MYSTESIOUS HANDLING OF PUB-LIC MONEY.

Blair Says He Took Money With Knowledge of Premier Flemming; What Has Mr. Flemming to Say About these Irregularities ?

(From The Carleton Sentinel.)

the session of the local Legislature there were some developments, the such irregularities as those of the seriousness of which is now beginning character I have mentioned. Will he to be recognized. It has been the endeavor to satisfy the public and if and his colleagues in the government possible to restore confidence by enboast of the Hou. J. K. Flemming that their system of accounting gave First, Blair, the clerk, says he took fall and complete return of all mothe money with the knowledge of Mr. neys paid into the treasury and all Flemming, and it was no business of moneys paid out. Answers to enhis (Blair) if it was kept out of the mittee show that this is not the case; Auditor General's Report or did not quiries in the public accounts conthat instead the public moneys are appear. Blair thus defiantly throws the responsibility upon the Premier, handled more mysteriously than ever an unusual state of affairs, something ceal the meaning and the cost of the that one does not often see in well transaction. Public confidence in the governed families. Second, is the permission, I will make reference in a honesty of the government and in the situation in all the other departments future number of the Sentinel, but righteousness of the much boasted such that Mr. Flemming can take for the present, dare Mr Flemming tem of audit got a rude shock action without running the risk of ex when "the lid was lifted from the pot" posing his own and the other depart- begin? ments to an independent investigation? in which the Birmingham refund I fear that things must stay as they moneys were manipulated. Mr. Black of Westmorland "lifted the are, even although to act is the only lid," and before he put it back the course left open for a government public got more of a scent than they that is not hampered by departmental expected to get of the rottenness and irregularities. The boasted system of dishonesty fomenting under that lid, accounting and audit is a thing of the The Birmingham item as it appear- past if it ever had an existence in fact. ed in the report of the public ac- In getting at correct administration counts was a false and misleading en- of the local finances we are apparenttry. It gave the amount paid in by ly worse off, much more so, than ever.

as that brought to light in the Public Accounts Committee? He will not deuy that Blair got the \$150. He will not claim that this \$150 of the public moneys appears in the Auditor General's Report in any form, although the law distinctly says that all provincial moneys shall be accounted for in the report. He cannot deny what I have set out, nor can he afford to beat around the facts. Dear Editor: In the last days of What position is he in to give public, impregnated? There is a penalty for

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exposed. There are other matters affecting the same department and the same clerk to which, with your

> Yours truly, THE COUNTRY

THE CODERRE CHARGES IN CAN **ADA'S PARLIAMENT**

F. B. Carvell's Direct Statements -Sir Wilfrid and Mr. Borden Take Part.

Mr. Birmingham as one hundred and Mr. Flemming in his dilemma may When the Coderre case was unde fifty dollars less than he paid. The try to hide behind the report of the liscussion in parliament last week, F. money was sent, on the instructions Public Accounts Committee, which B. Carvel said that although the of a clerk in the Public Works office, followed the example of all other premier had declared that Emile to H. M. Blair, (the clerk), instead of Public Accounts committees and Bourassa had never received a dollar to the Receiver General; and after made the invariable report, "we find from the government, the opposition turning one hundred and fifty dollars the accounts satisfactory." That did not claim he was, but would the committee is every year made up of a prime minister say the man had not into his own pocket, the clerk passed the balance ever to the deputy Re- majority of members supporting the been appointed to office under the ceiver General. The amount appro- government, and their business is to government after the charges in conpriated by Blair from these public make up a general report as they are nection with the bye-election had moneys to his personal use does not told to make it. But the bald fact been brought to Mr. Coderre's at appear in the accounts, and the a- remains in the records that it was tention. The premier knew very well mount paid in by Birmingham in set- brought out in that committee that that the appointment was made. tlement of the case is put down at \$150 of the Birmingham money was Mr. Borden;-"I knew nothing of \$150 less than he actually paid, never accounted for in the Auditor the kind." -These are the facts brought out in General's Report, and that the Audi-Mr. Carvell:-"Give us a committee the Fubric Accounts Committee. for General, who according to law and we will prove it." What has Mr. Flemming to say in must be made aware of every dollar "Will the minister of marine say answer to these? What of his boast- of public moneys paid in, was never no letter was sent from his departed system of accounting which was to officially fully informed of the Birmment notifying Bourassa of appointput an end to misleading financial ingham transaction. Mr Flemming ment to office? statements? If Blair could handle cannot get away from that. Blair "I will say he was never appointe

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the Birmingham moneys in that way says this irregularity was worked with to office under the government," said Mr. Hazen.

That is there to prevent any other the knowledge, and consent of the elerk who might be as officious as he leader of the government, and that "My friend is side-stepping again, in any of the other departments do- this washes his hands clear of the said Mr. Carvell, "Again I say give ing the same thing? Is Mr. Flem- business. Where is protection to the us a committee and we'll prove what ming sure that it has not been done public to come in? If Mr. Flem- Lhave said."

Continuing Mr. Carvell urged that guarantee the public that in the to take action, the public have a right Hon. Mr. Coderre could not afford to

in the other departments? Can he ming is unfortunately not in a position handling of the public moneys there to hear something from him on the lie under the imputation made against are no other such gross irregularities subject of the irregularities recently him by the charges. Nor could Hon. committee of the house might be looked upon as the finding of a body more or less f . tisan Mr. Carvell held



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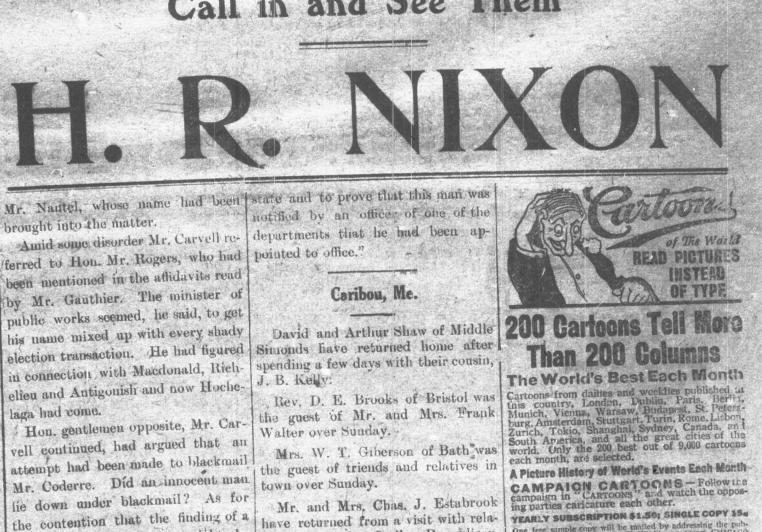


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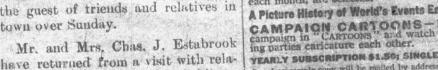


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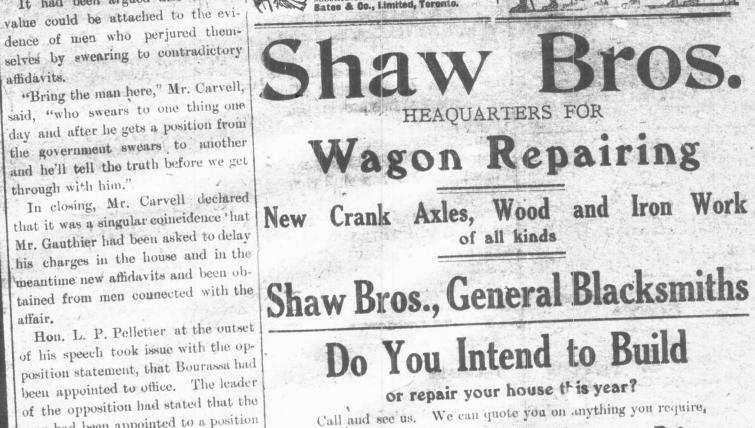
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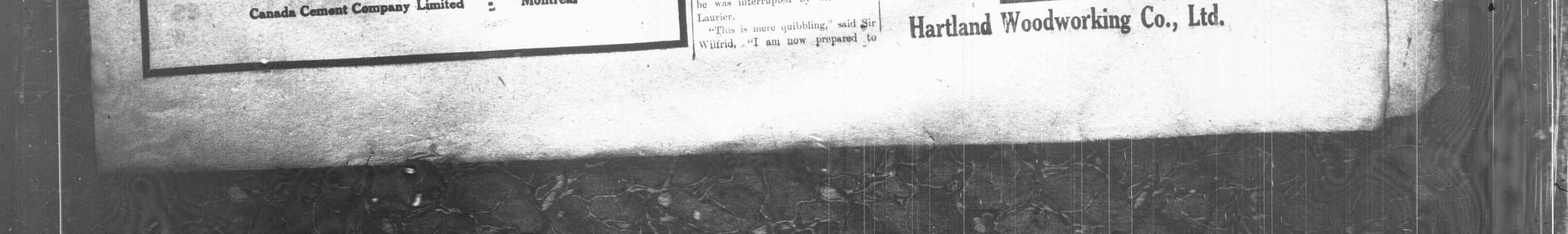




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man had been appointed to a position

under the customs department, and

now the member of Carleton (Mr.

Carvell) said that the appointment was in another department. Mr. Pel-

letier was proceeding to emphasize

these discrepancies of statement when he was interrupted by Sir Wilfrid

that the impo. ant matter was not so much the finding itself as the produc-

tion of evidence and giving that evi-

It had been argued also that no

dence publicity.

affidavits.

affair.

Laurier.

through with him.