



Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, - - - Proprietor
C. T. JAMES, - - - Editor

Thursday, April 22, 1920.

That Scandal Enquiry.

It is erroneous to call the proposed body to inquire into the Woodford charges a "Royal Commission." There is nothing "Royal" about it. It will be appointed by the Governor-in-Council, under the local statute relating to "Enquiries concerning Public Matters." The distinction is worth noting, because the word "Royal" has led many persons to believe that the Commission will be used by the British Government.

Two outstanding points about the composition and work of the proposed Commission are suggested by the Premier's speech in the Assembly yesterday. The first is, that its enquiries will not be confined to the Woodford matter, but include as many other political scandals as the Government can think of when issuing the Commission. The second is, that the Judges of the Supreme Court, as members of the Commission, are to be asked, not to confine themselves to the specific matter of the Woodford affidavit, but to become a fishing Commission into other alleged political scandals covering a number of years past.

The thought suggests itself that the proposal to give the Commission a wide scope, is for the purpose of causing delay to the work and report of the Commission, and also for the purpose of deluding the public as to the Woodford matter. It looks as though a squid-like policy were at the bottom of the proposal.

A second thought is, that the Judges of the Supreme Court ought not to permit themselves to become members of a scandal Commission. It is very doubtful indeed whether the Judges ought to sit as Commissioners, even upon the Woodford matter. It first came before two of them

on hearing an election petition, which matter is not yet fully disposed of. It may come before the three of them upon a criminal indictment. That they should sit to enquire as Commissioners, is fraught with grave danger and unseemly complications.

But the Woodford charges are at least definite and confined to a very small scope, and it may be said that enquiry into them would not drag the Judges into political matters generally. Such a limitation cannot be placed upon the proposal that the Judges shall become a Commission to enquire into such charges as the present Government may think it convenient to confide to them. Not only personally, but as a Supreme Court, the Judges as Commissioners, would probably have their reputations injured in the community, and in all probability their usefulness ended by the passions and prejudices which would attach to them as much rakers generally. It is extremely doubtful, or perhaps it is more correct to say that it is certain, that no Commission composed of local men, can be appointed to enquire into the Woodford charges without the possibility of damage to the reputation of the Commissioners, and that the member or members of the Commission should be drawn from abroad by the selection of a man or men above just or fair reproach of partisanship.

The public will not be satisfied with any policy which means an unnecessary delay to obscure the main issue. The Premier of the Colony, who holds office today, has been accused of a criminal offence against the public. The accusation has been made upon oath, and the charge should be disposed of upon oath. Every hour that goes by fastens the stain upon the Colony.

Continuation of Correspondence.

BETWEEN THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION AND HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

Government House, St. John's, Nfld., April 21st, 1920.
Sir,—With reference to my letter of the 16th instant and to your letter of the 17th instant (which, I am to note, reached His Excellency after it had been published in the Press) I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to inform you that the Memorial has now received the full consideration of His Excellency's advisers. The signatories of the Memorial ought to be aware that in a Colony with Representative Government no action is possible on the part of the Governor except with the concurrence of his existing Ministers. The Governor has, on the advice of the Prime Minister and Executive Council, decided to issue a Royal Commission to enquire into the matters referred to in your Memorial, and pending the result of the enquiry by that Commission, His Excellency is bound to follow the advice of the Prime Minister, who has the confidence of a large majority of the Electorate, and has, as a matter of fact, denied in toto the allegations made in the Woodford Affidavit.

I am further to observe that His Excellency is advised that the acts alleged to have been committed do not come within the criminal law of this Colony.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,
R. WATSON,
Private Secretary.
Sir M. P. Cashin, K. E. E.,
King's Bridge Road,
Sutherland Place,
St. John's, Nfld.,
April 22, 1920.

His Excellency Sir C. A. Harris, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., Etc., Etc., Governor of Nfld.
Your Excellency—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter dated the 21st inst., signed by your Private Secretary.
My letter to you dated the 17th inst., was delivered to your orderly at Government House several hours before it appeared in the public press. I am not prepared to agree with the statement that "no action is possible on the part of the Governor except with the concurrence of existing Ministers." You called the present Premier to his office as such, without such concurrence, and could dismiss him in the same way. Nor can I agree that Your Excellency is "bound to follow the advice of the Prime Minister" in a matter which concerns his personal honor and interest. I think the duty of dealing with him is wholly personal to yourself.

It is a fair inference, I admit, that the present Prime Minister had the confidence of a majority of the electorate on the last General Election day, but there is no evidence that he has since the Woodford affidavit has been published, and the use of the present tense in this connection is of questionable accuracy.

question may exist as to the application in this Colony of the Criminal Courts of the English Act regarding corrupt elections, there is no reason whatever to doubt that the acts alleged by Mr. Woodford to have been committed by the Prime Minister are punishable under the general criminal law of this Colony; but, aside altogether from the question of criminality, these acts, from a public point of view are offensive, and no Minister guilty of them should be permitted to hold office. I hope I am not to imply from your Secretary's letter that the Premier's acts, if proved as alleged, will be condoned. If considered not criminal and punishable in a Court of Justice. Corrupt interference with elections to the House of Assembly, and the offer or promise of public office for corrupt purposes, constituting an offence against the public which, whether punishable criminally or otherwise, could not be excused in one of your advisers.

I am,
Your Excellency,
Your obedient servant,
M. P. CASHIN.

Opening of the Legislature.

The opening of the first session of the twenty-fourth General Assembly of Newfoundland took place with the usual attendant ceremonies at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The Constabulary, C.L.B., C.C.C. and Highlanders were in attendance and were drawn up in front of the Colonial Building, the C.L.B. band being massed in the centre. On the arrival of His Excellency and suite the National Anthem was played, the guard of honor presenting arms. Though the weather was exceedingly disagreeable, a large number of both sexes had assembled in the grounds and on the steps of the local Houses of Parliament. After inspecting the guard of honor, His Excellency, accompanied by his aides proceeded to the Council Chamber, and the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod having summoned His Honor the Speaker and members of the House of Assembly to attend at the Bar of the Upper House, where Mr. Speaker was introduced by the Prime Minister, and having been granted the customary ancient privileges for himself and the members of the House during the session, the following Speech from the Throne was then delivered by His Excellency:

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

I deem it my first duty on this occasion to greet the new members who have been appointed to the Legislative Council in the place of some whose loss we deplore. I also welcome all those who have been elected to serve in the new House of Assembly.

When in April of last year I addressed the Legislature on the opening of the eighth and last session of the 23rd General Assembly, I expressed my feelings of pride and thankfulness at the wonderful success of the Allied Armies in the great world war, and thankfulness at the termination of the conflict which had cost such untold miseries, to the greater portion of the human race; and in greeting you to-day, while I recognize that the ratification of the first of the Treaties of Peace in January last holds out high hope that the nations of the world have indeed embarked upon a period of reorganization and reconstruction, I cannot avoid impressing upon you the lesson of all history that a great convulsion is followed by much unrest and that all our patience and sympathy will be required before we can realize under the guidance of Divine Providence a permanent peace upon earth and goodwill amongst formerly warring nations.

My Ministers appreciate the donation by the British Admiralty to Newfoundland of two ships hitherto used for naval purposes. These two ships, together with a third ship purchased from the British Admiralty by the Government are now being prepared at Chatham for their voyage to Newfoundland. It is possible that one of these ships will be used as a coastal boat; another as a supply ship in connection with the Lighthouse Department, and the third for emergency and rescue purposes.

For many years a dispute has been pending between the Province of Quebec and this Colony in relation to the boundary between Newfoundland and Quebec on the Labrador Peninsula. An agreement has been arrived at as to the submission of the dispute to the adjudication of His Majesty's Privy Council, and it is thought probable that some substantial progress towards a final settlement of this long-outstanding controversy may be made during this year.

Promptly after its assumption of office the Government established regulations to protect the fishing interests of Newfoundland in their foreign markets, and it is pleasing to know that the establishment of the regulations has been attended with much success and substantial benefit to our codfish industry. The fishermen of Newfoundland will be invited to co-operate earnestly with the Government in its effort to improve the cur of codfish. It can reasonably be anticipated that if the cur of fish is improved so that a reasonable surplus is produced, the price of Newfoundland codfish will continue at firm values.

An effort is being made by the Government to wind up the Department of Militia and the Department of Shipping at the earliest possible moment. The Newfoundland Pay and Record Office in London has already been closed. The work of the Civil Establishment Committee will, it is hoped, during this year be brought practically to an end, and the matter of medical treatment of returned soldiers and sailors will be concentrated in one hospital building so as to give greater efficiency of service at a very greatly reduced expenditure of public funds. If the burden of expenditure resulting from the war may seem a heavy one let us remember that it represents the least that we can do for those who enabled Newfoundland to take her stand in the forefront of humanity's great battle.

The Rev. (Major) Nangle has been placed in charge of matters connected with the concentration and registration of the graves of our heroic dead in Europe. Suitable War Memorials are being erected on sites purchased by the Newfoundland Government. The battlefield of Beaumont Hamel, the name of which will ever be a tragic memory amongst us, has been secured, and here, within enclosures dedicated to the cause of liberty and justice by Newfoundland's heroic sacrifices, will be concentrated the graves of all members of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment who fell in the advance of July 1st, 1918.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

The revenue for the last fiscal year showed a substantial surplus over expenditure. On the other hand, there have been large expenditures not included within the scope of last year's Estimates which it will be necessary to legalize. In spite of these large disbursements the revenue was more than sufficient to meet current expenditure. It must be remembered, however, that practically the whole of the very large expense incurred in connection with the Department of Militia and in the matter of pensions for soldiers and sailors and their hospital treatment and civil re-establishment was borne on Capital Account.

The Estimates have been subject to considerable revision, and have been based upon the report of the Civil Service Commission appointed by my late Ministers. My Ministers propose to submit to you for your careful consideration a bona fide statement of the moneys which are estimated to be necessary to cover the expense of the public service of the Colony for the coming fiscal year. They are of the opinion that the practice which has grown up during recent years of submitting Estimates far below the actual anticipated expenditure, trusting to provision being made under the head of "Supplemental Supply" at a subsequent session of the Legislature for the authorization of over expenditure, should be discontinued as far as practicable.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable House of Assembly:

The Department of Marine and Fisheries, which may be considered one of the most important Departments of the Administration, will be reorganized; an Information Bureau and Scientific Research Department will be established; a commission will be appointed to put into operation laws for the standardization of fish and the improvement of the cure thereof. Trade Commissioners and other agents will be appointed from time to time until Newfoundland is suitably represented in all its principal fish markets. Legislation will be introduced to provide for the enforcement of such regulations as my Ministers may consider necessary to protect the interests in foreign countries of those who ship fish to the foreign market.

Legislation will be introduced to establish a proper survey of ships built in Newfoundland and of all vessels engaged in the foreign trade of the Island. The legislation will include provision for the protection of the lives of those employed on foreign-going vessels.

You will be invited to consider bills, for the creation of a Department of Posts and Telegraphs and the creation of a Department of Education. A reorganization of the Department of Agriculture & Mines is being undertaken with a view to the curtailment of expenditures which past practice has indicated to be unfruitful and the development of a new policy which my Ministers confidently believe will tend to make agriculture a very much more important factor in the Colony's prosperity than it has been in the past.

The problems of both Coastal and Inland transportation, which are of the first importance to the industrial welfare of the Colony, are receiving most careful consideration at the hands of my Ministers, who hope to be in a position to submit for consideration at this session of the Legislature some practical proposals for more efficient service.

Quite recently a company has been incorporated for the purpose of the acquisition of a large number of Workmen's Homes. The company hopes to build as many as thirty houses at a cost not exceeding \$2,000 each, will be constructed during the present year, and my Ministers anticipate that ap-

plication will be made by the company to the Legislature for certain concessions to assist them in their philanthropic activities.

I express the hope that your deliberations may, under the guidance of Divine Providence, tend to the further welfare and prosperity of this ancient Colony.

PRICES ARE HIGH. — Just now when every seasonable garment is in demand we are forced, on account of over-supply, to sacrifice our entire surplus stocks at Sale Prices. Ladies' Clothing, Boys' Clothing and Men's Clothing at 100 per cent. below regular price. Sale begins Tuesday next. LONDON, NEW YORK & PARIS ASSOCIATION, OF FASHION, Grace Building.

ap22,26

Here and There.
See the brightness of your teeth after using PEBECO.—ap22,11

Five thousand more Brick's Tasteless to arrive in a few days. ap22,11

English Boiled and Raw Paint Oil, by the cask or on retail. G. KNOWLING, LTD.—ap15,13,22

Then your teeth will seem more clean. Use PEBECO Tooth Paste. ap22,11

Would you rather have a good appetite than a bad one? If you do, take Brick's Tasteless. ap22,11

LIME QUARRIES TO OPEN UP.—The Lime Quarries at Port au Port will open with a boom on May 1st. The company are employing some 500 men on the job and are looking for 200 men to go to Sydney. ap22,11

DANCING.—Mrs. Cleary resumes lessons in Classical and Modern Dancing in C. C. C. Hall on Friday, April 23rd, at 3.30 p.m.—ap22,21

Grand Card Tournament, C. C. C. Old Comrades' Rooms, this Thursday night. First prize, Suit of Clothes, or their value. ap22,11

CUSTOMS OFFICIAL DIED YESTERDAY.—The Deputy Minister of Customs is in a receipt of a message saying that J. H. Taverner, Sub-Collector at Morison's Harbor, had died there yesterday. He was a native of Trinity. ap22,11

St. Mary's Women's Association Annual Sale of Work will be held in the Parish Hall on Wednesday, May 5th. Particulars later. Please reserve this date.—ap22,11

"Her bright smile haunts me still." She must use PEBECO.—ap22,11

\$80,000.00 SALE beginning Tuesday next, lasting two weeks. Preparations are now going on for this gigantic event. LONDON, NEW YORK & PARIS ASSOCIATION OF FASHION. ap22,26

A Grand Dance will be held at St. Andrew's Club Rooms, South-west Docking, Burdworth St. on Wednesday, 28th April, at 8 o'clock. Ladies, 50c.; Gent's, 75c.—ap22,26

Forty-Five Years Ago

THE FIRST CAKE OF

Harvey's No. 1 Bread

Was made in Newfoundland by the present Manufacturers.

Isn't it reasonable to suppose that during that time the Manufacturers have learnt all that there is to know about making "Hard Tack"?

Don't let any interested party try to persuade you that there is any kind of Hard Bread "just as good as Harvey's."

If you want Hard Bread that contains a rich, flaky well baked interior insist upon your dealer supplying you with

Harvey's No. 1 Bread.

"There is no other just as good."

Soft Drinks Stores AND Ice Cream Parlors.

We have just received a small shipment of the following goods:
4 oz. Grape Juice Glasses, per doz. \$1.50
8 oz. Tumblers, per doz. . . . \$1.25
Paper Napkins, per 1,000. \$1.70
Maplewood Dishes (suitable for serving Refreshments at Dances or Garden Parties), per 100 \$1.20

ON ORDER:
Paper Ice Cream Dishes, Paper Spoons.

Customers requiring the above goods must pay their own cartage. We cannot undertake to send any glassware out of town. This is the only shipment of these goods that we will be importing.

P.E. OUTERBRIDGE,
King's Rd., cor. Gower St.
Telephone 60.

NOTICE.

A Special Meeting of the Marine Engineers' Association will be held to-night (Thursday) at 8.30 o'clock. All members are requested to attend.
By order of the President.

WALTON H. MARTIN,
Sec.-Treas.

FOR SALE.

Schooner Klondyke, 41 Tons, with or without Cod Traps and Fishing Outfit.

Bishop, Sons & Co., Ltd.
ap15,61,60d

FOR SALE.

At Topsail,
That Desirable Property known as "THE HOTEL". House contains fifteen rooms, beside Pantries, Closets, etc. For further particulars apply to
J. J. BUTLER,
Topsail.
ap20,31,60d

FOR SALE.

Two Small, Cheap DWELLING HOUSES.
For particulars apply to
WOOD & KELLY,
Temple Bldg., Duckworth Street.
ap22,11

The only fault about Brick's Tasteless, it makes you eat, and feed in very high at present. ap22,11

Announcement

As the commissions paid Manufacturer's Agents in no way compete with the additional H. C. of L., and it is impossible to "go on strike", I beg to announce that I have accepted through Mr. J. A. Mackenzie the position of Special Agent for

THE IMPERIAL LIFE ASSURANCE CO. OF CANADA

and if any of my friends or acquaintances are thinking of getting married, or of living or remaining single, shall greatly appreciate it if they will afford me the privilege of writing them up a few thoughts and Life Insurance.

TO THE TRADE.

I shall continue to represent the various English, Canadian and American Houses for which I am at present agent.

P. E. OUTERBRIDGE,

King's Road, cor. Gower St.
Telephone 60.

ap21,61

NOTICE.

Blue Puttee Hall has been leased for one month to one of the largest Clothing Establishments in Newfoundland and will therefore, not be available for Dances, etc., till about May 20th. In the meantime we have a large Sample Room on the ground floor which will be hired for small meetings or as a Sample Room.

Newfoundland Entertainment Co., Ltd.

W. F. POWER, Manager,
King's Road.

ap15,31,60d

FOR SALE.

Schr. VILLAGE BELLE 99 tons nett register. Built Maitland, N.S., 1900. Vessel well found and now ready. For further particulars apply to

T. H. CARTER & CO.,
ap19,11

FOR SALE.

FREEHOLD PROPERTY.
That commodious business premises comprising three - story Dwelling House in first class condition, with frostproof cellar capable of holding 400 brls. potatoes and 20 tons coal together with two large Stores, Barn, Outhouse, Wharves and Planks, situated at Kirby's Cove, Burin. For particulars apply to CHAS. B. BISHOP, Burin. ap22,11

Queen Ann
3-Piece Sets.

Just opened a varied assortment of the above direct from the potteries, consisting of
1 HOT WATER JUG.
1 TEAPOT.
1 TRAPOT STAND.

Price for Cream and Gold, 3 piece set \$6.70
Price for Cream, Crimson and Gold, 3 piece set . . . \$4.60
Hot Water Jugs, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.65.

ARCADIA Dinner Sets, very similar to WILLOW PATTERN, 25 pieces, \$14.50; 35 pieces, \$22.00.
Gloss Lemon Squashers, 50c. ea.
Glass Jugs 50c. each

Japanese Berry Sets . . . \$3.50
Brown Teapots, 55c., 60c., 70c.
Fancy Teapots from 90c. to \$1.20, \$1.45, \$1.70, \$1.90.
Cups and Saucers, 50c., 60c., 70c.

G. KNOWLING, Ltd.
CHERRYBURY STREET,
ST. JOHN'S.