

Says Probe Political Findings Unwarranted

WEIGHT OF EVIDENCE AGAINST GRAFT CHARGES, DECLARES SIR RICHARD SQUIRES.

No Rake Off Made—Former Newfoundland Premier Wants Dr. Alex. Campbell Exonerated in Native Land.

A fighting figure, whose blue eyes flash fire from behind his large rimmed spectacles, is Sir Richard Squires, former Prime Minister of Newfoundland, who is in Toronto on business to-day. His trip is to be a short one as he intends to be back in St. John's for the opening of the Newfoundland Legislature on April 22nd. Then, he confidently predicts, more will be heard regarding the findings of the Royal Commission which declared his guilty of graft during his term as Premier.

That the charge laid against him and members of his Cabinet are "absolutely without foundation in fact," is Sir Richard's vigorous assertion. "Neither myself or any Department head or deputy profited to the extent of a two cent postage stamp," he told the Star to-day. In the course of an interview in which he emphatically repudiated the findings of the Commission, as "contrary to the weight of evidence," and predicted his vindication when the votes of public opinion is consulted.

Looks Like Doherty

A compactly built figure, of medium height, and of surprisingly youthful appearance for a veteran of such political vicissitudes as he has known, Sir Richard might at first sight impress one as resembling Hon. Manning Doherty, the Progressive leader in the Ontario Legislature. The similarity is most noticeable about the mouth and nose.

Attired in a dark blue suit and overcoat, with black bowler hat perched well forward on his forehead, Sir Richard might have passed for anyone of a thousand Toronto business men as he spoke to the Star to-day, abandoning his study of a large scroll of blue prints in the mezzanine of a downtown hotel, to discuss the charges which have been laid against his administration.

It is not for himself, the former Prime Minister told the Star, that he seeks widespread vindication, as for Dr. Alexander Campbell, his former Minister of Agriculture and Mines. Sir Richard himself is confident of the verdict of his fellow Newfoundlanders, but Dr. Campbell is a Canadian, and, in Sir Richard's opinion, is entitled to exoneration, throughout his native land, of the reflections cast against him prior and during the enquiry.

Says Charges Baseless

"The graft charges made against myself and my party are entirely without foundation in fact," Sir Richard declared to the Star. "The administration of which I was head was responsible for the expenditure of about \$6,000,000 covering a period of three years, in public works, relief operations and public charities."

A firm of chartered accountants spent six or seven months going through the accounts of the department of agriculture and mines, the Department of Public Works, and the Department of Public Charities, and, as a result of that exhaustive investigation, it was shown that there was not a dollar of graft secured directly or indirectly, either by myself personally, or by Dr. Alexander Campbell, the Minister of Agriculture and Mines, or by Mr. W. H. Jennings, the Minister of Public Works, or by the late R. H. O'Dwyer, then Commissioner of Public Charities.

"In some of the unemployment relief operations carried out by the administration, of which I was the head, the returns from the work met the expenditure at 100 cents on the dollar. In other cases it paid 75 cents, 50 cents or 25 cents on the dollar. In some isolated cases it was a matter of straight relief expenditure, which yielded no returns, and from which none were expected.

"In some cases, this relief work took the form of the cutting of peat and pulpwood. In other cases, it was special assistance in connection with the securing of supplies and outfit for the codfishing industry. In still others it was the breaking of stone suitable for concrete and road material.

"The evidence given before the enquiry showed that neither myself, nor any Department head nor any deputy head, personally profited to the amount of a two cent postage stamp, by the way of rake-off, commission on any other form of graft, either directly or indirectly. I consider this an exceedingly fine record.

"The main graft charges were made against Dr. Alexander Campbell, the Minister of Agriculture and Mines. Dr. Campbell is a Canadian, a medical man by profession, a graduate of McGill University, and a P. R. C. S. of Edinburgh University. Dr. Campbell was very bitterly attacked in certain sections of the eastern Canada press, and I am quite sure that now that the personal charges made against him, have been shown to be entirely foundationless, the press will be anxious to announce his vindication.

A Big Disclosure.

"The ridiculousness of the attack

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BLACK CALF LACED—Nailed soles. Sizes 5 to 10, at 2.30

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MEN'S BROGUE OXFORDS—With Good-year welt soles, rubber heels. In Black and Brown Calf. Only 6.00 the pair.

Some with brass eyelets

MEN'S WINE CALF BROGUE OXFORDS—

Special. Heavy perforations, bevel sole and heel. A regular 9.00 Brogue. Sizes 6 to 9. For 6.75

This is the very smartest model in stock.

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MEN'S BROWN CALF BLUCHER BOOTS 4.50

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Smart Dressy Models FOR THE YOUNG MEN.

In Mahogany Calf, laced, medium wide toe, brogue last, heavy perforations, brass eyelets, rubber heels. Goodyear welt at 6.50

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PARKER & MONROE, Ltd., The Shoe Men

april 15, 1924

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LADIES' BLACK GUN METAL LACED SHOES—Medium round toe, medium heel, perforated vamp Only 2.25

LADIES' BROWN CALF STRAP SHOES—1 strap and buckle, medium toe and rubber heel 2.50

Same style, 2 strap and 2 buckles, at 2.50

LADIES' BROWN KID—1 strap, low heel 2.50

LADIES' ALL PATENT 1 STRAP SHOES—Low rubber heels 2.50

Same with Grey Suede Back 2.50

ALL BLACK KID LACED OXFORD—Rubber heel 2.89

Same style, low rubber heel 2.75

BROWN CALF LACED SHOES—Only 2.50

BLACK KID OXFORD—Round Toe 3.00

ALL PATENT 1 STRAP—High and low rubber heel 3.00

BROWN KID—1 strap, medium rubber heel 2.75

BROWN KID—1 strap, high and low rubber heel 3.00

Lots of other styles to select from up to 3.50

LADIES' GREY SUEDE OXFORDS—With rubber heel, at 4.00

LADIES' BLACK KID—1 strap, medium heel 2.50

GREY SUEDE STRAP—Spool heel 4.00

GREY SUEDE—1 strap, low rubber heel 4.50

ALL PATENT—1 strap, low rubber heel 3.25

ALL PATENT—1 strap and tongue, medium rubber heel 3.00

ALL PATENT—1 strap, med. & low rubber heel, 3.50

BROWN KID—2 strap, medium rubber heel 3.25

BROWN CALF LACED SHOES—Medium toe, rubber heel 3.30

Other styles 3.50, 3.75, 4.00, 4.50 to 5.00

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In all Brown Kid, high laced. Sizes 3 to 5 1/2 2.00

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WOMEN'S BLACK HIGH CUT LACED BOOTS—Medium toe and heel. 2.50

WOMEN'S ALL BLACK KID BOOTS—High cut, lace, round toe and rubber heel attached 3.00

WOMEN'S BROWN CALF BOOTS—High cut, wide toe, Rubber heel 3.00

BOOTS AND SHOES FOR THE KIDDIES.

SKUFFER BOOTS—In Dark Mahogany, laced, all solid leather soles and heels. Sizes 5 to 11, 2.25; sizes 12 to 2, 2.35; sizes 5 to 8, Special, 1.75; sizes 9 to 2, 1.95

Girls' Black Kid Laced Boots 2.30

Misses' Black Laced Boots 2.50

Misses' Gun Metal—High Laced 2.50

Misses' Patent 1-STRAP SHOES 1.75, 2.00

Children's 1-STRAP SHOES 1.75, 2.00

Girls' Tan 1-STRAP RUBBER HEEL SHOES 2.00

Girls' Patent 1-STRAP RUBBER HEEL SHOES—Sizes 9 to 2 2.00

Girls' Skuffer Laced Shoes— 1.25

Girls' Strapped Sandals—Sizes 5 to 2, 1.25

Infants' Brown Kid Laced Boots— 1.10

Same style in Black Kid Lace 1.10

Black and Brown Boots—Lace and button, flexible turn soles; sizes 3 to 6, only 1.40

Infants' High Cut Button & Lace Boots—In Black, Brown and Patent Leather, with coloured tops and tassel; sizes 4 to 8, only 1.75

on Dr. Campbell can be shown by the fact that the only item disclosed by the six months' audit was that on one occasion, a personal cab drive of \$2, was paid by the clerks of his Department, and charged to the public account, instead of being collected from Dr. Campbell personally. And that was a transaction of which he himself had no knowledge until it was brought out during the enquiry.

"After all the attacks made against him, this is the only item of a personal nature. And, as against that, he had put his private motor car at the public service during three entire seasons, without any charge whatever for use, upkeep or repairs. The other charges against Dr. Campbell were purely of a political character.

"With regard to the accusations against myself, in so far as the report in adverse to me under paragraph 1, the report is entirely contrary to the weight of evidence. With respect to the campaign contributions made by the Dominion Iron and Steel Company, these contributions consisted of financial assistance given to a newspaper which had devoted its activities during 1919 and 1920 in support of the party which I led. These contributions were made during my absence in England, and without my knowledge at the time. The Company received no editorial or other support in the newspaper, nor did the company directly or indirectly receive any concession, consideration, or advantage whatever from the Newfoundland Government, from myself, nor from any member of the Government, with respect thereto. Nor did I myself nor any member of my party get any personal benefit whatever, as individuals, therefrom.

The Scope of Probe.

"The Commissioner was appointed by the Government; his special fees and emoluments were arranged by the Government; he received his instructions from his employers, who were the Government. The Enquiry was not conducted as a legal proceeding; neither the government nor the parties affected had the right to call witnesses; there was merely the right to suggest witnesses to the Commissioner, who had the sole power to call them.—Toronto Daily Star, April 7.

The Gentle Hangman

RETIREMENT OF A NOTED EXECUTIONER.

After assisting at, or personally carrying out, 120 executions, John Ellis, who hanged, among others, Crippen, Roger Casement, Edith Thompson, Smith, the brides in the bath murderer, and Seddon, the poisoner, has resigned his position as official hangman. In his letter to the Home Office, he expresses his appreciation of the courtesy and kindness shown him by prison officials, and adds: "If at any time in the future you should need my services in an advisory capacity I shall be glad to render any aid that lies in my power." Ellis's career as a hangman dates from 1901, when he became assistant to Billington. Like most executioners, Ellis is a quiet man, kind and gentle in manner, and much liked by women and children. He is a native of Rochdale, and his home life has been described as "one of the best and happiest of any man's in Lancashire." Children and animals alike flock round him. For years Ellis was a barber in Rochdale, and for some time after he became hangman he continued to carry on as "hairdresser, wholesale news agent, and umbrella repairer" in a little shop in Oldham road. He seldom, if ever, referred to his official occupation when shaving customers; he rarely referred to crime at all. When he had "a job" on everybody realized that it was useless to approach him for, sociable enough at other times, he was sternly professional when, carrying a small handbag, he was on his way to an execution. On these occasions his sister, who could shave and cut hair as quickly and skilfully as most men, used to preside at the barber's shop. When Ellis was in Dublin in June, 1921, to carry out some executions in Mountjoy prison, a supposed rebel plot to murder him was discovered. A band of armed men appeared at Westland-row railway station with the object, it was reported, of catching him, but he was not there. The gang fired at some soldiers, but there were no casualties. His fee was £3 10s. for an execution and £2 10s. for "good conduct." The latter amount was paid in consideration of the fact that he was forbidden to stay at a public house near the scene of an execution and earn a commission for attracting custom, as was the executioner's privilege in former years. Pierpoint now becomes senior executioner.—Ex.

A Miner High Commissioner for Holyrood

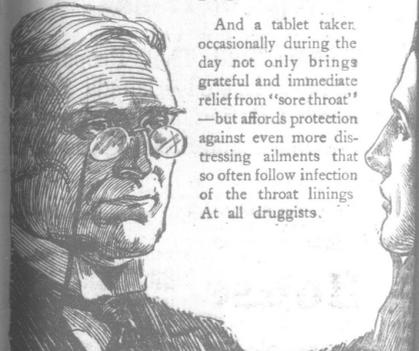
"It is more than two and a half centuries since any Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland was other than a peer of the realm," says the Glasgow Herald. "Mr. James Brown's selection for this exalted post thus marks a decisive breach with long-established usage.

Don't Say— "Just a Sore Throat"

IN a few days, you know, "just a sore throat" may be something much more serious. For science has proved that the throat is not only the first spot reached by infectious germs, but also forms the ideal soil for them to multiply on.

Throat protection, therefore, means germ destruction and is a duty that you owe your health. It is easily achieved by the regular use of Formamin—the germ-killing throat tablet.

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But although in his politics Mr. Brown represents a party which stands, in our view, for a much more deplorable breach of tradition, in himself he is a worthy representative of the lay element in the Church. For twenty-four years, it is reported, he has been an elder in the Church of Scotland—a record which we imagine was seldom approached by his noble predecessors—and the personal qualities, religious devotion, and capacity that rendered him eligible for the efficient discharge of parochial duties are, after all, of more importance to the Assembly than the social aptitudes and graceful conventions hitherto associated with the brief reign at Holyrood of the King's representative.

"That a working man proud of his calling should rise to this dignity will give no offence to any except those who take either a partisan or a enoblish view of the appointment, and cause few regrets, except in those who have always in the past identified the Assembly week with the ceremonies and innocent gaieties of the Palace under semi-royal auspices. The freest Church in Christendom can be well pleased to see its democratic principles so boldly vindicated."

"The ghosts of Mary Queen of Scots, of Darnley, Rizzio, and Bothwell, are not likely to trouble overmuch Mr. James Brown when he revises the ancient glories of Holyrood as High Commissioner for the Church of Scotland," says the Manchester Guardian. "He has already assured the curious who expect him to be startled by appointment to a post that none but a peer has held since the Stuarts reigned, that he will be quite content, when he has headed the impressive ceremonies that centuries have prescribed shall take place while the High Commissioner is in residence, to go back to the £10-

Little fingers find it hard to get on to the strings attached to toys. Sew on the end of each a small button.

You will find an assortment of rubber bands amazingly useful in the kitchen. They replace the "bit of string."

Bake a plain loaf cake, cut "eggs" with an egg cup, finish with knife, ice and serve as Easter luncheon.

At your next bridge party, an individual tray luncheon salad in salad rolls, an ice cream cake and coffee.

If you use a smooth, polished in the sewing room, cover it with quilted silence cloth. It scratches and keeps material slipping when cutting.

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The Constipation Habit costs more than time. It sets you back in many ways. It lowers vitality, it slows down your ability, wastes even the food you eat. Beecham's Pills make your bowels free and regular. They are famous also as an aid to digestion and a stimulant to the liver. Beecham's Pills, by hastening the entire digestive tract, benefit the whole system.

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