on the 31st day of May, 1918, the sum of \$3,193.00; on the 31st day of May, 1920, the sum of \$2,138.00; on the 31st day of May, 1921, the sum of \$2,133.00; on the 31st day of September, 1921, the sum of \$356.42; on the 16th day of October, 1921, the sum of \$378.64; on the 21st day of May, 1918, the sum of \$3,193.00; on the 2nd day of December, 1920, the sum of \$1,296.00; on the 4th day of January, 1921, the sum of \$512.00; on the 20th day of April, 1922, the sum of \$1,812.00; and on the 22nd day of February, 1923, the sum of \$1,812.00 the property of H.M. the King and received by the said James Whitford McNelly by virtue of his employment. He is also charged in this Bill with falsification of accounts contrary to the Falsification of Accounts Act 1875 in relation to these moneys.

William F. O'Reilly is charged with the following offence:—Larceny contrary to section (2) of the Larceny Act of 1916. This Bill contains six counts and the particulars given allege that he, on the 1st day of June, 1923, at Placentia, stole the sum of \$2,010.00.

On the 2nd day of June 1923, the sum of \$1,507.50.
 On the 5th day of June, 1923, the sum of \$2,914.50.
 On the 7th day of June, 1923, the sum of \$3,316.50.

On the 9th day of June, 1923, the sum of \$100.50.
 The money being the property of H.M. the King.

You will, I feel sure, give to each case your best attention and careful consideration remembering that you have to pass upon each bill of indictment separately, and be satisfied that a prima facie case has been established sufficient to warrant you in returning a true Bill to have the party accused placed upon his trial for the crime or crimes set forth in the indictment laid against him.

C.L.B. Band Promenade Concert, Prince of Wales Rink, to-night. Don't miss it.—oct9,11

Tennis Club Dance
 At Grenfell Hall last night a very enjoyable dance was held by the Newfoundland Lawn Tennis Club. There was a large attendance of dancers. During the interval a delicious supper was served by the ladies of the club. The affair which was a fitting conclusion to the season's activities, was voted a huge success.

Victory Flour
 J. B. Orr Co., Ltd., report a very excellent business on Victory Flour. During the past few weeks they have sold twenty-five thousand barrels for shipment to Newfoundland by the Dominion Flour Mills, Ltd., of Montreal.

Victory is the first Patent Flour of the very highest quality and has been gaining steadily the past year in popularity, not only with the merchants but with the Housewives.

Victory is handled by the following dealers in St. John's who is a further guarantee of its high quality:—
 Atre & Sons, Ltd.
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 Bowring Bros., Ltd.
 A. E. Hickman, Co., Ltd.
 Job Stores, Ltd.
 No. Knowling, Ltd.
 J. R. McNeill & Son, Ltd.
 Geo. Neal, Ltd.
 Steer, Ltd.
 T. & M. Winter.

The Prizes donated by H. D. Reid, Esq., to the City Championship Crew at St. Joseph's Regatta, will be presented in St. Joseph's Hall, Thursday evening at 8.30. All interested are cordially invited to be present.—oct9,11

PEPYS BEHIND THE SCENES

Oct. 8th.—Lay long, being taken with a cold of my chest, but anon, compelled to rise and set about my business. Meeting Mr. McKay, he shows me the plan of his Trade Exhibition and nigh all the space now occupied, which do show what wide interest the trade takes in it. The Importers meet this afternoon to decide upon the opening hours for the fall, and they do think it necessary to have the shops open from the night from next September for a month. This they do since the fall trade is like to be much earlier than in the past few seasons. This night, alone to the Tennis Dance, where a pleasant company assembled, and what pleases me greatly, not so many that one may not dance in comfort. But Lord, my wife makes me as mad as the devil, being there with that clown Povey, and looks not at me the whole night. Indeed, the wretch did set herself deliberately to annoy me, but I would not let her see this since 'twould upset my authority over her. But God grant me patience, coming home what must she do but, forgetting how she did flirt herself, berate me for paying too much attention to the pretty ladies that were there. Indeed, says she, it was not only an insult to her, but the most outrageous thing that one of my years should so forget myself, being that I am now of an age when I should content myself with sitting of an evening before the fire. I did shut my ears to the wretch's raving, and leave her to her rage, which my experience tells me is the one way to treat a jealous woman.

Pearline Cleans Pots, Pans and Kettles, quickly.—oct9,11,12

Centenarian Dies at Renew's

MICHAEL FOLEY, AGED 100.
 Michael Foley, probably the oldest inhabitant of Newfoundland, passed away yesterday at the residence of his granddaughter at Renew's. The deceased was born in 1816 and was within a few months of celebrating his 100th birthday. His wife and children have long since passed away. A fisherman from his youth, Mr. Foley enjoyed excellent health and was possessed of all his faculties up till the time of his death. He was a great supporter of Sir Michael Cashin and in the election last year cast his vote for the Monroe candidates. He ate and drank heartily and dearly loved to smoke a "T. D. pipe." His long life could not be ascribed to total abstinence from alcoholic drink, as he always took his "grog" when it was to be obtained. Another old resident of Renew's, Pierre Ronson, who is now 90 years old is fond of retelling how Mr. Foley was the first man to show him how to split a fish. The passing of Mr. Foley was announced in a message received yesterday by Mr. Peter Cashin, M.H.A. He lived with his grand daughter, Mrs. Hearn and the funeral takes place to-morrow. Messrs. Cashin and Moore will probably leave by motor this evening to attend.

H. B. Thomson, Opt. D. Optometrist and Optician will be leaving St. John's for Grand Falls and towns on the West Coast, by Monday's express; returning to the city again about the last of November.

City Office, 216 Water Street, over T. J. Duley & Co. Jewellery Store. Hours 10 to 5.30, 7 to 8. Phone 4-3-3 for appointment.

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 Ease the family's Sorrow, send FLOWERS.
 Wreaths delivered promptly. Prices reasonable.
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BORN.
 At Grace Maternity Hospital, on Oct. 7th, a son to Mr. and Mrs. John Gulliver. (Still born).

MARRIED.
 On Tuesday, Oct. 7th, at the Methodist Parsonage, Cochrane St., Herbert Roberts to Edith Whitten, both of this city.

DIED.
 On Oct. 9th, John Flintan, aged 44 months, darling child of John and Mary Evans.
 There passed peacefully away, on Oct. 8th, at 7 p.m., Ellen, widow of the late Maurice Kane, leaving 1 son, 3 daughters and one granddaughter. Funeral on Friday at 2.30 p.m. from her late residence, 226 Water Street West, R.I.P.

Passed peacefully away this morning at 2.30, after a tedious illness, (Nellie), beloved wife of Arthur Bragg, aged 29 years, leaving to mourn a husband, four children, father, three brothers, three sisters and a large circle of friends. Funeral on Saturday from her late residence, Quidi Vidi. May the sacred heart of Jesus have mercy on her soul.—U.S. papers please copy.

IN LOVING MEMORY
 of my dear boys, Private Wesley Watkins, killed in action, October 9th, 1917, also his brother, Private J. P. Watts who was killed in action, Oct. 12th, 1918.
 In our home they are fondly remembered.
 Sweet are the memories that cling to their names.
 Hearts that loved them in deep affection.
 Do love them in death just the same.
 Many the tear is shed in silence.
 In the home they loved so well.
 How in my lonely hours I miss them.
 Only God alone can tell.
 —Mother.

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