

THE HERALD

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The Reconstructed Executive.

The Liberal members elect of the new Legislature, met in caucus in the Provincial building on Thursday of last week, when the following reconstruction of the Provincial Executive was agreed upon:

Hon. F. L. Haszard, President Executive Council and Attorney General. Hon. James H. Cumiskey, Commissioner of Public Works.

Hon. John Richards, Provincial Secretary-Treasurer and Commissioner of Agriculture. Without portfolio: Hon. Geo. E. Hughes, Benjamin Gallant, John McMillan, J. D. McInnis, Captain Read and Lauchlin McDonald.

Hon. Matthew Smith, retires from the Executive to become Speaker of the House, when the Legislature meets.

A glance at the personnel of the reconstructed administration, shows that Premier Haszard chose the line of least resistance and provoked as little friction as possible, in the distribution of the salaried offices.

As there are three portfolios with salaries attached, it has been the rule, a kind of unwritten law, that these portfolios should be held by representatives of the three Counties, respectively.

It seems reasonable and just that one of these three salaried offices should go to each of the three Counties. Such a distribution would be in accordance with governmental tradition and precedent in this Province.

But in this instance precedent and tradition are thrown to the winds. The Commissioner of Agriculture is allowed to remain in Prince County and, to ensure its retention there, is given to a man who practically controls his "borough."

The Attorney Generalship and the Commissioner of Public Works are retained in Queen's County, and King's County is put off with two fore-castle members of the Executive.

In addition to two salaried portfolios, Queen's County also gets the Speakership. All this shows that Queen's has been most generously dealt with, while King's has to be satisfied with empty honors.

It is safe to presume that this shabby treatment of King's County, in the awarding of salaried offices, was not because there was no representative from that County ready and willing, and anxious to assume the responsibility and draw the salary of one of the paying portfolios.

This slight to King's County must otherwise be accounted for. It would be inconvenient, at this juncture, to dispossess an office holder, and it would be inexpedient to run any risks in opening close constituencies; therefore it was evidently deemed most prudent to patch matters up with as little disturbance as possible.

Three sons for the present, and wait, Micawberlike, for something to turn up. Another rather alomalous phase of the Executive reconstruction, is the inclusion therein of the returning officer's member for the fourth district of Prince County Capt. Joseph Read.

Members of Government are supposed to represent electoral constituencies; but here is a man that represents no constituency; the electors of the fourth district of Prince rejected him. He represents only the Sheriff of Prince County who, in turn, represents the Provincial Government; therefore the Captain represents the Government, in the Government. Surely that is an extraordinary mix-up.

Are we to assume that this wonderful executive; this extraordinary patch-work, is indicative of the last stage of a decaying administration? Has the Leader of the Government merely been able to effect such a reconstruction as will hold together until he receives his judicial appointment? Certainly he has an eye to windward and as soon as he receives what he is looking for, he will care very little how his colleagues of today may fight among themselves.

Mr. John McSwain. It is with feelings of the deepest regret we find ourselves called upon to chronicle the death of Mr. John McSwain, which occurred suddenly at his residence about noon on Sunday, Mr. McSwain was born at the old McSwain homestead, Mermaid Farm Lot 48, seventy-two years ago. He was a bright talented boy and, when quite young, became a first class teacher. He taught for some years in the schools of the Province and in due course was promoted to the office of School Inspector for King's County. Subsequently he became headmaster of the Normal School, Charlottetown. Later he relinquished that position to become Principal of Queen Square School. Latterly he was Instructor in Botany and Drawing for the public schools of the city. He occupied this position at the time of his death.

Mr. McSwain was an unassuming scholarly gentleman; unostentatious and retiring in his habits. He made great advances in the study of natural history and in the science of Botany and had no mean authority. He was also recognized as an ornithologist of standing. He had written considerable on scientific subjects, and was the author of a work on the flora of this Province, now used as a text book in our public schools. He was President of the Natural History and Antiquarian Society of this Province. He was a past-President of the Caledonian Club, and Financial Secretary of that society at the time of his death. He was also identified with other fraternal and benevolent societies. Deceased was an exemplary Christian and a model citizen; punctual in his habits and loyal in his friendships. He attended to his usual occupations in apparent good health up to Saturday night last. About 10:30, he retired to his room, and a short time afterwards, Mrs. McSwain entering the room, found him lying unconscious on the floor. He had been stricken with paralysis and fallen from his chair. His family doctor and spiritual adviser were quickly summoned; but he never regained consciousness, and lingered till noon on Sunday, when he breathed his last. He leaves to mourn a disconsolate widow and eight children, four sons and four daughters. Two sons and two daughters are teachers. Three sons for the present, and wait, Micawberlike, for something to turn up. Another rather alomalous phase of the Executive reconstruction, is the inclusion therein of the returning officer's member for the fourth district of Prince County Capt. Joseph Read.

son is in Chicago and two sons in Winnipeg. Two daughters, teachers, left home only about a month ago for Regina, Saskatchewan, where they entered the Normal school, preparatory to taking up teaching there. To his bereaved family and friends we tender our sincere sympathy. R. I. P.

One Law For All.

The courts are asked to unseat Sir Wilfrid Laurier, on the grounds of personal corruption in the O. S. A. election. It appears says the Mail and Empire that long before Parliament was dissolved the civil servants applied for increased remuneration.

In answer to the application the Government appointed a Royal Commission to make enquiry into the facts. This commission reported that there was crookedness in the administration of affairs, but strongly advised a better organization of the service and better pay.

The recommendation of the subject of pay was followed by the Ministry in so far as the higher or political offices were concerned. But the lesser officials, who do the work were passed over.

When the election came A. W. Fraser, the timber magnate, who was the first candidate for the city, definitely promised that if the servants would support him an increase in the salaries equal to ten per cent, all round would be made.

This promise, it will be remembered was dropped. The Government was afraid to go to the country with Fraser holding too prominent a position. Then another set of candidates, with Sir Wilfrid Laurier among them was put up. The English-speaking candidate promptly adopted the Fraser programme.

He announced that he was for big pay for the officials. Immediately that this gentleman had thus spoken, Sir Wilfrid Laurier wrote a letter for election use stating that he also favored the giving of more money to the civil servants, and in intimating that his return as the representative of Ottawa would have an important bearing upon the decision of this question.

The letter was carefully worded but its meaning was not at all obscure. That it had an influence upon the result there can be little doubt. It was not of a character to induce the electors to vote for Sir Wilfrid in the belief that he would raise their pay what sense would there be in writing it? The proposal is interest are charged at the proposal to bring Sir Wilfrid to justice for his conduct in this particular. But why should the titled man be exempt from the operations of the law? A man who gives a dollar of his own money for a vote is liable to be fined and imprisoned. Is the corruptionist who offers the people's money by wholesale, for numerous votes to escape the consequences of his act?

Reuff Found Guilty. Abraham Reuff, a former political boss of San Francisco was found guilty of bribery on Thursday last. The verdict was returned when the deliberations of the jury had been prolonged 24 hours. The vigilance of a police checked all attempts at a demonstration. Hundreds of spectators who hung about the courtroom during the closing days of the trial retained their seats in the chamber or stood patiently opposite the entrance, while strong details of police watched carefully inside and patrolled every approach to the hall. By previous agreement, the Court sat last Saturday the day for pronouncing the judgment. Reuff's conviction renders him liable to the maximum penalty, fourteen years in the penitentiary.

Will Not Dissolve. The British Government's determination that there be no immediate dissolution of parliament but that the Ministers will meet parliament at the next session with an important programme, of which the budget will be the leading feature, was announced by Premier Asquith on Saturday in a speech justifying the legislative work the Government have already accomplished. Asquith invited the party to treat the veto of the Lords as demonstrating an issue in politics but declined to dissolve parliament at the dictation and caprice of the Upper Chamber. To admit such a claim on the part of the irresponsible chamber the Premier said would be immeasurably abused for it would render the Government subject session after session to a series of general elections. The Government would therefore choose its own time for dissolution.

Canadian Furred Princess. Canada's influential English magazine published in London in which is printed news of importance to the people of this Dominion contains the following complimentary article: The Princess of Wales in driving to and from the Guild Hall on the occasion of the visit to the city of London of the King and Queen of Sweden, wore the fur coat presented to her Royal Highness by the women

of Nova Scotia. The coat is made of the very finest mink all trapped in Canada and is more than three-quarters in length the collar being formed of three complete skins small and soft as sable. The cuffs are similarly made and there is a double row of gilt buttons on which the Prince of Wales' plumes is raised in Canadian gems of different color. The garment is thus comprised entirely of material found in the Dominion, including the gold. That a garment the entire product of Nova Scotia, should be so highly appreciated by its distinguished recipient the future queen as to be used on so notable an occasion, is the highest tribute to Canada's advancement in manufactures that has ever been paid to the Dominion. And it is especially pleasing to Nova Scotians, that throughout the British Empire her name is receiving prominence in this connection that was never dreamed of by the worthy ladies who carried out the plans for presentation. Nothing else could possibly have happened to have brought Nova Scotia so prominently in the limelight because the advancement of a people is to some degree measured by the advancement of its arts and manufactures. The fact comes out that no other Province of the Dominion could have produced the gift presented to the Princess, which includes gold, steel, wood, pearls, amethysts, and mink and these were all wrought within the Province and fashioned with a skill that charmed a princess who acknowledged the gift in a charming letter written by her own hand and addressed to the wife of Lieutenant Governor Fraser.

Disastrous Explosion.

A despatch of the 14th from Col- on Panama says: The explosion at Obispo of 25 tons of dynamite blast was the most serious accident in the building of the Panama Canal since the United States took control. Already the officials are endeavoring to ascertain the cause of the premature discharge. The dead now total thirteen. Many bodies have been recovered but it is believed that a score or more are still under the masses of rock and earth thrown up. The death list would have been appalling had the train conveying five hundred laborers passed a few minutes later. The train steamed through the cut and was barely out of view when the explosion occurred. For 80 feet in length and four hundred feet in width the Obispo presents a graphic picture of the horrible effects of the explosion. The whole hillside has been devastated, the mine tunnel is a mass of rubble, tossing huge boulders in all directions. The ninety-ton steam shovel is a complete wreck, crushed under the weight of the falling rocks. Everyone of the crew was killed. All the tracks were torn to pieces and are now covered with debris.

Four Children Burned. In the fire which destroyed the home of Mr. William Scharf, of Hawthorne, five miles from Ottawa on the 14th, four children were burned to death. Early in the morning, Mr. Scharf and his wife, after lighting the fire in the kitchen, went out to feed the stock. While attending to the cattle Mr. Scharf saw the house on fire and ran to save the little ones, but the fire had gained such headway that it was impossible to ascend the stairs, and the frantic parents were powerless to render assistance to their unfortunate children. Once only, when the father burst open the upper window, which he had reached by means of a ladder was any outcry heard from within. It was the voice of the oldest child calling frantically for "papa." When the fire burned down the bodies of the children were found in the cellar burned to a crisp.

The Market Prices.

Table listing market prices for various goods: Butter (fresh) 0.25 to 0.28, Butter (salt) 0.22 to 0.24, Calf skins 0.08 to 0.10, Ducks per pair 0.80 to 1.00, Eggs per doz 0.28 to 0.30, Fowls 0.80 to 0.75, Chickens per pair 0.80 to 0.75, Flour (per cwt) 0.75 to 1.00, Hides 0.08 to 0.00, Hay, per 100 lbs 0.50 to 0.00, Mutton, per lb (carcase) 0.08 to 0.08, Oatmeal (per cwt) 0.40 to 0.42, Potatoes 0.20 to 0.22, Pork 0.71 to 0.08, Sheep per lb 0.45 to 0.60, Turnips 0.13 to 0.14, Turkeys per lb 0.14 to 0.15, Geese 1.00 to 1.25, Bile cuds 0.40 to 0.45, Pressed hay 10.00 to 00.00, Straw 0.30 to 0.33.

Minard's Liniment cures Dandruff.



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