

PREMIER CLARKE, HEAD OF FAIR PLAY GOVT., ACCORDED A NOTABLE TRIBUTE LAST NIGHT

Important Announcements Made at Banquet of Friends of Good Government—Premier Clarke Announced That a Re-Classification of Crown Lands Will be Made So Public Will Know Value of Every Foot of Land—Hon. J. A. Murray Announced a Fort-nightly Steamship Service From St. John to Cuba Will be Shortly Established.

The banquet given in honor of Hon. George J. Clarke, premier of the province, at the Elk's Club last evening, was a notable function, demonstrating conclusively the confidence in which the premier and his administration are held by the people of the province. About two hundred and fifty friends and supporters of the present government attended the dinner, and nearly every county was represented at the gathering.

Striking addresses were made by Premier Clarke, Geo. W. Fowler, M. P., Hon. Dr. Landry, Hon. J. A. Murray, Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, and Hon. John E. Wilson.

Premier Clarke announced that as Minister of Crown Lands he would have a reclassification made of the crown lands of the province, and Hon. J. A. Murray was able to announce that by arrangement with Hon. George E. Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce in the Federal Government, a fortnightly steamship service from St. John to Havana would shortly be established to enable New Brunswick farmers to market their surplus products in Cuba.

Hon. Mr. Clarke was given an ovation when he rose to address the gathering, and all his colleagues met with a splendid reception.

Owing to the unavoidable absence of Dr. Thomas Walker, who had been expected to preside, L. P. D. Tilley, M. L. A. acted as chairman, performing his duties with great ability. The gathering was called to order by L. P. D. Tilley, M. L. A., who asked those present to join in a toast to the King. This was honored musically.

O. M. Melanson, M. L. A.

O. M. Melanson, M. L. A., proposed the health of Lieutenant Governor Wood. Mr. Melanson referred to the honorable career of the lieutenant governor. He had represented Westmorland in the federal house and had been later called to the Senate. Here he had been a credit to his native province. Later he had been selected as lieutenant governor of the province. He had served in this position with credit to himself and the people of the province.

Donald Munro, M. L. A.

Donald Munro, M. L. A., was called on to reply for Governor Wood. He felt it a great honor to be permitted to speak in response to this toast. The man who occupied the position in no mean way. He commanded the respect of all classes and carried an unimpaired reputation. "Hon. Josiah Wood represents the King and when we mention the King we always think of the Empire," said Mr. Munro. "We have here tonight some of the men who have volunteered for foreign service for the Empire.

"While they go to the front to fight in the trenches they can feel that every one left behind will lend their support in every way.

"The women of the country are also doing their share in providing comforts for the soldiers. The people who are not going to the front are also doing their share and they will go down into their pockets and see that the soldiers' demands are provided for. It has been said that large inroads have been made into the patriotic fund and payments are being made faster than the donations are coming in. We want men who go to fight for the Empire to feel that those dependent on them will be as well cared for as if they had not gone."

Major Fred C. McKean, of the Army Service Corps, then sang two patriotic songs.

The chairman, L. P. D. Tilley, M. L. A., then asked for a toast to the guest of the evening, Hon. George J. Clarke. "As the Scotch people gather round their chief," said Mr. Tilley, "so we party men and supporters of the local government in the province gather from every county to do honor to our chief and right glad are we to have the privilege of saying something in your presence tonight. The majority of the members of the legislature are here to testify to your long service in the interest of the people."

Mr. Tilley referred to the career of Hon. Mr. Clarke and his work as attorney general, which position he now so ably filled by Hon. J. B. M. Baxter.

Hon. George J. Clarke.

After the toast had been drunk Hon. Mr. Clarke thanked those present for the reception given him. Through all the years of his life he had been a supporter of the party now in power at Ottawa and the present provincial government party.

He regretted his inability to be present at the time when the banquet had been arranged previously, he felt flattered by the large number present. He saw in this gathering an expression of confidence in the local government by the people of the province. The present government had since coming into power in 1908 been the best that



HON. GEORGE J. CLARKE, Premier of New Brunswick

province ever had. The affairs of the province had been so carried on that not one word of honest criticism could be offered against it.

"When I had been called upon," said Hon. Mr. Clarke, "by the Lieutenant Governor to form a cabinet I felt some hesitancy in undertaking the work. The hesitancy was only on personal grounds. My task was a comparatively easy one for I believe that the affairs of the province, through the stormy time of the last ten months have been honestly and efficiently carried on. When the time comes for an appeal to the people I am sure the people will appreciate this.

"When I was asked to select a cabinet I found there was so much cabinet work in the men supporting the government that the task had been a difficult one but I feel that the people will agree with me that in the selection of the junior member from St. John as the leader of the cabinet I made no mistake."

He spoke of the truce made by the political leaders of Canada at the time the war started for it was believed that there were greater things than politics to be considered. He was glad the truce had been generally observed by respectable politicians of this country.

A Noisy Band

Unfortunately in New Brunswick there was discovered a noisy band of politicians disregarded the considerations of their leaders and they saw fit to carry on a violent and vicious political campaign during the last summer. These gentlemen did not appreciate the conditions prevailing in the Empire. They did not see the desecrated temples, the ruined businesses, the down-trodden fields, the desolation in that country that fell the heed the behest of the arch-enemy of Britain. They did not heed the mourning of the people of the Empire, nor of the anguish of the mothers who had given their sons for the Empire. These things did not appeal to them but they went up and down the province carrying on a political campaign to keep people from their work and arouse them.

Hon. Mr. Clarke wished to be mild, but these gentlemen were not satisfied. They had seen a strange sight and had strange experiences. They had seen the government under the leadership of Mr. Hazen, not open to fair criticism. They had seen a forward policy and no waste.

They had formerly sat for a long time in the shade of opposition and they did not like it. They were not satisfied and their leader determined to show his way to a place under the sun, and conditions that led up to the Dugal charges were thought to give them the opportunity.

The people of the province had heard the discussion of the Valley Railway affairs and had heard all sorts of charges in regard to it.

Mr. Clarke then reviewed the history of the Valley Railway. The people on the western banks of the St. John river were industrious and their farms were fertile, but for years these people had had no adequate outlet to proper markets. These people had been disappointed from time to time. It had been thought that Transcontinental Railway might have been brought down west of St. John river, but they were disappointed. Had the Transcontinental Railway been placed

there, St. John would have come into the province and the province would have saved several million dollars. The N. T. R., however, was brought through a barren country which would take years to develop.

The idea of a railway on the western side of the river had been a football for politicians and nothing had been done till the affairs of the province came into the hands of the government under Hon. Mr. Hazen, who introduced the legislation under which the Valley Railway is at present being built.

It had not been expected that this road would be built for \$25,000 a mile and he believed that the government was right in providing the additional bonds for the completion of the road. Every word against the passage of that bill was a blow to the western part of the province and a blow to St. John.

Had the bill not gone through the work on the railway would have been stopped for the present at least.

The work on the railway now, however, was going on and a part was being operated by the Intercolonial. As far as he had knowledge not a dollar of the money had been improperly expended in constructing the railway. It was well for the people to consider that the Transcontinental across the province had cost \$71,000 a mile while the cost of the Valley Railway per mile had been only \$25,000 on the section completed between Gagetown and Centreville. With the exception of a few curves and grades the road was every bit as good as the Transcontinental. There had, however, in the past been people who had gone around talking against the Valley Railway, but he thought these mouths were closed now.

The Timber Lands

Hon. Mr. Clarke then took up the matter of the timber lands. During the twenty-five years of the old government had been in power there had been a total stumpage of \$112,000 (approximately) collected, while in the six years that the present government had been in power about \$100,000 had been collected for stumpage, and it was estimated that this year the collections would amount to nearly \$300,000. Still it was an indisputable fact that in six years the present government had collected more than the other government had in twenty-five years.

A few years ago a new timber Act had been introduced and there had been no objection to it. In fact many lumbermen expressed themselves as believing it the best ever enacted here, and there had been no just criticism yet.

It was the intention of the present government to determine absolutely the value of every foot of timber land in the province in order that proper charges could be made for the lands.

The Dugal Charges

Mr. Clarke then referred to the manner in which the old government had dealt with charges made against it and its members. One charge had been made on the floor of the House that a large sum of money had been secured by the letting of a contract and it had been devoted to campaign purposes. Hon. A. G. Blair, was premier at the time and Hon. Wm. Pugsley was a member of the cabinet. These charges were taken by the government.

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CANADA'S NEW BUDGET PROVIDES MONEY REQUIRED FOR WAR WITHOUT IMPOSING UNDULY HEAVY BURDEN

HON. MR. HAZEN FLAYS PUGSLEY FOR UNPATRIOTIC REMARKS

PUGSLEY TEARS DOWN THE FLAG OF TRUCE AND MAKES BASE INSINUATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH PURCHASE OF SUBMARINES BY DOMINION GOVERNMENT—MINISTER OF MARINE IN NOTABLE SPEECH SHOWS UP FALSITY OF PUGSLEY'S CHARGES AND SCATHINGLY ARRAIGNS LATTER FOR DISLOYALTY IN HOUR OF EMPIRE'S CRISIS—EVEN GRIT LEADER QUAILS AS MR. HAZEN DRIVES HOME TRUTH AFTER TRUTH—IF THERE IS GOING TO BE A FIGHT, IT WILL NOT BE ONE-SIDED, PREMIER WARNS OPPOSITION—PUGSLEY'S SPEECH AROUSES INDIGNATION ON BOTH SIDES OF HOUSE.

SPECIAL TO THE STANDARD

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 11.—The political truce is ended. Hon. Wm. Pugsley took the first opportunity tonight not only to cast discredit upon the actions of the Government in strengthening the defenses of the Pacific Coast by the purchase of two submarines which had been built at Seattle for the Chilean Government, but he did the more dangerous and intensely unpatriotic thing of telling the enemies of Canada and the British Empire that these submarines were useless for defence purposes. This horrible invitation to the enemy, this notice that the Pacific Coast was an easy mark for hostile ships aroused the house to anger and provoked replies from Hon. J. D. Hazen and Sir Robert Borden which will live long in the memory of the members.

MR. HAZEN FLAYS BARE PUGSLEY'S LIES

Mr. Hazen in particular made a notable speech. It was his greatest effort since he became a member of the Government. His voice sang as he laid bare the lie that Pugsley had told. There was not a word of truth in the base story, not a shadow of excuse for the trumped-up yarn that these submarines were not capable of playing an effective part in defending Canada's western coast. All thought of the carelessness and fear that he might occasion was cast aside for the cold-blooded attempt to make a little political capital at the expense of loss of confidence in Canada's fighting forces. In all that he said there was not a word that had a vestige of truth.

In sweet accents he offered to vote any sum necessary for the building of submarines in Canada and the hollowness of the offer was exposed by the Prime Minister who showed that when it was possible to vote money to build ships that would have been of immense service to the Empire today Pugsley and his party had said nay.

There was an interruption by Dr. Clarke, and the Premier with a voice of thunder retorted that he would be guided by what the opposition members did. "IF THERE IS GOING TO BE A FIGHT IT WILL NOT BE A ONE SIDED FIGHT," was his challenge and the opposition subsided.

LAURIER QUAILED AS MR. HAZEN DRIVES HOME TRUTHS.

It was noticeable when Mr. Hazen was speaking that Sir Wilfrid Laurier was worried as proof after proof of the falsity of Mr. Pugsley's statements was furnished he saw what a mistake his second lieutenant had made, and it was significant that he took no part in defending him. This is rare—Sir Wilfrid is the readiest man to rush to the assistance of his followers, but they have to be in the right. Tonight he remained silent.

In the lobbies, after the debate was over, many Liberal members were free in saying that a serious political blunder had been made. Nothing should never have been said, they admitted, to cast a suspicion upon British munitions of war in time of war and they regretted that the Liberal party of Canada should thus be singled out as the only fraction of the Empire that had committed the unpardonable traitorous sin.

After the Budget Speech was delivered in the House of Commons this afternoon, Sir Robert Borden asked whether there was any objection to passing the resolution for the raising of one hundred million dollars for war purposes through committee without debate, and discussing it on presentation of the bill.

Hon. Dr. Pugsley thereupon brought up the matter of ammunition purchases. He stated that he had information that several gentlemen from Canada had gone to New York some months ago and there placed contracts, supposedly as representatives of the Canadian and British governments, for millions of rounds of ammunition. The price paid was \$36 per thousand rounds, whereas the ordinary market price at the time was \$25. The affair was so well known that the Canadian colony in New York were hanging their heads in shame over the matter. Dr. Pugsley stated, in confirmation of his statement, that information just tabled by the Minister of Militia showed that whereas the Dominion Cartridge Company, a Canadian concern, had supplied ammunition to the government at \$31 per thousand rounds, \$33 was paid in New York for precisely the same kind of ammunition. He had no intention of charging the government with wrong-doing, but as one contract alone had been for 200 million rounds, the matter should be investigated. Dr. Pugsley asked that the names of those who had passed themselves off as representatives of the British and Allied governments should be tabled.



HON. J. D. HAZEN, Minister of Marine.

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SPECIAL TAXES AND STAMP DUTIES TO BE LEVIED—BANKS AND INSURANCE AND LOAN COMPANIES TO CONTRIBUTE MORE LARGELY TO TREASURY—INTEREST OF WORKING MAN AND OF CANADIAN INDUSTRY WELL CONSERVED—TARIFF CHANGES CAUSE MAJOR PART OF BURDENS TO BE BORNE BY LUXURIES—A SANE AND COMMON SENSE PRODUCTION.

SPECIAL TO THE STANDARD

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 11.—Canada will finance the war by a general and sweeping increase in the tariff, and the levying of a special tax. In the House of Commons yesterday Finance Minister White delivered what will go down in history as the most important budget since Confederation. He announced an increase of 7½ per cent. ad valorem in the general and intermediate schedules, and an increase of 5 per cent. ad valorem to the British preferential. The free list is practically wiped out. Every article heretofore free or dutiable is effected with half a dozen important exceptions.

SPECIAL WAR REVENUE TAX

The "special war revenue tax," as it will be known will include a tax of one per cent. annually upon the note circulation of banks to be computed and paid quarterly. One per cent. on the gross income of trust and loan companies. One per cent. on premiums received in Canada by all insurance and associations except life, fraternal and marine companies, payments to be made quarterly.

The above charges are made retroactive and apply to all transactions made after January 1st, 1915.

FOR TELEGRAPH AND CABLE MESSAGES

From today the following taxes will be applied: One cent on each telegraph or cable message originating in Canada, to be paid by the sender.

Five cents on each ticket costing over one and not more than five dollars, and five cents for each additional five dollars or fraction of five dollars, on all railway and steamboat tickets to points in Canada, Newfoundland and the United States.

For each sleeping car berth sold in Canada ten cents tax and for each part of car seat ticket, five cents.

Upon steamship tickets to points other than in Canada, Newfoundland and the West Indies or the United States a tax of one dollar on each ticket costing over ten dollars, three dollars on tickets costing over thirty dollars, and five dollars on tickets costing over sixty dollars.

STAMP TAXES

Two cents on each cheque, deposit receipt and bill of exchange, express order, post office order and bill of lading, and upon each postal note a stamp tax of one cent.

Each letter or post card mailed in Canada must carry a war tax stamp of one cent.

Upon each package of proprietary or patent medicines and perfumery a stamp of one cent up to ten cents value, and one cent for each additional ten cents charges.

Non-sparking wines ten cents a quart.

Champagne and sparkling wines twenty-five cents a pint.

From the foregoing a revenue of \$3,000,000 a year is expected.

THERE WILL BE NO INCOME TAX

The increased customs charges are not to be applied to silk fabrics, velvets, ribbons, embroideries, wheat, flour, tea, anthracite coal, Newfoundland fish, salt for curing fish, lines, twines, nets and hooks, reapers, mowers, binders, harvesters binder twines, traction ditching machines, sugar, tobacco, news print paper, newspaper presses, type setters and casters.

Squid for bait and nicotine sulphate are added to the free list.

Annual revenue of \$25,000,000 is expected from the increased duties.

The drawback privilege of 99 per cent. on duty paid on raw materials imported into Canada and manufactured and imported in manufactured and imported in manufactured form, is continued.

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SERBIANS TOOK HEWSON BLOCK ADVANTAGE OF THE RESPITE IN AMHERST DESTROYED

Army Put in Good Shape During Lull After Austrian Repulse—220,000 Men Well Equipped.

Wiped Out by Fire Yesterday—Loss \$16,000 and Insurance of \$8,000 on Building.

Sofia, via The Hague and London, Feb. 11.—The Serbian army has a strength of 220,000 men, well supplied with war materials and food. One of the diplomats at Nish, during the course of an interview, said: "The lull in operations, after the failure of the Austrian offensive in December, has given the Serbian government an opportunity to put its forces into good shape.

I will not say that the army is as good today as it was in August, but it has greatly profited by the check to the Austrians seven weeks ago."

Amherst, N. S., Feb. 11.—Amherst had another fire this morning, the Hewson block, a brick two-story building, being destroyed. The fire was discovered about eight o'clock. None of the stock in the stores or the belongings of those upstairs were saved. The loss is estimated at \$16,000. Eight thousand dollars insurance is carried on the building. The stocks were partially covered by insurance.

that Serbia has recently imported much war material. A new Austro-German offensive campaign is believed to be imminent, and everything possible is being done to put the country into a good state of defence. The women and children are aiding in digging trenches.