

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, 51, JOHN, N. E. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1916

## The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., SEPT. 15, 1916.

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## "THE MOVING FINGER WRITES"

As was generally predicted the Conservative government of British Columbia has been swept from power. The defeat was even more crushing than was expected. Every member of the government appears to have been defeated, and there may be only four Conservatives in the new house. The people took no chances. It is to be hoped enough of sturdy independence will develop among the Liberals in the new house to prevent the grafters and looters from attaching themselves to the skirts of new government.

British Columbia.  
Quebec.  
Nova Scotia.  
Manitoba.  
Westmorland.  
South West Toronto.  
North Perth.  
Peel.  
Vancouver.  
Victoria.

What does the record in all these constituencies and provinces mean? Simply that the people are tired of graft. They want more honest government. They have ceased to respect those who make head appeals to patriotism while they set and abet the grafters who are bleeding the country and making the name of patriotism a by-word. That is what the record means. And New Brunswick is only waiting for the chance to add another to the list of provinces declaring for better things. Westmorland has set the pace. It is now up to Carleton county, and all Canada is interested in the result.

## STILL ANOTHER SENSATION

Mr. Robert J. Arnill, railway contractor, swears that the firm of which he was a member had to pay \$2,500 to get a settlement with the Clarke government, and that his share of the money was paid to Mr. H. Crockett of the Fredericton Gleason. He further swears that members of the government knew of the transaction, and that one of his partners told him that Premier Clarke told him to pay his share to Mr. Crockett.

When will the story of graft come to an end? Evidently not while the present government is in power. For this \$2,500 deal took place July last year. Mr. Crockett is described as the middleman in the transaction. He could help the contractors get their money. While waiting one of them "helped" him, as a sort of guarantee of good faith. And Mr. Crockett seems to have come out of the affair very well indeed—if we may accept the sworn statement of Mr. Arnill.

What have the premier and the chief law officer of the crown to say in reply to Mr. Arnill? It is up to them. It is not at all a matter between Arnill and Crockett. Public funds were being dealt with, and if what Mr. Arnill says is true, there was a diversion of public funds to the pockets of the proprietor of the Fredericton Gleason—and perhaps the pockets of other persons.

It is clearly a case in which the premier must speak and the attorney general must act. The people, remembering that other charges of graft have been proved to the hilt, will wait with keen interest the action of the government in relation to the Arnill charges.

If it cost this firm \$2,500 to get a settlement with the Clarke government, how much from all the contractors doing business with the government has been paid out of public funds?

Sensation follows sensation in the Carleton county campaign. If the people of that county should vote for the government candidates in the face of the government's record and the recent revelations they would brand the constituency with the brand of infamy.

But, meanwhile, what has the government to say to Mr. Arnill? Either he or someone else ought to be in jail. And there should not be any delay in taking action. The people of New Brunswick are very weary of scandals and revelations and the whitewashing of the men who betray their trust. The Carleton county man who ejaculated "Poor old New Brunswick!" when he had heard the reading of the Arnill affidavit gave expression to a feeling that is becoming universal.

Lieut. Gov. Wood as well as Premier Clarke will be interested in the Arnill story. The lieutenant governor has been marvelously patient, but he can hardly refrain from asking a few pointed questions at the present moment.

## A STRIKING ELECTION CARD

The card which Mr. A. D. McCain and Mr. Geo. W. Upham, the opposition candidates, have issued to the electors of Carleton county very properly points out that the party consists of both Liberals and Conservatives, united to secure better government for the province. It mentions the presidents of the Conservative Associations of York and Northumberland counties as among those pledged to work for better government.

"Just as thousands of Liberals

in 1908 voted for a change of government in New Brunswick, and still remained Liberal in federal politics, so we believe," say Messrs. McCain and Upham, "many Conservatives will vote on election day, Sept. 21." The card also points out that the people at home should strive the more earnestly for better government because so many sons of New Brunswick are in the trenches fighting for Canada and the Empire, in response to the call of patriotism and righteousness.

The opposition candidates do not dwell upon the shameful graft exposed in this province further than to say: "We do not intend to dwell at any length upon the special and personal faults of the individual members of the government. While the investigations of charges have proved them too true in many cases and have cast discredit upon individuals as well as the government, there must be a feeling of regret at the loss of prestige for New Brunswick and for the reputations that have suffered in the pursuit of political advancement and personal wealth."

Dealing with the provincial debt, however, the card sets forth some information which cannot but startle the taxpayers of the province. It says:

"The increase in our bonded indebtedness has been such as to make thinking men pause and consider whether the province is drifting. We know that because of railway subsidy legislation more than 25 years ago large sums were added to the public debt to provide for the construction of railways, but when this government came into power the bonded indebtedness, adding the floating liability which they bonded, was \$3,884,588.99. There is no better evidence of debt than interest. If a man owes \$10,000 he pays ten times as much interest as when he owes \$1,000. The auditor general says we paid \$197,857.08 for interest. In 1910 we paid \$261,816.61. In 1915, \$385,097.40. These figures cannot lie. They are from the auditor's reports. The bonded debt, according to Hon. Dr. Landry in answer to a question in legislature last session, was \$10,804,646.66. We must add to this the Valley Railway bonds, as the government has now assumed the obligations of the company and this means \$4,250,000 more. Add to this the bond obligation of the Southamptown Railway, \$1,000,000, upon which we are paying \$6,300 interest yearly, and the bond guarantees of the N. B. and Seaboard, \$297,000, and the Fredericton and Minto \$425,000, with the Woodstock Cold Storage \$10,000, and we have the enormous total of bonded debt and obligation upon which we will be called upon to pay interest of \$15,941,646.66. Large amounts for permanent bridges will be added this year and the province of New Brunswick will be liable for interest upon obligations of over sixteen million, or an increase in eight years of over ten million dollars. This is a most serious matter and calls for both reform and retrenchment."

Could there be a stronger argument, apart from the restoration of honesty to public life, why the taxpayers of New Brunswick should remove the present government from power? Is not this revelation enough to condemn any government?

Messrs. McCain and Upham also refer to the opposition highway policy, and conclude with this solemn pledge: "To see that the province has honest service; that officials of the government and others when they steal from the province are not saved from punishment because of their politics; to give every man, woman and child a fair show when managing our public affairs; to be just to ourselves, jealous of our reputation and honest with the people, will be our end and aim."

The soldier vote evidently did not go in favor of the tory government in British Columbia.

Last night's recruiting meeting was very disappointing in results. And yet the lads at the front are calling. There is no lack of men of military age who are fit, but they do not respond.

Both prohibition and woman suffrage carried in British Columbia. Sir Robert Borden will begin to see the importance of Dominion legislation to enable provinces having prohibition to enforce it.

The Standard says the "opposition scandal gang's lie" were effectively answered at Woodstock yesterday. The Standard said something of the sort prior to the Dugal and other enquiries, but the "lies" turned out to be the truth.

Rev. J. B. Daggett is apparently growing excited. A reverend gentleman who would not evince some interest in that Carleton county campaign would really be something of a curiosity. Mr. Daggett does not approve of Mr. H. M. Blair, but there is a reason. Mr. Blair has stated the reason. It relates to \$500 on an election note.

Chile has the steepest railroad grades in the world, but not a single fatal accident has occurred since operation was begun in 1910.

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## LIGHTER VEIN

The midnight stillness of the parlor was punctuated by a crash just overhead. "What was that?" exclaimed the timid young man. "Merely father dropping a hint," she replied, as she snuggled a little closer. Judge.

Wasted Talent. One-third of the fools in the country think they can beat a sawyer expounding the laws. One-half think they can beat the doctor healing the sick. Two-thirds of them think they can out the minister in the hole expounding the Gospel, and all of them think they can beat the editor running a newspaper—SAINA (A.N.) Union.

He Did. "I really don't believe," said Gladys, coyly, "that you particularly wanted to hear me sing." "I did, indeed," her admirer protested. "I had never heard you."—Livingston Lance.

Nineteen boys were born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Scott at Cornhill, Ark., in ten years, including three sets of triplets, four sets of twins—and each has been given a name beginning with A.

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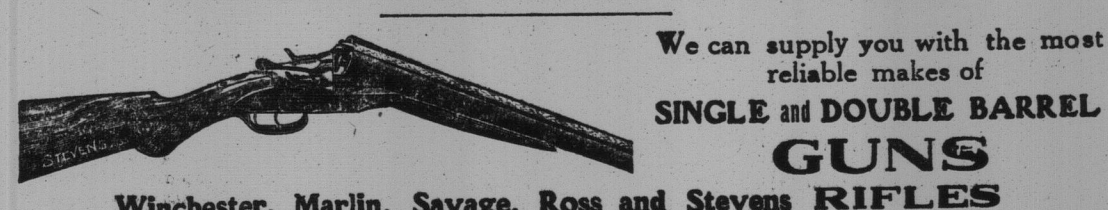
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## THE OUTLOOK IN HALIFAX

(Halifax Mail)

So far as Halifax and vicinity are concerned, the outlook for a prosperous winter is excellent. Indeed things look pretty well assured, for there are undertakings of considerable magnitude under way or in prospect, and there will be no lack of employment and good wages.

During the last week or two considerable interest has been centred on the other side of the harbor. The French Cable Company have about started operations on their new wharf and buildings and already a large number of men have been put to work.

The announcement that a gigantic steel ship-building plant is to be erected at Eastern Passage has been followed by the bonding of some two miles of water front and about two thousand acres of other lands. This has been foreshadowed in this correspondence, but the public did not seem ready to grasp its significance until the fact was made public that the required site had been secured. Particulars of this project are not yet available, but it can be said that if the anticipations of the promoters are carried out, the Eastern Passage will be one of the busiest spots in Canada.

Building operations in the city are fairly brisk. They would be carried on on a far greater scale but for the scarcity of labor. As it is, a number of houses are in course of erection all the time. They are going up three, four and five together, and it is stated that tenants are found for them long before they are completed. Indeed, one man who started to build a flat building in the north end had the foundation laid, ready before he had the foundation laid, so great is the demand. This demand is not likely to slacken any for the next few years, and if the population keeps on increasing at its present rate, there is no telling when it will slacken. This does look like an advantageous time for buildings on speculation.

## ONE MAN TO WAR, MILL CLOSES

230 Persons Idle Because Manager is Forced to Enlist.

As showing the rigor with which some of the tribunals are enforcing the compulsory enlistment in England, the case of the Olive Mill at Bueup, England, where 230 people are employed, is cited. It has closed in consequence of the local tribunal's decision that the manager must join the army (says the London Daily News).

This and another cotton mill are owned by Hoyle Bros., and are managed by the sons of the two partners. Claims for the managers, both unmarried, were made on the ground of indispensability. The tribunal gave temporary arrangements in each case pending an arrangement for one of them to be released for the army. Such an arrangement proved impracticable, and the tribunal have insisted on both men joining up. Messrs. Hoyle have since given their employees at the Olive Mill notice that it is to close.

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