

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1st, 1901.

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An Extraordinary Procedure.

The adjournment of the Legislature for the space of twelve days, from the 25th of April till the 7th of May is, to say the least, an extraordinary procedure on the part of the Provincial Government. It is not denied that a Legislative session may, for some extraordinary specific reason, be adjourned for a period of several days; but in the case of the Farquharson Government no explanation was given of the cause of this long adjournment. If any specific reason of an extraordinary nature exists for this very unusual procedure, the Premier took good care to keep it to himself. All the information he gave was that the adjournment was in the public interest. There may be a very grave difference of opinion regarding what, in this case, is for or against the public interests of this Province, and the Government by withholding the reason for their action have not afforded the public an opportunity to judge whether or not it is in the interests of the Province. It is hinted, and not denied, that unrealized hope of aid from Ottawa was the Government's difficulty. It will be remembered that, at the opening of the session the Premier proclaimed with a great flourish of trumpets, that before the session would end the Government would receive from the Federal authorities money to meet all their obligations. The session wore on; little business of importance was done, and it became quite evident that the Government were playing a waiting game. As the session was nearing the end of the fifth week of its duration, the Premier announced that the budget speech would be delivered not later than the 23rd ult. When that date arrived, which was the end of the fifth week, he felt obliged to state that he was unable to go on with the budget, for reasons which need not be made known. Two days later, when the session had lasted thirty-seven days, the Premier came to the House and announced to the Public Roads Act and the act amending the Sewerage Act, and on the evening of the same day, a message from his Honor the Lieutenant Governor was read announcing that it was his desire that when the House adjourned that day it should stand adjourned till Tuesday May the 7th. The Premier then moved the adjournment of the House to that date, as above stated, giving no other reason than that it was in the public interest. Evidently some hitch occurred at Ottawa delaying the realization of the Government's hope of obtaining money from that quarter. Whether or not the adjournment of the Legislature till the 7th inst. will improve their position remains to be seen. In addition to the question of financial assistance, it is said the Government take advantage of the delay in order to stave off the trial of election petitions, the dates of which had been fixed. Whatever may be the motives of the Government, no one can deny that their proceedings during the present session have been simply a waste of time and a grave imposition on public patience. If they were not ready to go on with the public business why did they call the session and fritter away five weeks and then adjourn without entering upon the real business for which Legislative sessions are called? No estimates were tabled; no financial statement was made and now after wasting all this time an adjournment is taken and the members are to be called in again at the very busiest season of the year to spend some more weeks doing what should have been accomplished long before the adjournment. How long are the electorates of this Province going to stand this kind of conduct?

A PETITION has been filed in the Supreme Court against the return of Mr. D. A. McKinnon, as representative of East Queen's in the House of Commons. The petition charges corrupt practices against Mr. McKinnon personally, and by agents, and prays to have the election voided and McKinnon unseated.

HENRY FISHER, a well-known saw mill man of Amherst, N. B., was instantly killed near that place on Saturday last. While cutting a log a plank flew back striking him above the heart. He lived only ten minutes.

A Specimen Brick.

In response to a request of the Leader of the Opposition the Commissioner of Public Works, a few days before the adjournment of the Legislature, brought down a return which throws considerable light upon the Government's methods of squandering the public money. A year ago or more the construction of a bridge over Seal River, near New Port, in the electoral district of Georgetown, was let at public auction for the sum of one hundred and ninety-nine dollars. For some reason or other the contractor failed to go ahead with the work, and it was then let by tender. One hundred and thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents was the amount of the tender accepted for the job. The tenderer built the bridge; but there were no side piles, and as these were not called for in the contract, the builder would not put them in without a small additional amount. The attention of the Government and the Government engineer was called to the matter and it was pointed out to them that the bridge stood in danger of being carried away by freshet unless protected by these side piles. The additional cost would have been only very small; but the Government refused to do anything in the way of protecting the bridge. The result was that, as anticipated, the bridge was carried away by the storm of last October and floated down the stream. Twenty or twenty-five dollars would probably have saved the structure; but the Government refused to make such an unneeded expenditure to protect this public property; consequently the amount paid for building was so much of people's money thrown. The bridge must now be rebuilt; but elections were now on and instead of letting the work by public competition, the Government, in the hope of securing votes for their candidates in that district, engaged men by the day to do the work. About forty electors, some with horses and carts and some without, were kept employed on the work for a number of weeks prior to the elections. It did not matter that, for a considerable portion of the time, the weather was such that very little progress could be made; these men got their wages all the same. It was of no consequence that snow and frost rendered it impracticable to go on with such work; these men must be kept in line to vote against the Opposition candidates. Now we have the bill; what does it amount to? One thousand one hundred dollars; (\$1,100). Eleven hundred dollars of the people's money have been squandered on the job; all of which could be saved by spending twenty or twenty-five dollars at the proper time to secure the work constructed in the first place. This is but one of the many jobs upon which the Government wasted the public money for the purpose of securing votes. Are we to take this as a fair sample of the "efforts" of the Patriot's "statesmen to extricate the Island from the financial muddle?" If so it will be matter for sincere congratulation if they never make any more such "efforts."

STEALING THE NIPISSING SEAT.

On Wednesday Mr. Northup of Hastings moved to refer the Nipissing election to the Committee of privileges and elections and was voted down by 94 to 51. The election act provides that excepting Algoma all the elections in Ontario at a general election shall take place on the 31st of October. On that day the returning officer together with his clerk hid themselves so that no nomination could take place. Mr. Klock was at the place appointed with his friends to make his deposit and put in his nomination paper. But no Returning officer was to be found.

MEANWHILE THE RETURNING OFFICERS.

Meanwhile the returning officers had made trips to Ottawa and saw the Secretary of State who told him first to go on and hold the election on the old lists of 1898. On the 26th a memorandum for an order in Council is alleged to have been signed by four ministers and on this memorandum an order in Council was passed instructing the sheriffs of Algoma to prepare new voters lists. The newspapers show that the four ministers could not have signed the memorandum as they were far from Ottawa at the time—on the 10th of November.

AN ILLEGAL WRIT.

was issued on the 10th of November. The Solicitor-General admitted there was no precedent for such a thing—there was no law or constitution for it. And if the conduct of the Government is to form a precedent there is no limit to the tampering of an unscrupulous Government with elections and the time when they shall be held can be juggled with to any extent.

THE CLERGUE CONTRACT.

But in the history of Parliament or for that matter in the history of human degradation there never was such an exhibition as Blair made last week. Something like ten or more days before, on the 9th of April he asked for \$500,000 to pay for rails to be manufactured by the Clergue company. He stated he had made a contract for 25,000 tons of rails at \$32.80 a ton for this year and had an arrangement for 25,000 for each year at the market price in England—on the 10th he brought down a draft of the contract. He stated when laying it on the table that his Deputy told him the Clergue people had not returned the contract executed, and that they said to him, "Telegraph to have them return it executed." The contract was found to be an absolute contract for five years without any provision for the approval of Parliament. The contract was shown to be an important contract, as it was made in a falling market; one month ago a suspicious thing before the election, and \$7 a ton being lost therefore on the first \$25,000, while as regards the succeeding four years the company could choose its own time to fix the current rate in England. Mr. Blair did not appear in the House for going on three weeks. Then what did he do? He says there was no contract, that the contract had never been given by him. Never read by him, a contract for \$4,000,000. The Government forced him to come forward and make his barefaced statement, and then they backed up the falsehood.

THE FALL OF LAURIE.

Is the heading of an article in the Evening News, of Toronto, which commented on the striking circumstances that the Biograph portrait of the Premier was bisected from all parts of the Theatre here. It was a most unusual thing

How is it to be accounted for? Nicholas Flood Davin, the author of the article, assigns two causes for it. First Laurier's own extraordinary "levity of opinion," so that it is impossible to know where he is at. Secondly, the needs of his friends and colleagues which he sanctions and for which he is therefore responsible—the sharp and shady transactions; Cote's circular to the census officers; his circular to the priests of the parish; the circling of the Ross Government inviting fraud and perjury in order to get at the politics of lads from sixteen to twenty-one; Blair's contract with the Clergue company; Tarte's defiance of all the safeguards of the public purse; the evidence that the Government means to strike at electoral freedom by clogging electoral machinery; the inefficiency of the Department of Agriculture; the extravagance of Sifton in spending vast sums on immigration to reward heeled bring in Donkhobors; Tarte's dismissal of workmen to the number of 75 to replace them, as he admitted, by partisans. All this and more has brought the Government into ill odour.

himself. The appearance of that man Preston in the witness box was something awful, and this is the man Sifton gives \$8,000 a year and expends to galavant over Europe and flood the country with Donkhobors and Italians.

LABOUR.

On Tuesday a great deal of time was given to Labour. First you had the Valleyfield strike and later on you had 250,000 voted in the Labour Gazette. When the government as Mr. R. Borden pointed out was passing its fair wages clause resolution Mr. Nicholas Flood Davin urged if they were sincere to put it in the form of a bill and thus make it obligatory. But that was not done and therefore we find it is not working satisfactory as was expected. The criticism of the vote showed that there is a great deal of money spent on the Gazette and that it is not kept as clear of political bias as it should be.

BORDEN AS LEADER.

On Tuesday, when Mr. Blair made his turn about face transformation act, Mr. Borden, the leader of the opposition vindicated his choice for leader. He laid Mr. Blair out. Then, when the Premier came forward to try to prove that there was no contract for five years and read the order in Council which provides for such a contract and in fact makes a contract, the leader of the opposition put him too on the grass and when Mr. Fielding was rash enough to quote a law case to prove that a contract with a government may be repudiated by Parliament, Mr. Borden showed that in that case there was fraud and proved abundantly that where there are bondfides on the part of the contractor Parliament will not repudiate a contract with a Government even though it be imprudent. Hence the incompetence or worse of the action of the government. The way Mr. Borden met the foremost men on the ministerial side and gave a good account of them was both strong and neat, and demonstrated that the opposition have found an effective leader, a leader, too, whose skirts free from the intrigues and follies and coteries of the post.

THE CENSUS CIRCULARS.

All of Friday was given up to the Census Circulars the fraudulent circular 102 commissioners or assistant commissioners said they had not seen, and the answers of the twelve others were equally fishy. In regard to the circular to the parish priests in Quebec, it was shown that only to French speaking priests was the circular sent asking them to send Mr. Cote the names of those who had emigrated to the United States. Mr. Barker read an article from Le Soleil, the organ of the Liberal party, pointing out that the larger population of Quebec could be made out to be the smaller, the representation in the House of Commons from the other provinces. The latest excuse was given for the word "Confidential" being on the circulars. The object, as Mr. Barker said, was only to plain.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

MINISTER CONGER HOME.

United States Minister Conger, who was one of the principal figures in the Pekin imprisonment arrived at San Francisco, on Thursday.

NOT LIKELY.

The London Saturday Review in an article relating to the increase which Germany is making in the strength of her navy says that Germany is preparing for war with the United States over South African affairs.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS IN ITALY.

Heavy earthquake shocks occurred in Italy on Thursday last. In the neighborhood of Palermo Sabina, about 20 miles from Rome the walls of houses were fissured and rendered uninhabitable and the people were panic stricken.

THE MANILA FRAUDS.

A Manila despatch says: Commissary Sergeant John Weston has been sentenced to be dishonorably discharged and to two years' imprisonment for commissary frauds. The sentence of the other sergeants and clerks implicated will probably be greater.

KIDNAPPER ACQUITTED.

An Omaha, Neb., despatch of the 28th says: The jury in the case of James Callaghan, accused of kidnaping Eddie Cadaby returned a verdict of acquittal. The judge had evidently been expecting another verdict, and was openly disappointed. "It is impossible for me to understand," he said, "how twelve intelligent men could have agreed upon such a verdict after listening to the testimony." The defendant could not have chosen more wisely if he had been selecting his own representatives and the community could not have made a more unfortunate selection. This jury is discharged without the compliments of the court.

IN THE ENLIGHTENED U. S.

A despatch of the 26th ult. from Clinton, New Mexico, says—Thomas E. Ketchum, alias "Black Jack," the notorious outlaw who had terrorized the people of the southwest for the past 15 years, was hanged here this afternoon for train robbery. His head was cut off by a pistol shot at his side and his body pitched forward toward the spectators, the blood spattering upon those nearest the scaffold. The execution took place inside a stockade built for the occasion. One hundred and fifty people saw the execution. When Ketchum mounted the scaffold at 11.15 his face was pale, but he showed no fear. A pistol shot at his side as the rope was being adjusted, for the condemned man had requested "spiritual attendance at the last moment." Ketchum declined to make a speech. He muttered "Good bye," then said: "Please dig my grave very deep," and as the gas was drawn over his face, he shouted, "I'll be go." At 1.15 the drop was sprung.

TERRIBLE DISASTER.

A despatch of the 25th from Frankfurt, Germany, says—One of the most disastrous explosions on record occurred this afternoon at the electric chemical works, near Greisheim, where smokeless powder is manufactured. Most of the boilers exploded. The noise was so tremendous that it was heard at great distances. The factory immediately became a mass of flames and a north-

west wind carried sparks to neighboring villages, where several houses were also set on fire. Eighteen cylinders, each containing about 100 weight of smokeless powder, were in a room when the explosion occurred. Troops were immediately ordered to Greisheim to prevent the fire spreading to the large barracks reservoir near by. Fire brigades from every place in the neighborhood hurried to the scene, but owing to the fear of a renewal of the explosion, the greatest difficulty was experienced in stopping the progress of the flames. Only after five hours of strenuous effort was the conflagration to some extent controlled and the danger passed so as to make it possible to begin the sad work of extricating the bodies. It is feared that nearly 200 persons have been killed or injured. The last explosion occurred at 7.3 p. m. and when it was ascertained that no further danger was anticipated, the inhabitants were allowed to return to their homes. At half past eight the fire was still burning in the centre and the work of extricating the bodies was being carried on by torchlight, gaslight not being obtainable. The catastrophe originated in a small fire which ignited several receptacles of picric acid, causing a terrific explosion. The houses adjoining the factory were partly burned and partly demolished by the violence of the explosion.

The Berlin correspondent of the London Times estimates the killed at Greisheim at between twenty-five and eight, and adds that unfortunately, there can be no doubt that no fewer than 150 were maimed or burned, the injuries in several cases promising to prove fatal.

In South Africa.

An Ottawa despatch says: In addition to the "C. B.'s" conferred upon Colonels Otter and Drury and Lieut-Col. Steele and Evans, the Minister of Militia has been advised by cable of the following additional honors awarded Canadian officers who served in South Africa: C. M. G.; Lieut.-Colonels Buchan and Lessard; Majors Dennison and Majors Belcher and Jarvis, of the Strathcons.

In China!

The German War Office has received the following advice from Von Waldersee: Pekin, April 27.—Three engagements occurred on the 23rd and 24th April, at the great wall, between four columns under Gen. Kellner and the Chinese troops under General Liu. The Chinese were everywhere defeated and after stubborn resistance were forced back over the wall being pursued as far as Ku Kuan. Our casualties were four officers wounded, three men killed and thirty-two wounded. The French troops were not engaged.

Get rid of that Cough

Before the summer comes, Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup cures Coughs, Colds, Sore throats, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, and all diseases of the Throat and Lungs.

DIED

In the office of the Union Hotel, Sacramento, Cal., on the morning of the 10th ult., Hugh Macleod, an old and well known pilot on the Sacramento River, fell dead. He was in good health the previous night, when he attended a meeting at the E. Ks. On the morning of the 10th, he complained of pains in the chest, and fell dead with a friend who was telephoning for a physician. Deceased, who was fifty years of age, was a native of Prince Edward Island.

Balmoral Bulletin

Sirs,—I was suffering terrible with pains across the small of my back, and I am pleased to say that after taking one box of Doan's Pills I am cured.

Minard's Liniment cures Burns, etc.

The Prices.

Apples (doz) 0.08 to 0.10 Butter (fresh) 0.20 to 0.21 Butter (old) 0.22 to 0.23 Best (small) per lb. 0.08 to 0.10 Best (quarter) per lb. 0.05 to 0.07 Calf (small) 0.50 to 0.70 Ducks 0.12 to 0.13 Eggs, per doz. 0.12 to 0.13 Fowls 0.80 to 0.85 Geese 0.80 to 0.85 Hides 0.05 to 0.05 Hay, per 100 lbs. 0.55 to 0.60 Lamb 0.07 to 0.07 Lamb (qr.) 0.50 to 0.70 Mutton, per lb. 0.05 to 0.07 Oats 0.20 to 0.21 Oatmeal (per qtr) 0.20 to 0.25 Potatoes (buyers price) 0.18 to 0.18 Pork (small) 0.90 to 0.95 Sheep, per lb. 0.08 to 0.12 Turnips 0.10 to 0.12

Minard's Liniment cures Dandruff.

EPPS'S COCOA

GRATEFUL COMFORTING Distinguished wherever it is sold of Balfour of Balfour, Superior Quality and Highly Nutritive Properties. Specially grateful and comforting to the nervous and dyspeptic. Sold only in quarter lb. tins, labelled EPPS'S COCOA & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London, England.

BREAKFAST SUPPER Epps's Cocoa

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sent an official to pay for the damage done.

A Cape Town despatch announces that Mr. Sauer, a brother of the ex-minister of that name, who was convicted of being the ringleader of the rebels in the Cape Colony, was on Thursday last sentenced to a year's imprisonment.

A despatch from Lord Kitchener at Pretoria, dated April 29, says: Gen Blood has discovered at Rosenale, South Africa Republic, government documents and a large number of bank notes. Byng had a fight with the Boers on the Basutoland border south of Wepener, and killed five. Greenfell, in addition to the captures already reported got 38,500 rounds of small arm ammunition at Lydenburg. Twenty Boers have surrendered. Intelligence has been received that Captain John Halburton Laurie, of the King's Own Lancaster Regiment, has been killed in a skirmish in South Africa, Captain Laurie was a son of Lieut. General Laurie, M. P. for Pembroke, Wales, formerly M. P. for Shelburne, Nova Scotia.

Seeds, Seeds, SEEDS.

The Wool season will soon be here, and we wish to inform the farmers of Prince Edward Island that we will pay the highest price in cash or trade for 100,000 lbs. of Wool.

F. PERKINS & CO.,

Sole Agents for Moncton Woolen Mills.

A FULL LINE OF

Garden and Field Seeds

On hand which we are offering low for cash. Do not purchase until you see our samples and prices.

JOHN MCKENNA,

Corner Queen and Dorchester Sts., Ch'town.

Valuable Gold Watch

And Other Goods

GIVEN AWAY!

To Advertise Our Business.

When purchasing ONE DOLLAR'S WORTH from us at the lowest cash price you will receive a Certificate which will entitle you to participate in the distribution of the above valuable Prizes; among these making the nearest guess or census of 1901, which is just about to be taken.

PRIZES TO BE AWARDED AS FOLLOWS:

- To the 1st nearest correct guess, a Solid 14k Gold Watch, (Waltham).....\$100.00
To the 2nd nearest correct guess, a Silver Watch.....30.00
To the 3rd nearest correct guess, Trumper Clock, Bugler calls the hour from the top of the clock.....18.00
To the 4th nearest guess, a handsome Lamp.....10.00
To the 5th nearest guess, a handsome Cake Basket.....6.00
To the nearest 6 correct guesses, each 1 dozen of Rogers' best Silver Plated Tea Spoons, \$4.00, total.....24.00
To the next nearest 6 correct guesses, each a Silver Plated Butter Knife, \$1.00 each, total.....6.00
To the next 14 nearest correct guesses, each a Queen's Memorial Brooch, each valued at 50c., total.....7.00
Grand total.....\$200.00

The Daily and Weekly Papers will publish the names of the successful estimatees, and the awards will be made within 30 days after the population has been officially determined at Ottawa.

The official census of 1891 gave the total population of Prince Edward Island 109,080.

HERALD FORM

I estimate the population of Prince Edward Island at the Census to be taken, 1901, to be

My Estimate.....

Name.....

Address.....

If you write your NAME and ADDRESS PLAINLY and send to us with your ORDER and CASH, we will try and send you Goods and Certificate by return mail. Should we not have in stock the goods you ask for, we will place the amount you send to your credit and write you for further instructions.

Register all letters containing money, stamps not accepted.

As long as the above form appears, you will be safe in sending in your estimate, as we hear that it will take several months to take our census.

Not quite 200 estimates yet received. To make it pay we ought to have, at least, 1,000.

E. W. TAYLOR, Jeweler.

Cameron Block, Charlottetown.