

LET TRAITORS KNOW, SAY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner McLellan's Stand at City Council is Unanimously Supported

Declares Careful Investigation by a Royal Commission into the Financing and Building of the Valley Railway Should Be Made Before Any Further Aid is Granted to the Contracting Company.

Tuesday, March 31. Commissioner McLellan found it good results, if for no other reason than to disprove the common opinion on the streets, that your relationship with the federal government prevents your taking a firm grip, with matters of great importance concerning this city and over which the federal or provincial governments exercise control.

When a matter of great importance to the city of St. John is under discussion, it has always been the custom for the board of trade to take the initiative, and with great success.

The matter of the Empress leaving this port was a most serious one, and the manner of treating it, was a matter of great importance to the city of St. John, and the board of trade, by its action, has shown that it is not only interested in the matter, but that it is also capable of doing its duty, or suffer the consequences.

My own view of the matter, I wish to place before you and is as follows:—

The Valley Railway is being built by means of the money or the credit of the people of New Brunswick.

It is the connecting link in a plan to make St. John a great and prosperous city, as the people expect it, and as the government of Canada planned for by authorizing the expenditure of millions upon the development of Courtenay Bay, thus enlarging the port of which we are all so proud.

Our memories are not so short that we cannot remember with what hopes we learned of the intentions of the government, and the high character of the work which we expected to see done for the future of Saint John.

The city aided both parties to the utmost of its ability, and today when we see traffic already diverted (from what reason we do not know) from our port to another port; today when we see the proposals to lower and level the grades and double track the line from Moncton to Halifax, to make through traffic easier and less expensive, and to ignore the city of Saint John, today when we hear charges that the money was expended as it was intended to be, we are not surprised that the money expended to date and the plans for the future. As the matter stands now the road ends at Andrews and no provision has been made for connection with the Transcontinental at Napadogan. Unless this link with the G. T. P. is made the whole purpose of the Valley railway is lost. For local purposes the Valley railway would never pay. On the basis of forty per cent of the gross earnings, the line would only pay interest on \$5,000 a mile, which would mean an annual interest charge on the province of \$800,000. It seems to me that the man who undertook to put the road through for \$25,000 a mile, but has only got it half done and is now coming for another \$100,000, is not quite the right man. It looks like bad business. There is something wrong somewhere. Let the people know where it is before their financial resources are taxed to their utmost.

Com. Wigmore.

Commissioner Wigmore said: "I have also heard these rumblings during the last few days, and I believe there are many people in the city and throughout the province, who are alive to the fact that there is something wrong. I believe that the premier will, or at least he should, take the people into his confidence and tell them how this matter stands. I agree with Commissioner McLellan that this thing should not be hushed through the legislature. Such charges as have been mentioned here this afternoon should be investigated by the building of the railway is delayed for a short time. It seems to me only right that the legislature should adjourn until there has been more light thrown on the transactions of the company."

Mayor Frink.

Mayor Frink said: "I am going to Frederickton to get what information I can, but I think we are agreed that in the completion of this line the principle of providing for G. T. P. connection must be kept in mind. The Transcontinental terminating at Moncton is practically of no value to commercial interests and the Valley railway is the only one in by the eastern route offers the chance for linking up St. John with the through traffic."

"As for the rumors of financial troubles and great losses, I know nothing. I have no facts so it is unwise to make any comment on this part of Commissioner McLellan's statement, although I may have something to say later on as to his reference to my relations with the federal government and their reputed effect on the action of the common council in this matter."

Commissioner McLellan's Statement.

The full text of Commissioner McLellan's address to council was as follows:—

Your Honor, I have waited for some time, hoping that some action which might be within the province of this council, would be taken in regard to the Valley Railway. Personally I do not consider it within the power of this council to accomplish much, but it does appear to me, that the chief magistrate of this city, has a duty to perform, and on behalf of the taxpayers of the city should be prepared to take a firm stand, in the matter of making enquiries direct relative to the future disposition of this railway's routing, and which means everything to St. John.

I have noted with interest, that you are about to proceed to Frederickton, to meet with and talk over the matter with the premier, and I sincerely trust that your mission may be productive of some

Mrs. Henry O'Brien and Misses Agnes, Leota and May, all of this city. The funeral will be held on Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Percy S. Benjamin.

Thursday, April 2.

George H. Waterbury of this city, yesterday received the sad news of the sudden death of his daughter, Bessie, wife of Percy S. Benjamin, which occurred at her home in Wolfville (N. S.). Besides her husband she is survived by two small children, one of seven years and one only an infant, two brothers, George H. Waterbury, Jr., and Jack D. Waterbury, and two sisters, the Misses Nina and Dorothy Waterbury, of this city. A Halifax despatch says that Mr. Benjamin was in Halifax on business when he received word of his wife's death. When he left home for Halifax on Monday his wife apparently was in good health, and the news of her death came as a great shock to him. Mrs. Benjamin was about thirty years of age.

Cornelius Donahoe.

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After a lengthy illness, Cornelius Donahoe passed away at an early hour this morning at the residence of his sister, Mrs. William Donahoe, 38 Cliff street, with whom he had been living. He leaves to mourn two sisters—Mrs. Wm. Donahoe and Mrs. Delores of this city, and two brothers—Dennis, of this city, and Timothy of Lynn (Mass.).

John H. Saunders, the new county policeman, was Monday afternoon sworn in by Magistrate Ritchie as special constable in the city, which gives him authority to make arrests either in the city or in the county.

As permitted by a bill recently passed by the legislature, the employees at Fernhill cemetery will be sworn in as special constables in order that they may have power to make arrests in case of disturbance or trespassing on the grounds.

The arbitrators appointed to fix the value of the lands required for the I. C. R. extension from the One Mile House to Courtenay Bay expect to commence their work about the first of May. The contractors refusing to give up the properties through which the new line will run.

Halifax Recorder. The many friends of Andrew McGee will regret to learn of his serious illness at his home, 63 Brunswick street. His married sisters, Mrs. Charles Nelson Harding, of New York, and Mrs. Victor Dyer, of Albert, New Brunswick, have reached the city.

Montreal Herald, Saturday. Major John T. McBride and Mrs. McBride are selling today from Halifax, on the S. S. Albatross, for a holiday in Great Britain and France. Mrs. McBride expects to arrive in Winnipeg, are expected home this evening. Miss Jean Pollock is visiting friends in Moncton (N. B.).

The dredge Don Federico has made a large basin in Courtenay Bay and is now digging a channel towards the entrance to the new harbor. It is reported that two new dredges are on the way to St. John for the Courtenay Bay project, one a suction dredge from New York in tow, and the other a ladder type machine from England.

According to the official announcement made Wednesday regarding the new line of the E. C. R. to go into effect on Sunday, the Quebec express, which has been lately leaving the city at 6:15 p. m. and supplying for a suburban train as well, will be changed back to former times—5:25 p. m.—and a regular suburban train will leave at 6:15 p. m. as was the custom until recently.

The campaign to raise \$20,000 for the erection of the new Salvation Army detachment is being continued, and it was said last evening that about \$1,200 is still needed to complete the fund. It is the intention of those in charge of the campaign to canvass the clerks in the different business houses who have not yet been approached, and it is expected that the amount will be made up by them.

The present temperance campaign is in no way connected with the civic election, nor can the plebiscite on the question be taken at the same time. The petitions in circulation must bear the signatures of 25 per cent of the voters in the city before they can be sent to the federal government for consideration of the petitioners the federal government orders a plebiscite on the question of the introduction of the Scott act. As the petitions have not yet been completed it is likely that the same day will not take place until some time in the summer. In the meantime a campaign of education to prepare the electorate in anticipation of the election is being conducted.

April is expected to bring good news to a number of clerks in the post office and railway mail service, as the long expected increase was due to go into effect last. The officials here, however, have not been notified of the changes and those to benefit from the change are waiting for a little money. According to newspaper reports Hon. L. P. Pelletier, postmaster-general, announced that the beginning now receiving for former clerks will be advanced to \$600 at once. This new rule applies to all clerks in the outside service in all Canadian cities and would affect five men at the St. John office.

A new lieutenant change affecting all new men in the second division over 8000 is also being considered, the proposal being to make the yearly increases \$100 instead of \$50. This, however, requires special legislation and has not yet been reported upon by the committee appointed to deal with it by the province government. The change will affect as well the railway mail clerks.

Chatham Gazette. H. B. McDonald is to draw the plans for the hall that E. Hutchinson purposes to give for the use of the Douganstown societies. The hall will be of brick, and will cost less than \$10,000. It is said to be the intention of Mr. Hutchinson to even furnish the hall complete.

Frederickton, April 2.—The members of the contracting firm of Joseph McVay & Son, Chief Engineer A. R. Wetmore, of the public works department, Resident Engineer Springer, and the representatives of the city and county of St. John appeared before the government today for the right to build it let us have the blame. He is, no doubt, like any business man, looking for a business, but as the money was raised by the credit of the people of New Brunswick, let us know how much he paid for it, and how much, if any, was exacted from him and who got twenty cent of it.

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I am not talking from any political standpoint. You all know how little I care about politics—but this is a question that is far above politics; it is a question of the safety of the credit of New Brunswick in the money market of the world; it is a question which concerns the honor of the New Brunswick government, for when they and their supporters were elected in overhauling the Valley Railway, as it was then routed and contracted for, from Grand Falls to Saint John, and to have connections at Grand Falls with the Grand Trunk Pacific. Now, before any change of route or other that plan one Jota they should consult the people.

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CONDENSED NEWS, LOCAL AND GENERAL

The Protestant Orphan's Home has received from the executors of the late Mrs. Laurence MacLaren, a bequest of \$100.

Montreal Star: Hon. L. J. Tweedie, ex-lieutenant-governor of New Brunswick, and Mrs. Tweedie arrived in town on Friday and registered at the Windsor.

The verdict rendered by the jury in the Grand Union Hotel fire inquiry has been forwarded to the provincial authorities by Consul W. F. Roberts, but action will be taken with regard to the recommendations contained cannot be said.

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EGGS GETTING WITHIN REACH OF CONSUMERS

Reasonable Price Hoped For If Decline Continues—Wholesale Market Quotations Yesterday.

The most noteworthy matter in the local markets during the last week is the downward trend in the price of eggs. Eggs can be purchased wholesale as low as twenty-five cents per dozen and retail as low as twenty-five cents per dozen. The sharp decline is pleasing to householders, and if the proposals of merchants dealing in the product are true, the decline is not temporary, but will continue during the summer. There has been a scarcity of fish during the last few weeks and in fact during the entire winter. Dry cod is exceedingly scarce.

The wholesale quotations in the local markets yesterday were as follows—

COUNTRY MARKET.

New potatoes, bbl. \$1.60 to \$1.75
Beef, western 0.12
Beef, butchers 0.11
Beef, country 0.08
Mutton, per lb. 0.08
Pork, per lb. 0.12
Spring lamb 0.12
Veal, per lb. 0.11
Eggs, henney, per doz. 0.28
Eggs, turkey, per doz. 0.28
Creamery butter, per lb. 0.20
Poultry, fresh kill 0.20
Spring chickens, lb. 0.22
Lettuce, per doz. 0.60
Bacon 0.20
Ham 0.19
Sardines, per doz. 0.90
Beans, per doz. 0.00
Turkeys, bbl. 0.00
Amer. Celery, per doz. 2.00
Squash, per lb. 0.04
Cucumbers, per doz. 0.25
Duck 1.50
Geese 1.25
Parasites 2.50

GROCERIES.

Chocol. seeded raisins, lb. 0.10
Fancy do. 0.10
Malaga clusters 2.45
Currants, cleaned, lb. 0.08
Cheese, per lb. 0.17
Rice 3.80
Lombard plums, box. 1.05
Bicah. soda, per box. 2.10
Beans, hand picked 2.20
Beans, Yellow Eye 3.70
Split peas, per bag 3.85
Fed barley, bush. 6.55
Comm. per bag 1.60
Granulated comm. 5.50
Liverpool salt per sack 0.75
Castor oil 0.75

CANNED GOODS.

The following are the wholesale quotations per case:

Salmon, plim. 4.15
Salmon, red spring 7.00
Finnan haddie 4.50
Kipperd herring 4.50
Lobster, per doz. 4.25
Clams 1.60
Oysters, 24 3.50
Corned beef, 15 3.50
Peasches, 24 1.47
Peaches, 24 2.00
Pineapple, sliced 3.00
Pineapple, grated 1.55
Singapore pineapples 1.55
Lombard plums 1.10
Raspberries 2.00
Corn, per doz. 0.97
Peas 0.97
Kidney beans, 24 1.35
No. 1 yellow 3.50
Pars. lump 3.20
Molasses, fancy Barba 0.27

SUGAR.

Standard granulated 4.30
Cuba Empire gran. 2.25
Bright yellow 4.10
No. 1 yellow 3.50
Pars. lump 3.20

PROVISIONS.

Pork, domestic clear 29.00
Pork, American clear 27.00
American plate beef 22.75
Lard, compound, tub. 0.11
Lard, pure, tub. 0.14
Molasses, fancy Barba 0.27

FLOUR, ETC.

Roller oatmeal 5.40
Standard oatmeal 5.00
Manitoba, high grade 5.50
Ontario full patent 5.85

GRAINS.

Middlings, car lots 29.00
Mid., small lots, bag 31.00
Bran, small lots, bag 29.00
Cornmeal, in bags 1.65
Pressed hay, car lots 16.00
No. 1 15.00
No. 2 14.00
Oats, Canadian 0.49

FRUITS, ETC.

Market walnuts 0.14
Almonds 0.15
California prunes 0.06
Filberts 0.18
Brazil 0.09
Pecans 0.07
New dates, per lb. 0.09
Peanuts, roasted 0.14
Bag figs per lb. 0.15
Lemons, Messina, box. 0.75
Coconuts, per doz. 0.75
Coconuts, per sack 4.00
Bananas 3.75
New figs, box 0.19
Valencia onions 40 3.75
Valencia onions 50 5.00
Cal. navel 3.50
Florida oranges 3.50
Valencia oranges, Reg. 4.00
Imp. Valencia 5.75
Valencia's 714 5.50

FISH.

Small dry cod 4.75
Medium dry cod 7.00
Pollack 0.00
Grand Manan herring 0.00
Grand Manan herring 0.00
Half-bills 0.00
Fresh haddock 0.00
Pickled shad, half-bills 0.00
Fresh cod, per lb. 0.04
Biscaya, per box 0.90
Halibut 0.10
Kipperd herring 0.00
dozen 0.90
Swordfish 0.12

OILS.

Palmate 0.21
Royalite 0.10
Turpentine 0.00
Extra lard compound 0.01

MUST PUSH JOB ON BRIDGE PIER AT FALLS OR QUIT

Government Decides to Retain the Services of Engineer Springer, Whom Contractors Want Dismissed.

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Parliament to Adjourn a Week for Easter.

Ottawa, April 2.—Parliament will adjourn for the Easter recess on Wednesday next until the following Wednesday, April 15. Premier Borden's motion in the commons this afternoon was originally for an adjournment till Tuesday the 14th, but after E. M. MacDonald and Hon. Frank Oliver had pointed out that another day should be allowed the members from a distance in order to get back to Ottawa after Easter Monday the premier consented to make the recess one day longer.

Chatham Gazette. H. B. McDonald is to draw the plans for the hall that E. Hutchinson purposes to give for the use of the Douganstown societies. The hall will be of brick, and will cost less than \$10,000. It is said to be the intention of Mr. Hutchinson to even furnish the hall complete.

Frederickton, April 2.—The members of the contracting firm of Joseph McVay & Son, Chief Engineer A. R. Wetmore, of the public works department, Resident Engineer Springer, and the representatives of the city and county of St. John appeared before the government today for the right to build it let us have the blame. He is, no doubt, like any business man, looking for a business, but as the money was raised by the credit of the people of New Brunswick, let us know how much he paid for it, and how much, if any, was exacted from him and who got twenty cent of it.

This is Chief Politics.

I am not talking from any political standpoint. You all know how little I care about politics—but this is a question that is far above politics; it is a question of the safety of the credit of New Brunswick in the money market of the world; it is a question which concerns the honor of the New Brunswick government, for when they and their supporters were elected in overhauling the Valley Railway, as it was then routed and contracted for, from Grand Falls to Saint John, and to have connections at Grand Falls with the Grand Trunk Pacific. Now, before any change of route or other that plan one Jota they should consult the people.

But in the meantime give us all the facts. Let the governor of the province make a firm stand, name an independent investigating commission to act promptly and report promptly, and until it makes its report let the legislature wait.

Obituary.

Mrs. Ellen O'Regan.

Tuesday, March 31.

Mrs. Ellen O'Regan, widow of Morgan O'Regan, died yesterday at her home, Main street, Fairville. She leaves one son and a daughter. The son is David O'Regan, and the daughter is Miss Mary O'Regan. Both are of Fairville. Two brothers, William O'Keefe, of West St. John, and Michael O'Keefe, of Fairville, also survive. The funeral will take place from the residence of Joseph L. O'Brien, Main street, Fairville, to-morrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

Mrs. Elizabeth McDonald.

Wednesday, Wednesday, April 1.

The death of Mrs. Elizabeth McDonald took place early yesterday at her home, 23 North street. She was 82 years of age. She was formerly lived in Summerside, P. E. I. She leaves four sons—John and Hugh of this city and Frederick and Daniel in the United States. She also leaves four daughters—Mrs. Frank Moore, and Mrs. Andrew Olsen both living in St. John.

Mrs. David Tutin.

Wednesday, April 1.

The death of Mrs. David Tutin occurred early yesterday at her residence, 184 Ludlow street, West End, at the age of sixty-four years. She had been ill for about six months, and endured her suffering with great fortitude and patience. All her children were able to visit her during her illness, and no mother had more tender care. Mrs. Tutin before marriage was Miss Margaret Louise Steen. She lived in St. John and was a member of the Charlotte street Baptist church practically all her life. She is survived by four sons and four daughters—Morris, with the Peljeport Paper Co.; Wil