

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 16, 1914.

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WHY NOT TELL THE TRUTH?

If falsehood and misrepresentation would free the Flemming government from suspicion and exonerate its members from all charges made against them it would only be necessary for them to rely upon the St. John Standard, and those for whom it speaks. The Standard this morning prints a despatch from Fredericton bearing the following heading in large type:—"Dugal spurs for time, has debate on his motion postponed."—Government ready to go ahead, but he could not be persuaded," etc., etc. The article with this heading declared that:—"Mr. Dugal and those responsible for the charges recently made against Premier Flemming showed tonight by their conduct in the legislature that the charges were not substantiated by facts. . . . Members of the government announced that they were ready to go on with the debate tonight, but Mr. Dugal began to spar for time, and when the government consented to have the matter laid over till tomorrow, the leader of the opposition asked that the debate be postponed until Friday. The government endeavored to have the matter considered before that time, but Mr. Dugal could not be persuaded to agree to this, and it was finally decided to continue the debate on Friday."

This statement is a tissue of falsehoods. The facts are that Acting Premier Clarke met Mr. Dugal and asked him if he would consent to let the matter go over until today. Mr. Dugal assented, but having learned shortly afterward that his counsel could not be in attendance today he met the premier again, and asked him if he would consent to a postponement until tomorrow, stating, however, that he was quite ready to go on last night. But the government was not ready, and therefore Acting Premier Clarke readily assented to have the matter taken up on Friday.

What does the government or its supporters hope to gain by falsifying the record?

APPLY THE PROBE

The St. John Standard is seeking to convey the impression that the Opposition at Fredericton is eager to have the Dugal charges investigated, but that the government is determined to have a full inquiry. It is hardly worth while for the Standard to waste space on statements of this kind. It would be much wiser for that journal to await the result of the investigation. The Opposition are not only anxious to have a full inquiry but they and the people of the province will be satisfied with nothing less. It must have occurred even to the Standard that charges of so grave a character would not have been made unless the Opposition felt that they were able to produce evidence to substantiate them. All that the Opposition ask is that the charges be probed and that no further financial burdens be placed upon the province until this has been done. The singular course pursued by the Standard itself since the charges were made is the best evidence of the panic in the government ranks.

At the present time there appears to be a disposition in the government party to throw Mr. Flemming overboard and hold the rest of the government together, preventing if possible a full inquiry into the affairs of the St. John Valley Railway. Nothing short of a complete investigation into that matter will satisfy the people, and the position of the government will be better determined thereafter. Attempts have also been made to divert attention from the charges made in connection with the timber bonuses, by calling for an extended inquiry into the whole question of the administration of crown timber lands. Let us have an investigation first of the specific charges that have been made against the leader of the present government, who about the middle of March congratulated the province upon the great success of the timber policy of his government, and the entire satisfaction of the lumber operators themselves with the policy adopted last year. If friends of Mr. Flemming now want an inquiry into the whole question of administration it must be taken as an evidence that they have no faith in the statements made by Mr. Flemming in March, which were published by government organs with a great show of pride. Everything connected with the crown timber lands was entirely satisfactory to these organs until the Dugal charges were made, and now in an effort to divert attention from those charges they are throwing discredit upon the previous statements of Premier Flemming.

It will be noted that Hon. Mr. Foster, in behalf of the Dominion government, informed parliament yesterday that the question of giving \$8,000,000, or whatever federal assistance might be necessary for the construction of the bridges across the St. John and Kennebec rivers, is "under consideration." Mr. Foster says that no order-in-council has been passed. As the Times has already pointed out, Hon. Mr. Murray and Mr. Tilley when they went to Ottawa only received certain verbal assurances from some members of the government. The government may change its mind, or the caucus may turn down the proposal when it is made by the government.

There is therefore no assurance that the \$8,000,000 will be made available, and even if it were there would be all the more reason for refusing to give an additional bond guarantee to the St. John & Quebec Railway Company until the Dugal charges against members of the Flemming government have been fully investigated.

The government organs continue their favorite pastime of abusing Mr. Carvell and Mr. Carter. It would be much more prudent to withhold criticism of these gentlemen until the investigation of the Dugal charges has been completed. If it should be shown that Mr. Carvell, Mr. Carter and all who have been in any way connected with the presentation of those charges have done the province of New Brunswick a great service, the government organs would be more thoroughly discredited than if they had contented themselves with asking for an investigation and awaiting the result before calling names.

THE MAIL SERVICE

The activity of the Halifax board of trade will no doubt be observed by the St. John board, and such action taken as may be necessary to correct false impressions which the Halifax board is sending broadcast in relation to the carriage of trans-Atlantic mails. The Halifax board has sent out figures claiming that there is a saving of four to seven and a half hours in the time between Liverpool and Montreal by using the Halifax instead of the direct St. John route. The contention of St. John has been that St. John is at least as good if not a better mail port than Halifax in point of time of transmission of the mails, and it is believed the experience of the past winter has demonstrated the fact. Not only the board of trade but the city council and all who are interested in the welfare of this port, and the best mail service, should strenuously resist any effort made to deprive St. John of the service of the mail steamships. The people of Halifax are vigorously at work, and in that respect are setting an example to the business men of St. John.

The acting premier of Newfoundland says that a thousand widows and orphans need assistance and it will be appreciated by the government and people of the ancient colony.

The obstinacy of the weather is becoming somewhat objectionable. There is no objection to the lingering of winter in the lap of spring for a reasonable period, but these mid-April snow squalls are so severe a test of patient cheerfulness.

President Huerta is an unconscious humorist. He wants Uncle Sam to arbitrate the question whether Mexico should apologize for having arrested a boat-load of American seamen without just cause. He will probably find in the course of a day or two that a decent apology for a wrong committed is cheaper than the loss of a town.

The Manchester Guardian reminds Sir Edward Carson and his friends that the Canadian parliament has many times passed resolutions in favor of Home Rule for Ireland, and that the Australian parliament has pursued a similar course; while every colonial premier who attended the last Imperial conference was in favor of Home Rule for Ireland. Having Home Rule themselves, the over-sea states have no misgivings as to the excellent results following its adoption.

It is proposed to spend a million dollars for memorials to mark the one hundred years of peace between Great Britain and the United States. Among other memorials are suggested a statue of Lincoln in London, of Queen Victoria in Washington and of Francis Parkman in Ottawa. These are good suggestions, and if carried out the result would be welcomed as a striking evidence of the passing of old prejudices and the growth of a more kindly feeling between the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon race.

IS 101 YEARS OLD

Peter Ferguson of Moncton Well Remembers Miramichi Fire

(Sackville Post.)

Peter Ferguson of Moncton, formerly of P. E. Island, celebrated his 101st birthday on April 1. Mr. Ferguson was born in the year 1818 and followed the sea for some years then took to farming and lumber. He remembers seeing the place of the Miramichi Fire of 1818 from his home in P. E. Island and says:—"Some preacher had been going about preaching the end of the world and of course we were very much frightened by what looked like a big fire coming our way. I remember I was driving a team towards home when I first saw the ashes and noticed the bloody sun and smoke filled sky. I unhitched the horses and let them go because," he added with a humorous twinkle at the remembrance, "of course it was the end of the world and it was no use waiting to put them in the barn."

USE THE WANT AD. WAY

BIRTHDAYS OF NOTABILITIES

THURSDAY, APRIL 16.

Andrew Broder, who has been member of parliament for Dundas, Ont., since 1896, and who is one of the most popular men in the House of Commons, has a birthday today. He is now sixty-nine years old, having been born in the county of Huntingdon, Quebec, in 1845. His Irish parentage doubtless accounts to a certain extent for his ready wit and his fame as a story-teller. When he was collector of customs some years ago in Morrisburg, he had several amusing experiences in connection with the discharge of his duties. On one occasion a woman stepped off the ferry, carrying a fine, large rooster, which she had bought in New York State. She went to the customs office to tell her story and see if she could get the bird through duty free. Mr. Broder questioned her exhaustively and then announced that he would let it come in on one condition. Being asked the condition, he said with the utmost gravity:—"That you do not permit this Yankee rooster to crow over a Canadian barnyard."

LIGHTER VEIN.
Under the New Law.
"Miss Frocks has bought a birdless hat," said Mrs. Cusmo.
"It might be called an audubonnet, might it not?" asked Mr. Cawker.

As Far as He Went.
"Do you dance the maxixe?" she asked.
"Yes," he replied, "but I hardly ever attempt to say it."

Modern Courtship.
"You never seem to get any letters from your sweetheart?"
"Oh, nothing so commonplace as that. We exchange graphophone records."

He Knew.
The doctor was bandaging the small boy's arm after vaccination, when the little chap interrupted him.
"Put it on the other arm, doctor," he said.

"Why, no," said the physician, "I want to put the bandage on your sore arm, so that the boys at school won't hit you on it."
"Put it on the other arm, doc," reiterated the small boy, "you don't know the fellows at our school!"

The Underworld.
"Henry, what is this underworld there is so much talk about?"

"The underworld is a general term that is applied to the class which is made up of people who trade on vice and live by criminal practices."
"Dear me, why is such a class permitted to exist?"
"Oh, it serves its purpose."
"In what way? I should like to know?"
"For one thing, if there were no such class I'm afraid I'd have to go out of the law business right away, and I don't know of anything else that I could make a living at."
"Well, of course, that being the case, I suppose we ought to look at it sensibly, but I almost wish you had studied to be a doctor."

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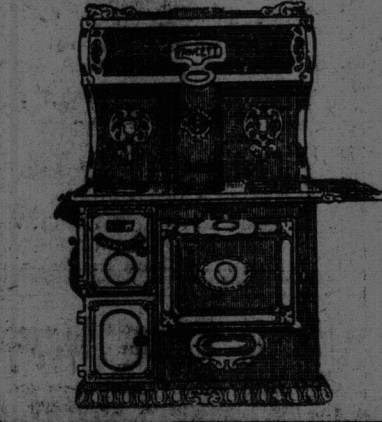
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"I read in the paper where a young woman had been cured of the same troubles by taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound so I threw away the medicines the doctor left me and began taking the Compound. Before I had taken half a bottle I was able to sit up and in a short time I was able to do all my work. Your medicine has proved itself able to do all you say it will and I have recommended it in every household I have visited."—Mrs. Mary Johnson, 210 Siegel Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Another Bad Case.
Ephrata, Pa.—"About a year ago I was down with nervous prostration. I was pale and weak and would have hysterical spells, sick headaches and a bad pain under my shoulder-blade. I was under the care of different doctors but did not improve. I was so weak I could hardly stand long enough to do my dishes."
"Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has made me well and happy and I have begun to gain in weight and my face looks healthy now."—Mrs. J. W. Hornberger, R. No. 8, Ephrata, Pa.

If you want special advice write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential) Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be opened, read and answered by a woman and held in strict confidence.

PROTECTING HOTEL GUESTS

New York Paper Says There is Great Scope for Reform.

New York, April 16.—The World says editorially.—The employment of detectives to rid hotel lobbies of card-sharps, fake mine-promoters and confidence men generally, evidenced a commendable concern for their patrons by hotel managers. Why should not a hotel look after the welfare of guests in this respect as much as in the matter of food and lodging? The disposition of landlords to exercise a protective surveillance of the kind will be applauded.

But why stop half-way? Why not protect guests as well from the "powers that prey" within the hat-check men, waiters, bell-boys, cab-starters, porters, maids and other "inside operators" who from points of vantage in the hotel levy toll on all its frequenters? The victims of the card-sharp and confidence man are, after all, not numerous, and they are to an extent accomplices in their own deception. But from the "honest graft" of the hotel employ there is no escape.

It is a good thing to get rid of the corridor confidence men; but what great hotel will first install a detective bureau for the exposure of over-charged, extor-

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tion, bad service and other impositions to which guests are subject within its walls?

I. C. R. MATTERS.
Moncton Transcript.—According to current rumor R. S. Richardson, as assistant superintendent, has been appointed superintendent of the Halifax and St. John district of the I. C. R., during the absence of J. T. Halliday, who is absent in the south, travelling for his health. It is also reported that Nap-

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The action of the heart becomes weak, the lungs are weak in breathing and digestion fails because the nerves which control the flow of gastric juices give out.

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