

SOME PERTINENT QUESTIONS FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF MORRISSY, CARTER AND CO.

(Continued from page 1.)

After the tenders had been received, and on the strong recommendation of the provincial engineer, it was decided to have the piers built by the pneumatic process as providing greater safety. On this decision Mr. Morriissy awarded the contract to the Foundations Co., Ltd., the highest tenderer, at the sum of \$219,000. When this fact was brought to the attention of the government they ordered a cancellation of the contract to await Mr. Morriissy's explanation as to why he had accepted the higher of the two tenders for the chosen pneumatic process, involving as it did an over-expenditure of \$7,207.50. Subsequently, on the representation of some of the contractors that they had not understood that the pneumatic process was to be exclusively adopted, and because of that they had not tendered by that process, but asserted that they would have done so had they known, revised tenders were asked for the work on the substructure of the bridge and approaches, and the contract was finally let to Engineers, Architects, Limited, for the sum of \$197,000.00 on the pneumatic process, thus effecting a saving to the province of \$22,000.00, a saving which would not have been effected if the contract originally awarded by Mr. Morriissy had not been promptly cancelled by the government.

AN EXPLANATION NECESSARY.

When Mr. Morriissy saw fit on the original tenders to accept that of the Foundations Company, rather than that of Galbraith & Gate, which was over \$7,000 less, is something which has not yet been explained. When approached on the subject, Mr. Morriissy stated, as he states in his letter resigning his position, that he had made the award on the recommendation of the provincial engineer. This statement, however, is not in accordance with the facts, as shown by the letter of the engineer to the Minister, dealing with the matter. In that letter, after discussing the pneumatic process and the reasons for its adoption, the engineer states as follows:

"I therefore consider, having in view the possible future construction obstructing conditions to be met with, that the lowest most satisfactory tender in consideration of this work would be found to be embracing the pneumatic process, under a signed contract with which the present plans and specifications as now compiled are embodied to form a part thereof. Under the above reasoning and adoption of propositions, the tender of that of Galbraith & Gate Ltd., of Montreal is the lowest at \$212,292.50."

OVERRIDES HIS OWN ENGINEER.

In addition to this strong recommendation, the Provincial Engineer at the time the contract was awarded verbally recommended to the Minister the acceptance of the Galbraith & Gate contract, but in spite of this Mr. Morriissy, of his own motion, accepted the contract of the Foundations Company, well knowing that by doing so he was deliberately losing to the province the sum of \$7,207.50.

IS THIS THE ANSWER?

It is common knowledge that Mr. Morriissy's son stood in very well with the Foundations Company and was the recipient of some very remunerative sub-contracts from them when they were engaged on the Newcast Bridge, and it may be that he had a probable repetition of these conditions in mind when he awarded that company the contract for the Moncton Bridge. But what will impress the people of this province more than anything else will be that Mr. Morriissy had so little regard for the public purse that he deliberately chose to put the province to a needless expense of \$7,207.50 for the benefit of the concern which employs his son, when possible, and gives valuable scarfpins to his secretary. Under these circumstances Mr. Morriissy's complaint that the Foundations Company was "defrauded" will not impress the public very much, more particularly in view of the fact that the Government's prompt action saved the province from a loss of \$22,500.00, and he cannot expect the people of the province to place very much confidence in any of his statements, until he furnishes a proper explanation of the palpable misstatement as to the engineer's recommendation.

THE RHODES, CURRY CORRESPONDENCE.

The reference to the correspondence between the Rhodes, Curry Company and the Hon. J. E. Wilson has no bearing on the case, was not submitted for consideration of the Government and influenced the cancellation of the contract in no respect. This correspondence, whatever it was, was private between Mr. Wilson and the person who became public after it had been stolen from Mr. Wilson's desk by some person who had become aware of its existence. The private correspondence of a member of the Executive Council has no bearing on the relations of the Government with the private correspondence of Mr. Blair, or, otherwise, it is more than probable that the private correspondence of Mr. Morriissy, either in his own name or the names of others who have acted for him during the past few years, would disclose many interesting situations, to say the least.

THE TEED REPORT.

With regard to the Teed report, Mr. Morriissy seems to be unnecessarily worried, so much so as to affect his memory. While it is true that certain conversations took place, between Mr. Morriissy and Premier Clarke, they were not of the nature spoken of by the former. It was never suggested by the Premier that Mr. Blair should resign or "go away until the thing blew over" in the sense that Mr. Morriissy tries to infer. The Premier told both Mr. Morriissy and Mr. Blair that while the investigation was being held respecting the latter, it was not seemly that he should remain in charge of the Public Works Department, but that in common decency he should absent himself for the time being until his innocence was established. Mr. Blair objected to this on the ground that to take that course would be an admission of his guilt, but it was pointed out to him that if he was as innocent as he said he was, by taking the course advised it would convince the public that he felt he had nothing to fear and was willing to abide by the result. In reply to Mr. Blair's inquiry as to what he should do while he absent himself, he was told he could do what he liked, and that if his innocence was established he would at once be reinstated, and his salary for the meantime paid to him.

MORRISSY BACKED UP BLAIR.

This was the view of the other members of the Government, also, which Mr. Morriissy not only ignored, but backed up Blair in his refusal to stand down, taking the ground that the charges were of a very trivial character.

The absurdity of Mr. Morriissy's statement is apparent on the face of it. It is very generally known that, when the Premier received the affidavit setting forth the charge against Mr. Blair, he immediately took steps to provide for the appointment of a commission for investigation. This commission was to determine the guilt or innocence of Mr. Blair, and it is hardly likely that, while providing for the tribunal before which Mr. Blair was to be tried, and before which it was necessary that Mr. Blair should appear as a witness in his own behalf, he would at the same time be advising Mr. Blair to get out or feign sickness until the thing had blown over.

THE LIQUOR LICENSE MATTER.

Mr. Morriissy is once again unfortunate in his reference to the allegation that large sums of money were collected from liquor licenses while the Legislature was in session. This is one of E. S. Carter's yarns in which he appears to have got hold of half the truth, and to be carefully abstaining from getting the other half for the reason that the one would upset the other. Mr. Morriissy says that Mr. Richard Sullivan of St. John had told him that "six thousand dollars or thereabouts" was collected from the liquor interests and paid over and that two thousand dollars more was demanded and refused.

Mr. Morriissy is particularly careful not to say to whom the money was paid over. His informant, having told him so much, would scarcely fail to give him that information also, and, if he did so fail, Mr. Morriissy would be the last man not to ask. Mr. Morriissy knows perfectly well who demanded the money, who received it, and who kept it. Nobody but a political degenerate like the opposition organizer would

ever think twice of a suggestion that members of the Government or members of the Legislature had attempted to blackmail the liquor interests. Neither does Mr. Morriissy think anything of it, except that it suits his purpose to pretend to do so.

What reason would the liquor interests have for subsidizing the members of the Government or the Legislature as Mr. Morriissy and his friend Mr. Carter seek to infer that they did? These interests were not threatened nor in any danger, for Premier Clarke had distinctly told the delegation of the Temperance Association which waited upon him in the early part of the session of 1915 that no prohibitory measure of any kind could or would be brought in during that session.

If the liquor interests chose to employ two or three gentlemen to spend their time in Fredericton while the Liquor License Bill was before the House, on the ostensible ground that they were looking after the liquor interests, and to pay these gentlemen just whatever sums of money they might choose to demand for their services, on whatever excuses and reasons offered, and whether such services were in fact needed or not, is a matter for the liquor interests to decide for themselves.

Certain it is that whatever sums were paid to those gentlemen never got beyond them, and certainly never reached any member of the Government or the Legislature as Mr. Morriissy and his friends pretend. No government or legislature would accept such a bribe, and if it did, would ever dare to bring in and pass the prohibitory legislation that has gone through the House during the past session.

As for the allegation that Commissioner Chandler refused to investigate the matter, there was nothing whatever in it that concerned the Government, or any member of it, or any department, or any official, for him to investigate. It concerned transactions between the liquor interests and their legal advisers only, a matter with which neither the Government or any member of it, nor Mr. Chandler, had any concern whatever.

THOSE ALLEGED "CONFIDENCES."

Mr. Morriissy also makes reference to some matters regarding which he says one of his colleagues implored another not to "tell Morriissy." It would appear that there are many things as to which Mr. Morriissy's colleagues would have done well not to "tell Morriissy." During the past session many inquiries have been prepared by the opposition organizer dealing with matters which were before the Executive Council, and regarding which information to enable these inquiries to be prepared could only have been obtained from someone behind the scenes. When Mr. Morriissy became a member of the Executive Council the following oath was administered to him, which in effect bound him to give his best efforts to the well-being of the province and to advise the governor for the public good, but particularly bound him to KEEP SECRET SUCH MATTERS AS SHALL BE BRAYED IN THE STATE COUNCIL AND COMMITTED TO YOUR SECRECY."

Despite this oath, there have been grave reasons for thinking that Mr. Morriissy was giving information to the opposition organizer, and the fact that within five minutes of the time when he received Premier Clarke's letter asking for his resignation, he was closeted with the organizer discussing the matter with him, amply confirms the suspicions previously held. Mr. Morriissy has shown himself a traitor to his colleagues in the Government, a traitor to the people whom he represents, and worse than all, a traitor to his solemn oath. Under such circumstances it is hardly likely that an intelligent public will accept the wild assertions of a man of that stamp when he seeks to belittle the men with whom he has been working, and the Government to which he belonged. His assertion that false information was given in the House in the answers to the inquiries is not to be believed. If matters were as Mr. Morriissy alleges, it would seem that his own secretary, in respect, if he had any, would have prompted him to leave the Government of his own accord, and not wait to be asked to get out because his colleagues had ceased to have any confidence in him.

Mr. Morriissy started his political career as a member of the Conservative party, and left that party for its own good, and because he could not have his own way. History is only repeating itself.

SOME PERTINENT QUESTIONS.

Between the times during which Mr. Morriissy is thinking out a few more of the private and confidential conversations in the publication of which he apparently takes so much delight, he might devote himself to the preparation of answers to the following questions, suggested by the statement of facts set out above:

1. Why did Mr. Morriissy award the Moncton Bridge contract to the highest tenderer in the face of the recommendation of the engineer of the Department that a lower tender be accepted?
2. Why has Mr. Morriissy stated, in contradiction of the fact, that he awarded this contract on the recommendation of the Provincial Engineer?
3. Why did Mr. Morriissy permit the acceptance, as a gift, by his son of \$5,000.00 worth of stock of a company with which as Minister of Public Works Mr. Morriissy was doing business on behalf of the Province?
4. Why did Mr. Morriissy permit his son to accept a contract on the Miramichi Bridge from the Foundations Company, Limited, while he himself continued to hold the position of Minister of Public Works?

GRIT MEMBER WANTS RECRUITING IN CANADA STOPPED

Roche Lanctot Thinks Canada Too Enthusiastic and Opposes War Appropriation.

CANADA STANDS BY PLEDGE PREMIER SAYS

Sir Robert Borden Says Dominion will Keep Promise to Send 500,000 to Help Empire.

At Ottawa, May 7.—When the house took up the bill appropriating \$250,000,000 for war purposes, Mr. Roche Lanctot of L'Assomption-Naperville arose to oppose it. He said he wished to protest once more against a policy that was mad and ruinous for the country. "I know that I shall find few supporters in this house," said Mr. Lanctot, "but I can state that there are many people throughout the country who think as I do. Among the chief opponents of the government's policy on this question of our participation in the war I may cite Baron Shaughnessy, who, speaking in the presence of the minister of militia at a meeting held at the board of trade in Montreal, declared that the government should discontinue recruiting in the country and thus save five or six million dollars a month. Baron Shaughnessy pointed out the results of unlimited recruiting in the fact that western farmers had asked him for more than 10,000 men to work in the west."

Mr. Lanctot spoke of the number of Canadian troops on the firing line, in England and in this country. At the rate at which our troops were being sent forward, he said, it would take several years to transport the entire number. "I think," he added, "that it is time to stop recruiting. I know that my friend from Red Deer (Dr. McManis) will not approve of my frankness, which is not very pleasing to the government, but I would advise him to take a little trip to England and to pay a visit to the British House of Commons in order to dispel his utopian dreams of political unanimity during the war."

Continuing Mr. Lanctot asked why Canada showed great enthusiasm for recruiting when England and her colonies have only some fifty miles of trenches to hold in Flanders. "I know," he said, "that Mr. Chase Casgrain at this point declared that at the present time the British army was holding more than 100 miles of trenches in France and Flanders. Mr. Lanctot then quoted the opinion expressed in the British House of Commons by Mr. Lloyd George that England had not done her part, on land. He compared the present enthusiasm for recruiting to that of the government for the naval contribution in 1912. At that time the Prime Minister had foreseen the war and the German peril. Why then had he not informed the British government himself and his information might have enabled England to prepare for the opening of hostilities? Mr. Lanctot concluded with the declaration that in his country not more than five per cent of the people were in favor of the government policy on this question of recruiting and that in his opinion the majority of the people of Canada took the same view. He added that if any member of the house moved for the reduction of the vote to \$100,000,000, he would give the motion his hearty support.

Will Stand By Pledge To Send 500,000 Men.

Hon. Charles Macell asked if the government had thought of modifying the programme announced at the beginning of the year and of providing for the raising of a smaller force than 500,000 men for overseas service. "We have not considered that," replied Sir Robert Borden. "We do not propose to depart from the announcement which was made on the 1st of January last." The bill was passed and the House took up the estimates of the Department of Militia, one item of which had been left for further discussion. At

A Railroad Novelist

PERHAPS the best known of the younger literary writers in America is Archie Bell of the "Overland head-lands." For years he has been writing his tribute to the work of a C. P. Bell in a well worth attention. That work is a work of fiction, "The Railway and the River" by name, and is as remote from Canadian railway life as anything could possibly be imagined. Here is what Archie Bell has to say:

John Murray Gibson was born in Ontario. His father was a Scotchman. He is a graduate of Oxford, and he has held a number of positions in various capacities at various times. And despite some of these things he is popularly considered "getting on in the world." He came back to London and was soon editor of the "Illustrated" newspaper, "Black and White."

Realizing that he did not know as much as he wanted to know about art, a realization that came home to him each day as he sat at his editorial desk, he resigned and went to Paris to become an art student. He lived in the famous Latin Quarter and spent the days in Colarossi's Atelier. Then he went to Italy and Algeria, Japan and China, and to many other countries.

One day an official position was offered him by the Canadian Pacific Railway. At the age of forty-one he has achieved distinction as a practical railroad man, despite all these years of preparation that were spent in pursuits so popularly believed to unfit a man for the practical life.

The best man are the ones who find the most time. In the past two years, John Murray Gibson has been attending to his railroad duties with one hand, and with the other hand has been writing a novel, which has been published by the famous publishing house of John Lane in England and S. B. Gundy in Toronto.

"Hearst and Pacer" is the story of an artist it treats of the temperamental as it settles forth into the warmer world from the somewhat unpromising environment of Scotland. George Grange is found amid rather commonplace surroundings in the first few lines of the novel. There his character, or at least the foundation for his character, is being formed. He never escapes from this environment, because he carries it with him wherever he goes.

Delightfully true pictures of Scottish ideals are sketched in the earlier chapters, and then with the first fling at the biting satire which frequently illuminates subsequent pages, George Grange throws aside his university studies. He longs for freedom and life, and falling in with a lovely old character, a Scottish painter, he also learns to paint.

He goes to London in the great quest of success and gradually climbs the ladder by discouraging and diligent toil, until a committee waits upon him and offers him a commission to paint a portrait of the king for a fashionable club. Not that unusual comedy variation which was often society folk—whom he knows well enough—and occasionally he pays his respects to the American "clubmen" in the smart set. There is no venom in his satire, and his own people, nor of the foreigners, but his portraits in words that are carefully chosen and forcible.

His here is thrown into this pulsating, human pot pourri, and "keep his spirits clear" up to the great moment of his life, when he falls a victim of a disease which is fatal to all.

Again Scotch pluck to the rescue, however, and he goes to Paris, where many of the scenes are doubtless somewhat autobiographical. It is the Latin Quarter life of reality. Not that unusual comedy variation which was often society folk—whom he knows well enough—and occasionally he pays his respects to the American "clubmen" in the smart set. There is no venom in his satire, and his own people, nor of the foreigners, but his portraits in words that are carefully chosen and forcible.

Sometimes these pictures are gay, sometimes sordid; but they are never vulgar. There are more many characters with whom the reader has become acquainted in the earlier chapters. Amid these scenes, as in London, and later in Germany and Italy, George Grange moves as the most important figure in the story. And each adventure is traced with a canny knowledge of life as it is, rather than as many writers would like to believe it should be.

And it was written by a railroad man still, there are enough examples of verisimilitude in the art work that such an achievement is possible. A merchant of Russia composed music that is now sung in the opera houses of the world. It does not lessen Paderewski's ability as a pianist because he is a hotel keeper in Warsaw. John Alden Carpenter, of Chicago, is a "business man," yet he composed "Adventures in a Perambulator," which is the staid music critic of the country to prick up their ears in the last two years. Caspar Franck was a school-teacher, even when he was writing his most famous symphony.

the outset, the prime minister referred to the statement that soldiers at Regina and in Nova Scotia had in a quiet way to the case. He did not understand that an officer was prohibited from being a candidate. He added that recently Sir Lomer Gouin had asked for leave of absence for thirty days for an officer who was a candidate for election in the Province of Quebec. The request had been granted.

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as would others of the kind.

Mr. Turin complained that a man who has had long experience in the Northwest Mounted Police was passed over when a position in the force was vacant in favor of a lawyer who has had no military experience. Mr. D. D. MacKenzie of North Cape followed with a speech in which he announced that Nova Scotia was conspicuous with cases in which political influences had been successful in bringing to bear upon appointments military units and in instances where military supplies had to be purchased.

Mr. J. H. Burnham of West Peterborough said that in his district a Liberal should be selected as commanding officer of a battalion although there were other applicants for the appointment.

Political Considerations Have Not Counted.

Sir Robert Borden made a reply in detail to the resolutions giving numerous instances in which Liberals had been given to prominent Liberals. "I desire to say," he asserted, "that since command officers nominated their officers and that it was impossible for the department of militia to interfere into the case of every man selected. He also showed that in Ontario and other provinces high commands had been given to prominent Liberals. "I desire to say," he asserted, "that since the beginning of the war the minister of militia has not been actuated by any political considerations in any appointments which he has made."

He told Mr. Oliver that a message received from Gen. Carson in England was to the effect that every Canadian officer in Great Britain was attached to some unit and was employed.

On the supplementary estimates for the department of trade and commerce Sir George Foster gave the committee some further information with regard to his plan for the extension of Canadian trade by the appointment of a travelling commission and the establishment of a bureau of commercial information. The commission which will consist of business men serving in an honorary capacity, will visit the United Kingdom, France and Belgium, studying trade openings in these countries. With them will be associated a number of representatives of large special interest in Canada.

The minister announced that an elaborate exhibit of articles of German and Austrian manufacture, collected by the British Board of Trade, was being loaned to Canada, and would be brought out by the department of trade and commerce for display in the principal cities of the Dominion, as well as at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto. The object of this was to show the manufacturers and producers of Canada the kind of articles, quality and price formerly supplied by Germany and Austria.

PITY THIS POOR GIRL! SHE NEEDS SYMPATHY.

Growing fast—yes, into weakness, but without strength. Thin, of course she is—pale and thin, too. She doesn't eat enough and digests far too little. This condition is so common, but how seldom noticed even by fond parents. Give her Ferronose—then watch her appetite improve—see her cheeks and lips grow ruddy—watch her spirits rise. The gain is simply the result of eating and digesting enough, and thereby nourishing blood, brain and nerves. To a woman Ferronose restores strength she has lost—to a girl it brings strength perhaps she never knew. You'll try Ferronose, for all dealers.

BORN.

GALLAGHER—On Saturday, May 6th, to the wife of Leo J. Gallagher, 72 Queen street, a son.

DIED.

TOWNSEND—At Boston, May 4th, Mary C., wife of Dr. David Townsend, of River Glade, N. B. GASS—On the 4th inst., at Boston, Mass., Thomas B. Gass, aged 58 years. Funeral at three o'clock this afternoon from Power's undertaking rooms, 81 Princess street. McDONNELL—At his residence, 41 Harrison street, Sunday, May 7, John McDonnell, leaving two sons and four daughters to mourn. Funeral Tuesday morning at 8.45 to St. Peter's church.

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