

Ottawa Weekly Letter.

A Great Expansion.

In the Public Works Department—Especially in Construction of Public Buildings—So Says the Deputy Minister in His Report.

PROGRESSION A MILLION A YEAR.

Mr. Gobeil Says, But Is Silent on Laurier Tower—While Going Into Detail About Repairing Office Chairs.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

Settled Only Three Strikes Out of 139—Yet the Minister Thinks No Other Remedy Is Required.

HALIFAX LAND DEAL.

Middleman Buys to Sell to Government—At One Hundred Per Cent. Profit.

NORTH ATLANTIC COMPANY WANTS MORE.

Interference with British Columbia.

Ottawa, Jan. 26th, 1907.

The report of the Department of Public Works for the fiscal year ending last June, just down, deals with the enormous expenditure of \$9,247,527. The Deputy Minister speaks proudly of "The great expansion of our branch of the Administration, inasmuch as the expenditure during the year has reached a total of nearly ten millions, while ten years ago the expenditure was barely two millions."

Undoubtedly this is so. The government is lavish in erecting buildings, some of which fall down before they were finished, many of which are not needed at all, while all appear to be constructed without much regard to business principles.

A SIGNIFICANT SILENCE.

Turning to the report of the Chief Architect one naturally goes to see what he has to say about the Laurier tower and the western block extension of which it forms a part. We find in the Architect's statement of Ottawa work how many coat hooks were put up in each building, how many desks were oiled in each establishment. We learn that nine chairs were repaired in the Census office, that two window sashes were replaced in the Privy Council building, that three step ladders were supplied to the Auditor General, "that a cushion each was supplied to the Auditor General and Secretary of State's department," that three shades for lamps were furnished to the department of Interior, that eight doors were covered with cloth, several articles of furniture were oiled, with much more of the same detailed information.

ENTER THE MIDDLEMAN.

Then it was decided to build a rectangular engine house at Richmond, and plans were prepared on this understanding. Mr. Henry C. Read was engaged to value the properties and submitted a report. This was in 1905. Later this location also was abandoned in favor of a site near the Halifax Cotton Factory. This change was recommended from Ottawa and again Mr. H. C. Read was sent to value the property also.

RATHER SERIOUS OMISSION.

This report is dated Dec. 1st, but the fall of the Laurier tower occurred last spring, and the investigation was completed long before the end of the fiscal year. The report of the commission showed that a costly structure, built within a few yards of the architect's office, under the eye of his own staff, and daily seen by the Minister of Public Works, was constructed of wretched material badly put together, neither the stones, nor the rubble, nor any part of the work such as the contract called for, and in fact so badly built that it did not stand until the job was finished. One

might suppose that a department which gives minute reports of repairs to a chair, could find something to say about such a job as that.

THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE LARGE DEPARTMENT.

The January number of the Labor Gazette, issued by the Postmaster General and the Minister of Labor contains statistics of last year's trade disputes in Canada. The number given is 138, involving a loss of 480,775 day's work. The number which were terminated was 139 including one which began the previous year. Those who have been led by the self-advertising of the Department of Labor to suppose that this authority has settled most of the troubles will be surprised to learn that only four of the disputes were settled by "conciliation." Not even all of these were settled by the labor department, for in one case the mediator was the Ministerial Association at Winnipeg. The other three were terminated through the intervention of the department though in the most serious case the settlement did not occur until the strike had been in progress nine months and both parties were anxious to end it. The great Hamilton strike was settled three weeks after it began by the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board. The Archbishop of Montreal was the peacemaker in another case. But nineteen twentieths of the troubles were ended either by private negotiation between the parties, or by the replacement of the men, or by the men giving up and returning to work, or by the employers granting their demands.

SUPPORT MR. BORDEN'S RESOLUTION.

In all these cases, as well as in the long strikes that were finally settled by arbitration, there was enormous loss, amounting to at least a million dollars in wages alone, and to large sums by investors, to say nothing of the suffering and inconvenience of the general public, such as follows the cost strike in the West or the Street Railway trouble. The statement of the department of labor is the best answer to the minister of labor, who opposed Mr. Borden's motion for a parliamentary investigation of labor questions. Mr. Lemieux contended that his department was dealing successfully with labor troubles and only required an amendment to the Act to do all that was necessary. But his own return shows that Mr. Borden's statement of the immense loss caused by strikes in Canada was below the mark, and that the department itself had done less to meet the evil than even Mr. Borden conceded. Three disputes settled by the department out of one hundred and thirty-eight, and those only after long strikes, is not absolutely satisfactory.

HALIFAX LAND DEAL.

The minister of railways has brought down a part of the papers referring to the purchase of land for Intercolonial round house at Halifax. The returns purport to be complete, but an examination of the papers shows that four or five important communications, including one from the sitting member for Halifax to the general manager of the railway, have been withheld. It is shown by these papers that in 1903 the chief engineer, the engineer of construction, and other technical officers decided on a site for the roundhouse. This location was abandoned because, as the general manager states, certain business people in Halifax objected to it on the ground that a new settlement would be built up out of town, and they would be deprived of trade with the employees of the shops and yards.

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Increased Representation.

In the House of Commons, on the 14th January, Mr. J. J. Hughes, member for Kings County, introduced and spoke to the following resolution: That a humble address be presented to His Majesty King Edward VII. praying that he may be graciously pleased to cause a measure to be submitted to the imperial parliament for the purpose of amending the British North America Act, so that the maritime provinces of the Dominion, comprising the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, shall not at fifty times have fewer representatives in the House of Commons than the number that was assigned to each when it entered the confederation.

THE FOOD INSPECTION BILL.

Two of the government days this week were occupied in discussing Mr. Fisher's Bill for the inspection of food packing establishments. It was ascertained by a rigorous cross-examination that the minister intends to appoint forty-five inspectors at a salary of \$1,500 a year with an inspector at \$2,000 Mr. Fisher admitted other probable expenses bringing the cost of administration up to \$75,000 a year but the opinion was freely expressed that the measure would reach three times that amount before the people were done with it. The inspectors would only examine operations of factories whose products are exported from the Dominion or shipped beyond the Province. So while the Canadian consumer will maintain the army of inspectors his own food will not be inspected.

THE NORTH ATLANTIC COMPANY AGAIN.

The Minister of the Interior has informed the House that the Government is dealing with an unsettled claim of \$1,000,000 of the North Atlantic Trading Company which has already received \$300,000 for not sending immigrants to Canada. On the part of the Company the case is pressed by Mr. Smart, agent of the unknown contractors who as Deputy Minister made the bargain with them and is now dealing with the officers who formerly served under him. Mr. Smart knows who the men are claiming this money and who threaten to commit suicide if their names are disclosed.

A MONTREAL VICTORY.

Much interest was felt here in Thursday's election at St. Antoine's Montreal for the local Legislature. The return of a Conservative for a seat previously held by a supporter of the Liberal Government would in any case show that the Conservative cause is still strong in business centres of Quebec Province. But when it was announced that Mr. Galt's majority was 969 and that his opponent, a brilliant Liberal lawyer had barely saved his deposit the occurrence was held to be a good omen for the Party in the future. Much attention has been paid to organization in the St. Antoine district and the result is a proof of the advantage of such work.

TARIFF REVISION.

The house has been making fair progress in committee on the tariff. More than half the clauses have passed, but there is a large and growing list of articles which Mr. Fielding has allowed to "stand". These are the items which have been reconsidered since the tariff was brought down. A new revision will be proposed in regard to these classes of articles, which include the sugar schedules, many of the metal duties, farm machinery and lumber.

INTERFERENCE WITH BRITISH COLUMBIA.

On Friday Mr. Borden sharply criticized the government for trying to coerce the administration of British Columbia into giving a present to the Grand Trunk Pacific Company of the provincial interest in the Indian reserve lands at the company's Pacific terminal point. As guardian of the property of the Indians the federal government handed over to the Company, on remarkably easy terms, 13,000 acres of the reserve, and then coolly asked the McBride Company to make a gift to the Company of the reversion belonging to the province. Mr. Borden, Mr. Foster, Mr. Stockton and Mr. Porter pointed out that penalty for Mr. McBride's firm and patriotic refusal was the recall of Governor MeTinnis from the Yukon to Ottawa, and his despatch to British Columbia to assist the federal government and the local opposition in their efforts to sweep the McBride Ministry out of existence. Mr. Aylesworth and Mr. Oliver claimed on behalf of their Government that the provincial interest in the lands was of no value, since it would only be effective on the disappearance of the Metlakatla Tribe of Indians, which according to Mr. Aylesworth would not happen for ten thousand years. Yet it was this useless interest which the G. T. P. Company was most anxious to obtain and which the company's partners in the Laurier government have been trying in vain to wrest from the province for the company. The Grand Trunk Pacific people have fared pretty well at the hands of the Dominion, and we may assume that if its friends can get possession of the resources of British Columbia there will be another haul.

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

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Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

\$10 Course in Penmanship.

Free, to every student entering the Union Commercial College. This month we will give absolutely free our Special Course in Penmanship, value \$10, two experienced teachers in charge. One of the best business training courses in Canada goes with the above. Everybody is recognizing this institution as the "good school." It costs no more than inferior schools. Enter now and secure the above course free. Address W. Moran, Prin.

Up! Up! Up!—Step by step the Union Commercial College has gradually gone ahead until today it stands in the front rank of business schools. It helps students to positions, it teaches every branch, it advertises, it does not deceive the public. Write today. W. Moran, Prin.

You cannot possibly have a better Cocoa than EPPS'S. A delicious drink and a sustaining food. Fragrant, nutritious and economical. This excellent Cocoa maintains the system in robust health, and enables it to resist winter's extreme cold.

COCOA W. TRAINOR & CO.

Sold by Grocers and Storekeepers in 1-lb. and 1/2-lb. Tins.

Sheriff's Sale.

By virtue of a writ of Statute Execution to me directed, issued out of his Majesty's Supreme Court of Judicature at Prince Edward Island, at the suit of John D. Sinnott against James N. McPhee and Mary C. McPhee, I have taken and sealed all the estate, right, title and interest in and to all that tract of land now or lately in possession of the widow of the late Peter Sinnott, on the east by land formerly owned by James Hogan, on the south by land owned by James A. McDonald, and on the west by land owned by John D. Sinnott, containing thirty-two acres of land more or less, and I hereby give public notice that I will on Wednesday the Twenty-eighth day of August A. D. 1907, at the hour of twelve o'clock noon, at the Court House in Georgetown in said County, set up and sell at public auction the said property, or as much thereof as will satisfy the levy marked on said writ, being the sum of Forty-one dollars and seventy-eight cents, besides Sheriff's fees and all other legal incidental expenses.

DIED.

At Cable Head on Feb. 1st, 1907. Miss Mary R. McDonald aged 89 years. May her soul rest in peace. (Boston papers please copy.)

At the Charlottetown Hospital, on the 5th inst., Louis Peters, aged 72 years. May his soul rest in peace.

At Johnston's River, on Feb. 2, Christina Ellen Rooney, beloved wife of Patrick Rooney, aged 38 years. May her soul rest in peace.

At Summerside on Jan. 31st, Captain Daniel McKinnon, Master of the Dominion Government steamer Brant, aged 61 years. Deceased was a native of Grand River, Lot 14, and in early life went to sea and became a Christian. He was engaged in business at Summerside when the Brant was built several years ago, he was appointed Master by the Dominion Government. This position he held till his death. He leaves to mourn a widow and one daughter, besides an aged mother, four sisters and six brothers. One of his brothers is Rev. J. C. McKinnon of Annapolis, N. S., who was with him in his last hours. Deceased was a member of the C. M. B. A. and K. of C. and his funeral on Saturday was conducted under the auspices of these societies. The funeral cortege proceeded to St. Peter's Church, where a Requiem Mass was celebrated by Father McKinnon, brother of the deceased, on a sermon appropriate to the occasion was preached by Rev. J. J. McDonald. Besides the Rev. Pastor and the priests named several other priests were present in the sanctuary. The funeral was very largely attended. May his soul rest in peace.

Montague Dental Parlors

We guarantee all our plate to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Teeth pulled and extracted absolutely painless. A. J. FRASER, D. D. S. Aug. 15, 1906-3m

Morson & Duffy

Barristers & Attorneys. Brown's Block, Charlottetown, P.E.I. MONEY TO LOAN. Solicitors for Royal Bank of Canada. JOHN T. MELLISH, M. A., LL.B. BARRISTER and ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, NOTARY PUBLIC, ETC. CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND. OFFICE—London House Building. Collecting, conveyancing, and all kinds of Legal business promptly attended to. Investments made on best security. Money to Loan.

ALL KINDS OF JOB WORK

Executed with Neatness and Despatch at the HERALD Office. Charlottetown, P.E. Island. Tickets. Dodgers. Posters. Check Books. Receipt Books. A. A. McLean, K. C. & Donald McKinnon. McLean & McKinnon. Barristers, Attorneys-at-Law. John A. Mathieson, K. C.—Esq. & A. McDonald. Mathieson & MacDonald. Barristers, Solicitors. Notaries Public, etc. Charlottetown, P. E. Island. Branch Office, Georgetown, P. E. May 10, 1906-7y.

Big Stirring Ten Days' Sale PREVIOUS TO STOCK-TAKING.

Commencing this Friday morning, we will during the next ten days give extraordinary bargains in all departments in the store.

In every department there are accumulations of broken lines and odds and ends, left over from a big year's selling, which we would like to see cleared out before stock-taking, and we have marked the prices so low, as to ensure their going rapidly.

We have made extraordinary sales in our Mantle department this season, but on the few handsome ladies' jackets left over, we have marked the price down to actual cost, so here is a chance for a snap. We have some very desirable Misses' and Children's coats off which we are giving a discount of 1-3 off. All left over millinery at a fraction of price.

We are giving big reductions in our Men's Clothing department of certain lines. Come in and investigate. There are snaps in furs, dress goods, fancy goods, and underwear, staples, etc.

In fact there are extraordinary opportunities for cash buying all over the store, which shrewd shoppers will not fail to take advantage of. We have prepared for and expect a big rush, so come early and get best choice.

W. TRAINOR & CO. The Store That Saves You Money.

Mortgage Sale.

To be sold at Public Auction in front of the Law Courts Building in Charlottetown in Queen's County in Prince Edward Island, on Monday the eleventh day of February A. D. 1907 at the hour of twelve o'clock noon, under by and virtue of a power of sale contained in an indenture of mortgage dated the 18th day of November 1890, and made between Michael Rooney of Montague in Township number fifty-seven in Kings County farmer, and Mary Rooney his wife, of the one part, and the credit Foncier Franco-Canadien of the other part, all that tract piece and parcel of land situate in King's County, bounded and described as follows: that is to say, on the north by land now or lately in possession of the widow of the late Peter Sinnott, on the east by land formerly owned by James Hogan, on the south by land owned by James A. McDonald, and on the west by land owned by John D. Sinnott, containing thirty-two acres of land more or less, and I hereby give public notice that I will on Wednesday the Twenty-eighth day of August A. D. 1907, at the hour of twelve o'clock noon, at the Court House in Georgetown in said County, set up and sell at public auction the said property, or as much thereof as will satisfy the levy marked on said writ, being the sum of Forty-one dollars and seventy-eight cents, besides Sheriff's fees and all other legal incidental expenses.

Happy Thoughts.

Never before have we had such a bright and dazzling stock of holiday goods as we have this season. We name few by way of suggestion. FURS. Superb Fur Garments, so varied in price that every one can be suited. If you want FINE FURS come here for them. Gloves, Hosiery, Underwear, Handkerchiefs, Neckwear, Gents' Furnishings, Dress Goods, Cushion Tops, etc.

Our Furniture Man

Pronounces our Furniture Attractions boundless. Furniture in endless variety—from simple low priced pieces to the more ornate and most expensive. No matter what price you pay, you'll get BEST VALUE FOR YOUR MONEY. A good gift lives a long life. Good Furniture is a good gift. Choose now. We'll store and deliver it just where and when you say.

Snappy Styles JAS. PATON & CO.

Solid Footwear. Fall and Winter Weather!

Ladies! Here is your chance, one week only. Box Calf Boots, neat, up-to-date. Cheap any time at \$2.25, now \$1.50, all sizes. These Boots arrived a few days ago a little late of course, but they are yours at the above price. See them anyway. A. E. McEACHEN, THE SHOE MAN. QUEEN STREET. Fall and winter weather calls for prompt attention to the Repairing, Cleaning and Making of Clothing. We are still at the old stand, PRINCE STREET, CHARLOTTETOWN. Giving all orders strict attention. Our work is reliable, and our prices please our customers. H. McMILLAN.