

HAZEN CAPTURES TWO ROBINSON SUPPORTERS

Madawaska Members Attended Government Caucus Tuesday Night

Opposition Didn't Test Their Strength and Address Passed Without Division--McKeown Denies Stating in St. John That Government Had Set Aside \$15,000 Towards Paying Off Debt--Maxwell Closed Debate in Forceful Speech--Business of the Sitting.

Fredericton, May 8.—The government supporters held a caucus tonight in the executive council chamber. J. A. Murray was the speaker.

It is of interest to note that Messrs. Baker & Cyr of Madawaska, who were claimed as supporters of Hon. Mr. Robinson, attended the caucus and arranged themselves with the Hazen government party. The caucus was the first meeting held this season and was given up to the discussion of a number of matters.

Fredericton, N. B., May 8.—The house met at 3 o'clock.

Mr. Lablanc presented a petition from the mayor and aldermen of Dalhousie in favor of a bill presented by them.

Hon. Mr. Fleming presented the annual report of the bonded indebtedness of the county of Gloucester.

Hon. Mr. Hazen gave notice of motion to alter Rule 2 of the rules of the house to change the time of re-assembling from half past seven to eight o'clock. Under the rules when the house adjourns at 6 o'clock it meets again at 7.30 but in practice it is always 8 o'clock. As the practice did not comply with the rule he thought it advisable to make the rule comply with the practice.

Hon. Mr. Fleming presented the annual report of the Halifax School for the Blind.

Hon. Mr. Morrisey presented the annual report of the board of works.

Hon. Mr. Hazen gave notice of absence for the solicitor general and for the commissioner of agriculture until Friday next.

Mr. Tweeddale asked for leave of absence for the burgess until Thursday.

Mr. Copp asked for leave of absence for Mr. Sweeney until Thursday next.

Mr. Tweeddale in rising to resume the debate on the address said the change of government was due to the false charges made by the opposition which had misled the people.

He said from the premier down to the provincial secretary there had been a deliberate attempt to deceive the country. Great things were expected of the new government and he feared there would be great disappointment. The speech from the throne was the longest proposition he had ever seen put up to the country. The government now had the benefit of the increased subsidy of \$100,000, an increase in the number of members in the house, and the most abused man in the country. He claimed there was no excuse for the premier and surveyor general running off to Ottawa to arrange for fire protection and fishery business which had been all arranged by the late government.

The late government should not be condemned but commended for what it had done for the Central Railway. The treasury had not been robbed in comparison with that of the late government. It had only cost the province \$12,000 a mile and could not be replaced for \$20,000 a mile.

The cold storage plant in St. John had been condemned by the late opposition. In his opinion cold storage was necessary not only in St. John but at all the central points throughout the province and if the new department of agriculture wished to demonstrate its usefulness to the country it would arrange for the same at every cold storage throughout the province.

Hon. Mr. Maxwell said he would like to refer to one or two items in the speech. He had been so much under discussion. Hon. gentlemen spoke as if the speech contained nothing but it apparently contained enough to show that a large amount of long-winded remarks. He, the speaker, had sat in the house for three sessions and he had never heard a more careful to abstain from controversial remarks. The leader of the opposition had taken Dr. McInerney to task for introducing all the old campaign matter. Every speech from the opposition as he had been able to judge consisted of nothing else but rehashes of the campaign matter.

The late premier had the opportunity of a lifetime. At the time he took office no one was more respected than he, and had embraced his opportunity in a proper manner things might have been very different on the floors of that chamber at the present time. Had he pursued a progressive policy and filled up his offices at once and repudiated the action of his predecessors he would have given the then opposition a much harder fight. The member for St. John County had gone out of his way to make an attack on the member for Kings (Mr. Spruell). Such an attack was most unbecoming.

Referring to the port of St. John, he said the citizens had spent more than \$1,000,000 of their own money to equip a national port while the sum total expended by the Dominion government on its development was \$411,000. In the same time upwards of \$3,000,000 had been spent in dredging and improvement of the inland ports of Ontario, and this notwithstanding the population of St. John was under 6,000 while the population of the inland Ontario ports was not more than 43,000.

The government has been criticized for mentioning the increased subsidy in the speech and they had been blamed because they had proposed, so it was said, the acceptance of the increased subsidy. What the government criticized was the negligent manner in which the last government dealt with the matter and accepted \$109,000, whereas, the amount the province was properly entitled to was \$116,000.

Mr. McKeown.—I said no such thing. Hon. Mr. Maxwell said his friend might deny it as much as he pleased but he, the speaker, flatly refused to accept any such denial. He would refer to his colleague from St. John. Mr. Wilson, to bear him out.

Mr. Wilson said that the Hon. member for St. John County distinctly stated upon the hustings at St. John that the sum of \$15,000 had been set aside under the provisions of the act of 1907.

Mr. McKeown repeated his denial.

Hon. Mr. Maxwell said he was surprised to find the member of the opposition referring with so much satisfaction to the prospect of a new audit act. The present government party had been for years endeavoring to get the late government to give the auditor general larger powers but without any avail.

It was singular that if the late government had been so anxious to increase the power of the auditor that nothing had ever been heard of it before. Now the opposition seemed ready to swallow any act the government might bring in.

The highway act, too, seemed to meet their approval and their eagerness to repeal the present act was, to say the least, remarkable.

The leader of the opposition had applauded the government for their intention to appoint a commission to investigate matters in connection with the acquisition and working of the Central Railway. It was a matter of considerable gratification to the government to know that they had the approval of the opposition in the course they proposed to adopt.

It had been said that the present government party during the late campaign had lost an opportunity of condemning the road. They did not condemn the railway but what they did condemn was the manner in which the funds provided for it had been expended. A certain sum had been guaranteed on the express understanding that the line was to be completed and the expenditure was to be carried through to Fredericton. The money was spent in direct violation of this understanding and the line to Fredericton was still unfinished. Instead of using some of the money to build sidings into the coal mines of their friends. He firmly believed that with economical and prudent management the Central Railway could be made a factor of vast importance in the development of the province and of the counties through which it runs.

The late government knew nothing about the management of the railway. The expenditure was enormous and the present government hoped to be able to show that they could run the road at half the cost and give an infinitely better service.

The Hon. member for St. John County had said that Mr. Geo. McAlvay had only received \$2,500 for the work done. The remaining \$2,500 of the \$5,000 which he had received was for other services.

There was nothing to show the truth of this statement. The Hon. member for St. John County had said that the deputy receiver general would be found that on the 25th Nov. 1905, Mr. McAlvay was paid \$2,500 as one of the commissaries.

A great deal had been said about school books and the statement of the provincial secretary that the committee was considering the matter would be accepted as satisfactory by most hon. gentlemen.

Hon. gentlemen seemed to be surprised that nothing was said in the speech about succession duties and as to the desirability of abolishing them. The late government had attempted to largely increase the burden on estates and it was solely due to the efforts of the present government that the proposed scale of duties had been reduced by half.

Members of the opposition had expressed surprise that there was no mention of prohibition in the speech. While the speaker, who in the opposition he had brought in many amendments to the license law but had never been able to carry them as long as the late government was in office. The present government stood for an honest attempt to enforce the license law and the attempt would be made by the speaker with respect to the St. John license was a proof of this. They hoped to be able to convince the majority of the people that they intended to deal with the matter in a businesslike way.

The address was then put and carried without division.

Messrs. McInerney, Spruell and Hon. Mr. Maxwell were appointed a committee to present it to the lieutenant-governor.

Hon. Mr. Hazen moved that the report of the auditor general and the statement of public accounts be referred to the public accounts committee.

Hon. Mr. Hazen moved that F. M. Spruell be appointed chairman of the committee of supply and of ways and means.

Hon. Mr. Hazen moved that the House go into supply on Tuesday next.

The house adjourned at 6 o'clock.

Fredericton, N. B., May 8.—The house met at 4 p.m.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer after routine addressing the speaker made the following statement:—

Hon. speaker.—In view of the sad event which has happened in my department and which had its culmination this afternoon, when all that was mortal of that noble Deputy Surveyor General was laid to rest, I feel it is due this house and the country that a statement should be made of the condition of affairs as I found them when taking charge of my department in respect to the management of the finances thereof. The limited time which I have had at my disposal has not given me an opportunity to become fully acquainted with affairs there as I would have wished, but I have been able to learn that the financial accounts have been kept in a ledger entirely on the single entry book-keeping system, which affords little or no adequate protection for safeguarding accuracy and correctness in working. I have not been able to find any cash book that was kept by the late deputy surveyor general, and therefore checks drawn had to be entered direct to ledger accounts, but no provision can thus be made for properly ascertaining receipts and payments by the department as they should be shown. The Bank of B. N. S. shows a debit balance of about \$8,200 on date of separate account kept there by late Deputy Surveyor General, but the bank pass book bears no



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mark of having been in any way checked or inspected by Mr. Flewelling since November, 1906, nor does the ledger account part of the stampage dues and other items, show any signs of having been compared with the bank passbook as required by the act. It is also stated that the bank has been justified in allowing the Deputy Surveyor General to overdraw several bank accounts referred to by reason of its having been guaranteed by previous surveyors general, which guarantees now amount to \$25,000.

It has been stated that there is an order in council authorizing the bank in the matter but none can be found. The bank account therein referred to has also been used by Mr. Flewelling for his private purposes. It would also seem as if part of the stampage dues and other territorial revenue had been deposited in this semi-private bank account by Mr. Flewelling, and that therefore not all of such income was handed to the receiver general as should have been the case. The whole financial arrangement of my department for the year 1907-8, and the accounts of the province were not adequately safeguarded regarding any audit or supervision, and I am informed by the auditor general, almost entirely without his knowledge.

The guarantees to which I have referred are as follows:—

Province of New Brunswick, Crown Land Department, October 31st, 1909.

To the Bank of British North America, Fredericton, N. B.

The government of New Brunswick will be responsible for any amount in excess of the amount shown on the account of W. P. Flewelling, Deputy Surveyor General and lumber agent, for which amount it may be responsible for any interest on its overdraft account, which may be come due at the bank at the same time that at the time may be payable by them. This is to be a continuous obligation until revoked.

(Sgd.) A. T. DUNN, Surveyor General.

(Sgd.) L. J. TWEEDIE, Receiver General.

Fredericton, N. B., June 1, 1905.

To the Manager Bank of British North America, Fredericton, N. B.

Will you please arrange that W. P. Flewelling, Deputy Surveyor General (if necessary) may overdraw his account to an amount not to exceed \$5,000 (five thousand dollars) on account of game protection, for which amount and interest thereon the government of New Brunswick will be responsible. This is to be guaranteed by payment of any amount (and interest thereon) which may be advanced to him.

(Signed) FRANCIS J. SWEENEY, Surveyor General.

Above guarantee is in addition to one at present in force for \$10,000, dated 10th October, 1899.

(Signed) FRANCIS J. SWEENEY, Surveyor General.

Fredericton, N. B., Oct. 28, 1906.

To the Manager of the Bank of British North America, Fredericton, N. B.

Please give W. P. Flewelling, Deputy Surveyor General, a further credit of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), for which amount (and any interest thereon which may become due) this department will be responsible.

(Signed) FRANCIS J. SWEENEY, Surveyor General.

The death of Mr. Flewelling leaves my department very much undermanned and necessitates a large amount of increased work being placed upon the present employees until a re-organization of the staff takes place. I have asked Col. T. G. Loggie, chief draughtsman, to act as deputy surveyor general and he will proceed as rapidly as possible to have some people and through re-organization of the staff of the entire department perfected.

I have also arranged for a full and complete audit by a chartered accountant of the affairs of the department, and when the same is completed the true state thereof will be made known to the house and country.

Hon. Mr. Hazen moved the second reading of the highway act. He had, he said, promised the house a full explanation of the act at this time but as the act had been distributed and read out ready to be considered by honorable members any lengthy remarks were perhaps unnecessary. He took it that everyone on both sides of the house would be the people of the province generally agreed that a new highway law was a public necessity. He hoped the house would consider the act with a view to its passage, probably tomorrow, irrespective of party, and in the interests of the country. This was entirely in accordance with the promise made by him during the recent campaign. He had always held that a better expenditure of money and better supervision of the works would be obtained if it largely in the hands of the county council than in any other way. It was extremely desirable in all domestic affairs to have the management of the works to the people and he believed that municipal councillors, who had to go back for election every two years and whose names were known to the people, were much more likely to give good and economical supervision and expenditure on the works than the commissioner of public works.

He said with regard to the taxation to be imposed the blanks were not filled in. The bill provided for statute labor and it would be nothing less than absurd to ask a man to work on roads for fifty cents a day. A man would not be willing to do a four-hour day and he thought no man would complain if he could pay his poll tax by two days' work on the road. From his own experience he thought that people throughout the country he believed that they were willing to pay more money for their roads if it was expended as it would be under the proposed property tax now stood at 12 cents on \$100. Having in view the fact that it was optional to work on the roads he believed that if anyone would object to increased tax to eighteen or twenty cents.

Of these and other questions the members of the house would have plenty of opportunity for discussion. He hoped and believed that the result of the act would be greatly in the interests of good roads. Since the act had been passed he had received many suggestions from experienced gentlemen commending its main features.

He did not claim the act would be perfect but he believed it would be a step in the right direction to do something that had not been done before. He would do his best to do the work through the province. He would ask all the members of the house to do their best to get the country to do its duty and at the next session of the legislature, if amendments were found necessary, they would be ready to accept them.

Hon. Mr. Fleming submitted a return of indebtedness of the town of Chatham, and also the report of the provincial factory inspector.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer introduced an act to amend chapter 94 of the consolidated statutes, 1903, respecting the protection of the woods from fire by adding a section providing a penalty of not less than \$50 or more than \$200 for tearing down, destroying or mutilating any fire alarm siren or bell, or any other fire alarm apparatus, or for the violation of orders of the surveyor general.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer introduced a bill to provide for auditing the public accounts. He said this was perhaps the most important matter to be brought before the house, and he would like to know whether it was an individual corporation or a province that was in business, a care being taken to see that the bill was not full of defects. He would like to see the act of the auditor general as follows:—

Provision is made for the constitution of a Public Accounts Committee, to be appointed by the Executive Council, of which the provincial secretary will be chairman and the clerk of the Executive Council will be secretary. The committee will have general supervising power in all matters relating to finance, revenue and expenditure, both upon reference to the auditor general and upon the Treasury Board will also have power to make regulations for the government of the civil service.

The Treasury Board will also have power to adopt a plan of account books and accounts suitable for the requirements of each branch of the public service.

By sections 7, 8, and 9, provision is made for the appointment of an auditor-general, who shall hold office during good behavior, and be removable only for cause by the lieutenant-governor upon a resolution passed by a two-thirds of the members of the Assembly. Provision is made for the discharge of his duties during his temporary illness or absence. The auditor-general is authorized to employ such persons as he may think fit, and to receive such remuneration as may be determined by the Executive Council. He is authorized to receive such remuneration as may be determined by the Executive Council. He is authorized to receive such remuneration as may be determined by the Executive Council.

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ENGLISH SUSPECT AMEER

Not Held Guiltless of Afghan Raid--War on Frontier Feared by London Papers--Would Mean Big Campaign, it is Said.

Simla, British India, May 8.—The promptitude shown by Major General Sir James Willocke, commander of the British forces, in rushing his troops to the scene of the disturbances has deprived the Afghan raid of its present danger. He attacked the raiders on the hills west of Landi-Kotal, in Khyber Pass, and drove them back over the frontier, scattering them in various directions. Finding no support from the other tribes, the raiders are dwindling away. According to reports received here the Mohmands and other border tribes are quiet and engaged in harvesting.

Continuing he said there was one other point that the government regarded as of considerable importance, which was that there would have to be an entirely new system of bookkeeping under which all payments made by the government to the receiver general and counterbalanced by the head of the department would have to be drawn. He was sure honorable members would be glad to see every careful method used in the carrying on of the government's business.

Mr. Robinson presented a petition from the Lezer Corner Water and Light Co. in favor of their bill.

Mr. Munro presented a petition of Frederick McFarley in support of the bill to enable him to change his name to Frederick Carson.

Hon. Mr. Morrisey asked for leave of absence for Mr. MacLachlan to Saturday next.

Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced a bill to amend chapter 146 of the consolidated statutes, 1903, respecting the protection of the woods from fire by adding a section providing a penalty of not less than \$50 or more than \$200 for tearing down, destroying or mutilating any fire alarm siren or bell, or any other fire alarm apparatus, or for the violation of orders of the surveyor general.

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The Anglo-Russian convention was published on Sept. 23, and not only limited the Russian and British spheres of influence in Persia, and the relations of these countries toward Tibet, but also fixed the status of Afghanistan. The provision concerning Afghanistan runs as follows:—

The Russian Government recognizes Afghanistan as outside the sphere of Russian influence and it engages to conduct all its political relations with Afghanistan through the intermediary of the British Government. The British Government, on the other hand, engages to exercise its influence in Afghanistan only in a pacific sense; it also agrees that it will neither annex nor occupy any portion of Afghanistan, nor interfere in the internal administration of that country, provided that the ameer fulfills his engagements under the treaty of Kabul of March 21, 1905. The principle of equality of commercial opportunity in Afghanistan is established, as far as the two treaty Powers are concerned.

The Anglo-Japanese treaty says:—

Article 2.—If by reason of unprovoked attack or aggressive action, whenever arising on the part of any other Power or Powers either contracting party should be involved in war in defence of its territorial rights or special interests, the other contracting party will at once come to the assistance of its ally, and will conduct the war in common, and make peace in mutual agreement with it.

Article 3.—Japan possessing paramount political, military, and economic interest in Korea, Great Britain recognizing the right of Japan to take such measures of guidance, control, and protection in Korea as she may deem proper and necessary to safeguard and advance those interests, she provided always that such measures are not contrary to the principle of equal opportunity for the commerce and industry of all nations.

Article 4.—Great Britain having a special interest in all that concerns the security of the Indian frontier, Japan recognizes her right to take such measures in the proximity of that frontier as she may find necessary for safeguarding her Indian possessions.

The Khyber Pass, the scene of these operations, is the most noted of the passes in the northwestern frontier. It is a thirty-one mile long, and through it runs the Peshawar-Kabul road, which is 170 miles long. The Khyber Pass is a narrow, narrow defile between perpendicular limestone rocks, which are about 150 feet high most of the way. It extends nearly the west toward Kabul, and contains several forts between Jarund and Landi Khotal. The Mohmands who inhabit the territory around Khyber Pass have long given the British much trouble and a combination of the Mohmands and neighboring tribes against British rule has been known to exist many years.

Landi Khotal, where the Afghan invaders gathered before they were routed by General Willocke's troops, is at the western end of the Khyber Pass, and is the highest elevation reached by the Peshawar-Kabul road. It is virtually the extreme limit of British authority on the northwestern frontier. Landi Khotal is a flat expanse, a species of shelf or plateau wedged between ranges of hills that converge on the right hand and left hand to the north and south. On the eastern side the Khyber Pass opens on a level stretch of ground, which has an average width of about half a mile across, and on the western side the tableland shelf ends abruptly, the ground falling steeply away 800 or a 1000 feet to the lower valleys of Landi Khotal. The narrowest part of the whole Khyber defile is at Ali Musjid, close under the range of a rock fort.

In his book "Under the Absolute Ameer," published last year, Mr. Frank A. Martin, who served for eight years as engineer-in-chief to two amirs, gives the latest and best description of life in Afghanistan. Of two amirs under whom he served, Abdur Rahman was the ablest man. He loved his country and did his best for it, although his methods might not have been quite those of a more civilized country, and he had a thorough belief in Great Britain.

TRAIN WRECK DELAYS MARITIME EXPRESS

Moncton, May 8.—Word was received here yesterday of the death at Boston of Richard Flanagan, a former well known hockey player, as a nephew of deceased and left to-day to bring the body to Moncton for burial.

Ald. M. McLeod returned to-day from Murray Harbor, P. E. I. where he was attending the funeral of his mother. Mrs. A. D. McLeod, who was ninety-three years of age.

At the annual meeting of St. George's Guild, to-night, Mrs. W. B. Sissam, wife of the rector, was presented with a seal ring lamp. The officers elected were:—Honorary President, Mrs. Sissam; President, Mrs. Fairweather; First Vice, Miss M. Powell; Second Vice, Mrs. D. Harris; Secretary, Miss Cormick.

No. 76 train, fast freight for Halifax, was wrecked about 9 o'clock to-night at Meadow Brook as a result of the truck of a steam shovel, bound for Halifax, being derailed, the truck was badly torn up for fifty or seventy-five yards. No one was injured.

The Maritime Express from Halifax is delayed three hours by the wreckage damage is threatened to the L. C. R. road bed at Matapeia as a result of the ice jam and floods at that point. The track is now overflooded, and the train is being made to transfer to-night's Montreal-bound Maritime Express at the dangerous point.

Great success is being met with the forward movement of the First Baptist Church, which undertook to raise \$15,000 to pay off the debt of the church and Christian Brotherhood hall. The committee to-night reported nearly \$11,500 subscribed in twenty-one days. The balance is expected to be raised within the next few days.

The police to-night made a search of the house left by Jeffries for money, alleged by David Coll & G. T. P. employe, to have been stolen from him last night. Officer McKim found Coll's purse containing \$70 under the carpet in the Jeffries home. How it got there has not been explained.

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