

THE STAR, ST. JOHN N. B., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 1907.

### PROCEEDINGS IN THE P. E. ISLAND LEGISLATURE THE SESSION WHICH CLOSED ON SATURDAY LAST

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., April 24.—The chief feature of the session of the Provincial Legislature which opened on February 19th, and which closed on Saturday last, was the lengthy debate on the results of the Ottawa conference, at which the Island delegates, Premier Peters and Hon. George E. Hughes, secured an addition of \$70,000 to the public debt, from the Dominion, on account of civil government and legislation.

When the Government swept the country, 23 to 7 at the last general election in 1904, some Conservatives said that it was hardly worth while for their party to get into power just then, as the public debt was over \$700,000, and the finances—owing to the insufficient revenue—were in a decidedly bad condition.

In this province we have not like Nova Scotia, a big source of revenue in the form of royalties. All our income, excepting the Dominion subsidy must come from direct taxation, and it is the general belief that the people would speedily defeat any government bold enough to increase the taxes on the land, although they are very low compared with those in the other provinces. Whatever may have been in this assumption—and we give it for what it is worth—the financial outlook for the future, with an increase of \$70,000 to our revenue, added roses hue to the Conservative expectations, as they felt sure they would have the necessary revenue to carry on the government without resorting to increased taxation.

Naturally all their efforts were directed towards attacking the important position attained by the Liberals as a result of the Ottawa conference. "Blessed Liberals," be in line with the Liberal Government at Ottawa, and thus secure increase to our subsidy and settlement of our claims," was the watchword of the Liberals at the last election, and the granting of the additional \$70,000, justified the verdict of the people in 1904.

In the past, when the Premier in his budget speech would announce that he hoped this increase of subsidy would be secured, his statements were generally met with derisive comments from the Opposition side. They spoke of the financial mirage, they spoke of the fact that the heart sick, and uttered other taunting expressions of the political skeptic.

After the result of the Ottawa conference of 1906 was announced the Opposition of course could not deny the fact, that the increase was an assured thing. They at once proceeded, however, to attack the work of the delegates.

With regard to the per capita subsidy, they claimed that the Island would stand to lose with every decrease in population, as this province was not mentioned in clause "C" with the exception of provinces of Manitoba, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Alberta. They also said the delegates had put in special claims for the increased expenditure since Confederation, for education, public works, asylums, etc. They should have held out like McBride, they said, and not foolishly sacrificed valuable claims of the province.

The Opposition felt that this was safe ground to take. They hoped to win the country with this cry of better terms, and thus enjoy the financial fruits of Liberal persistence in the past.

Before the House met, they proceeded to set up an agitation throughout the country by causing public meetings. Notices of these meetings stated that the people were called together for the purpose of discussing winter communication and the subsidy arrangement. By using the former subject, which is naturally regarded as non-political, they hoped to assemble the electors on both sides of politics, and thus upon them their denunciation of the subsidy arrangement. The Liberals, however, saw the trap and refused to take the bait, and let the meetings in the hands of the Conservatives. The delegates were invited, but they wisely declined that the proper place to present their report was before the legislature. At the meetings the Opposition raised a great hue and cry against the alleged failure of the delegates to secure the province against the decrease in subsidy with the decrease in population, and resolutions were passed accordingly.

When the House met, the Conservatives renewed the attack, dealing mainly with the reduction in the subsidy. It was explained to the delegates that under the Imperial Order in Council, by which the Island entered Confederation, that the subsidy of the province could be decreased, but not that the province could be increased. They stated that, during the discussion at the conference, they asked that a special provision be made to secure the province against the decrease in subsidy, but that they were assured by the Federal ministers that this was entirely unnecessary. As to the charge that they had failed to secure anything for additional claims, they pointed out that the settlement was on the basis of the resolutions agreed upon at the conference of 1902, and that no province that had been represented at the conference received any additional consideration.

It was true that Ontario and Manitoba, which were represented at this conference, had presented claims, but they withdrew them.

The Opposition were not content with this explanation of the Liberal delegates, but continued to carry the war into Africa. During the session they introduced resolutions whereby they could, thinking that they had the delegates in a hole, and determined to keep the matter before the public. They kept the country agitated throughout the session, and signed by several thousand Conservative electors, who asked that the House would not ratify any arrangement of the delegates

whereby our per capita subsidy would be increased. It was amusing at times to witness the indignation which the Opposition assumed when they spoke of the delegates selling their province and committing an act which would be a reproach against them for all time to come.

Like a thunder storm out of a clear sky, however, came the news that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had introduced a resolution asking for an amendment to the British North American Act, in order that the additional subsidy arranged for at the conference could be paid at the province.

In these resolutions the Island was confirmed in the payment of the subsidy on her maximum population, also in special grants, which included \$30,000 additional subsidy secured in 1901 by the Farquharson Government.

In order to make the assurance doubly sure, the delegates read in the House letters received from Premier Gouin, President of the Conference, and from Hon. A. P. Aylmer, Minister of Justice. Mr. Gouin clinched the whole matter in the following statement: "The opinion of the conference at the time was that your position as set forth in the Imperial Order in Council under which you entered the union would remain unchanged. As no provision was made in the Quebec resolution for a decrease, the opinion was so generally entertained that it was deemed inadvisable and even useless to include Prince Edward Island in the exceptional enactment of clause 'C'." There was some derisive firing from the Opposition guns after this shall had exploded. An attempt was made to give credit to Mr. Laurier and other Conservative members in the Dominion House for having pointed out to the Dominion Government the neglect of the delegates to safeguard the Island, but the political bluffing of Laurier and his friends did not deceive the government supporters. The attempt of the Opposition to stampede the House by the use of the word "mirage" failed. Their hopes have vanished like the baseless fabric of a vision, and now they must turn for a new policy, like Japhet in the previous age.

The success of the Liberal delegates is all the more marked in contrast to what the Conservatives had done in the past. The latter on gaining the government in 1878 conceived the plan of running the country without tax, and they kept on the Liberal tax of three years and then repealed it. The result was deficit after deficit, and the rapidly sinking debt. Driven to the last ditch, they withdrew \$200,000 from the interest bearing capital at Ottawa to pay off the indebtedness at the banks, thereby \$10,000 a year in interest to the province for all time to come. It is true that a delegation went to the throne at the time, but that went to the throne as a year as a compensation to us for the expenditure throughout the Dominion on great public works in which the Island did not share, but even that failed to wipe out the stigma of the withdrawal of the capital. The Liberal delegates secured an addition of \$30,000 a year in 1901, an addition of \$70,000 in 1906, without the sacrifice of a single claim.

During the session of the provincial legislature just closed the Road Act and the Protection Act were both amended and consolidated. The former did not receive as much discussion as anticipated, although a number of minor amendments which were voted down. Under the present system the province is in charge of inspectors, who are paid a salary and who have the work done by road makers with the road machine. The necessary funds are raised by a tax on men and horses, although many a man is given an opportunity to work his horse on the road machine, and thus make in some cases—more than the tax. Statute law had been in force under the old government, but was abolished by the Liberals, after several years' trial.

This session the number of road inspectors was increased by a better redistribution of the territory.

The subject of winter roads was discussed at some length and a resolution was unanimously passed asking the commissioner of public works to investigate into the practicability of side drains for sleigh in winter and the advantage of double teams with a view to having these adopted generally by farmers.

For a great many years this province has conducted a stock farm several miles from the city. Its object was to disseminate pure bred stock by the government importing it and selling it to the farmers at a low price. In the early stages of agricultural development this farm served a good purpose but now that many of our private breeders are producing very high grade stock, the usefulness of the farm has in a large measure passed away. The fact that the herd of cattle had become afflicted with tuberculosis, and that the buildings required renovating led the government to take steps towards the abolition of the farm and accordingly at this session a bill was passed authorizing its sale. Experimental Farm at Ottawa, came here last year and examined several sites upon which options had been purchased. As soon as the proper one is purchased the establishment of the farm will be proceeded with. The Opposition charged the government with mismanaging affairs that they were obliged to sell the farm, but the general opinion is that a wise step has been taken, and that the change will be highly beneficial to a province where

agriculture is the main industry. As our soil and climate differ materially from those in the other province an experimental farm to suit our peculiar conditions has been a long felt want.

For many years there has stood in the central part of this city, an ugly wooden building known as Queen's County Jail, which had become a veritable eyesore to the citizens. After negotiations the city has agreed to give the government the site in the suburbs on which to erect a county jail, in exchange for the old jail building, on condition that it would be torn down and the land converted into a public square. This the government agreed to do, and a bill carrying the agreement into effect was passed at this session. The new structure will be situated on the edge of the city near the railway track.

The government poor-house which is getting out of repair will be torn down and the inmates transferred to new buildings which will be erected on the asylum property, so that the heating and lighting system of the latter institution as well as the management will be available for the former. The poor-house, therefore, will have better accommodation with less expense to the government.

To the Liberal Government belongs the credit of passing the first prohibitory law in Canada. It was enacted in 1900 and since then has not only been strongly supported by both parties but steadily strengthened by the imposition of more stringent provisions. The regulations at the present session were made more stringent, and hereafter both sides of the House will have to give more details respecting liquors sold and purchased. The passage of this bill brought about the present session, as it was attended with many embarrassing incidents. The first was the introduction of the amendment by Mr. Kennedy, a member of the Opposition, and a Conservative, by asking that the sale or giving away of liquors be prohibited by any club or association of persons in this province. This measure was further justified by the fact that the Dominion Government promised to establish an export bounty on liquor in this province, the local government to furnish the land, and the farmer to equip the farm and manage it. The bill was introduced by Mr. Kennedy, and it was pointed out that the amendment was introduced, the leader of the Opposition—who by the way had nothing to do with the introduction of it—supported it on the ground, that without the amendment, prohibition would be encouraging class legislation as it was giving the right man to get his drink at the club, and shut out the poor man from a similar privilege at the saloon, which had to be closed down by the prohibition of the sale of liquors. The amendment was introduced by Mr. Kennedy, and it was pointed out that the amendment was introduced, the leader of the Opposition—who by the way had nothing to do with the introduction of it—supported it on the ground, that without the amendment, prohibition would be encouraging class legislation as it was giving the right man to get his drink at the club, and shut out the poor man from a similar privilege at the saloon, which had to be closed down by the prohibition of the sale of liquors.

The Government supporters allowed the Opposition to say what they wished, and the only Liberal speaker was Mr. Clark of Summerside, a strict teetotaler, and one of the most enthusiastic temperance men in the province. Mr. Clark pointed out that the amendments during the past session had been formulated by the Temperance Alliance and these bodies had not demanded the abolition of the club. He showed that the Government—although they had not given all that the temperance people had asked for, had given as much as could reasonably be expected. The transition from past conditions to present conditions had been a steady advance of the prohibitive element in legislation had educated the people until there was developed the present stringent prohibition law which is being effectively enforced. He showed that the club amendment was framed by men who had not the interests of prohibition at heart, but who hoped to embarrass the Government. The amendment was lost on a straight party vote. When the bill was introduced, the Government supporters were divided into two camps. One was to leave the committee on liquor to do its work, and the other was to have the bill referred to a select committee. The Government supporters were divided into two camps. One was to leave the committee on liquor to do its work, and the other was to have the bill referred to a select committee.

the bill was recommitted. Dr. Warburton who moved the amendment declared that he had done so under a misunderstanding and moved that the clause should be recommitted, in order to strike out the phrase exempting the sale of preparations containing alcohol and leaving the clause as before. There was quite a fight over the recommittal of the bill, the speaker ruling that once a clause had been voted on and passed, that the same matter could not be taken up again. His ruling was appealed to and voted down, enabling the bill to be recommitted. Then ensued one of the hottest debates of the session. Hon. G. E. Hughes, the member for Charlottetown, president of the Provincial Pharmaceutical Association and a prominent druggist, declared that without the amendment there would be a gross injustice perpetrated on the druggists, who could not sell even some of the simplest remedies without a doctor's prescription, thus adding to the expense and inconvenience of the customer. Dr. Douglas also strongly supported Mr. Hughes and moved another amendment in which he mentioned exemption a list of preparations which contained alcohol. During the discussion, therefore, will have better accommodation with less expense to the government.

Among the resolutions of the session was one dealing with our claims against the Dominion Government. A resolution was unanimously passed asking that a special committee be appointed to prepare as complete and accurate a statement as possible of these claims, and to report thereon to the House. (1) For damages accrued since the settlement with the Dominion government in 1901 up to the time of meeting of the special committee) for non-fulfillment of the terms of union, as respecting the maintenance of effective communication between the Island and the mainland, so as to place the Island in connection with the I. C. Railway system of the Dominion.

(2) Interruption in telegraphic communication during the present winter.

(3) The share of the fisheries award due this province.

(4) The refund of the freight on hay, paid under protest to the marine department.

(5) The cost and expenditure of criminal prosecution, under the act of the province of Canada.

(6) The proportion this province is contributing to, and liable for in connection with the railway subsidies for railway construction, free canals, and other public utilities on the mainland which are of no practical advantage to this province, by reason of its isolation.

(7) The refund of monies paid to the probate courts of the province for the last thirty years, and appropriated by the judge in lieu of salary.

The House also re-affirmed the resolutions expressed at the last session, asking that the government was asked to construct a tunnel, it also asked that the claims of the province for the last thirty years, and appropriated by the judge in lieu of salary.

The Governor's speech announced that a bill would be submitted having for its object the affiliation of Prince of Wales College (an institution supported solely by the Government) with the University of McGill, so as to enable two years work of McGill to be done at Prince of Wales College. After consideration the Government decided to let the matter stand over for another year, as public opinion in the province at present does not show the unanimity in favor of the measure that would warrant the passing of the bill. It was contended in the House that the Prince of Wales College was first of all a training school for teachers, and that the Government's attention should first be given to the students who were given to the students in the province. Extensions are now being made to the Prince of Wales College, costing \$50,000 and the fear was expressed that an amalgamation which would increase the number of subjects in arts and sciences, as public opinion in the province at present does not show the unanimity in favor of the measure that would warrant the passing of the bill. It was contended in the House that the Prince of Wales College was first of all a training school for teachers, and that the Government's attention should first be given to the students who were given to the students in the province. Extensions are now being made to the Prince of Wales College, costing \$50,000 and the fear was expressed that an amalgamation which would increase the number of subjects in arts and sciences, as public opinion in the province at present does not show the unanimity in favor of the measure that would warrant the passing of the bill.

**Dr. Corsetti**  
Fit the figure as a glove fits the hand, and are sufficiently resilient to permit the utmost freedom of movement.  
Truly high grade Models of conspicuous merit.  
Prices \$1.00 to \$6.00.

**THINK THE FIRE AT TOULON WAS INCENDIARY**  
Great Quantities of Supplies Destroyed in Yesterday's Conflagration.

TOULON, France, April 23.—For the sixth time within a few months this port has been stricken by disaster from fire, but fortunately this time the resultant damage is principally material.

Shortly after midnight last night a sentry discovered fire in a storeroom used for rope yarn. He at once gave the alarm and soldiers, sailors from the warships in port and employees of the arsenal turned out to fight the flames. The fire spread with incredible rapidity. The buildings in the vicinity of the storeroom contained 200,000 pounds of material to clean machinery, 60,000 pounds of oakum, 1,000 sponges, enormous quantities of ballast baskets, hampers, sail cloth, turpentine, linseed oil, and other inflammables.

The flames were soon soaring over the arsenal wall and licking the sides of some thirty dwelling houses just outside, inhabited by five or six hundred people. These residents fled half-clad to the street.

Every available man was engaged in efforts to control the conflagration and the task of fighting the flames was conducted at great personal risk all day long. It was late this afternoon before the fire was under control.

It is reported that more than thirty men have sustained injury from falling walls and some of them are not expected to recover.

The cause of the fire has not yet been ascertained. The finding of two pieces of fuse of a kind not used in the French navy has aroused suspicion that it was not altogether accidental. A rigorous investigation is being conducted.

Minister of Labor Viviani arrived here from Nice this evening and visited the ruins in company with the maritime prefect.

The authorities are becoming more and more convinced that the outbreak of the fire was due to malversation. A number of persons have come forward with more or less convincing testimony in support of this view. The arsenal police judge will hold a special session of his court tomorrow to examine into the statements.

A survey of the scene of the disaster shows that five large buildings have been completely destroyed, while the submarine depot, the torpedo workshop and the torpedo school have been seriously damaged.

Three fire engines will continue to throw water on the smouldering ruins throughout the night.

**A MILLION DOLLARS TO EDUCATE NEGROES**  
Miss Anna Jeanes, a Philadelphia Quakeress, is the Donor.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., April 22.—A gift of one million dollars for the establishment of a fund for rudimentary schools for southern negroes was announced here today in the gift. The donor is Miss Anna T. Jeanes, a Quakeress of this city. Booker T. Washington, head of Tuskegee Institute and Hollis Burke Elkins, President of the Hampton Normal and Industrial Institute, are named as trustees of the fund, but neither of the institutions they represent is completely destroyed, while the submarine depot, the torpedo workshop and the torpedo school have been seriously damaged.

Three fire engines will continue to throw water on the smouldering ruins throughout the night.

**ARRESTED A BAND OF ITALIAN COUNTERFEITERS**  
Buffalo Officers Made a Haul Yesterday and Got a Lot of Small Change.

BUFFALO, N. Y., April 23.—United States secret service officers today arrested three Italians and seized a quantity of counterfeit money believed to have been made in Italy. The men are: Gaetano Semenza, Dominico Surral and Francesco Surral, the latter two brothers. The arrests were made by Gammon and Rubano, assisted by superintendent of police Regan. Work on the secret service men kept close watch on express packages coming from Italy and finally that the counterfeit money was being shipped from Villa San Giovanni, province of Calabria. A package addressed to Gaetano Semenza arrived at New York last Wednesday and was followed to Buffalo. Semenza called at the express office here today and got a package. He was followed to a house in the Italian quarter which was immediately surrounded and Semenza and the three brothers placed under arrest. The counterfeit money which consisted of dimes, quarters and halves, was cleverly made and had passed through the hands of several months of hard work to locate the source from whence it came.

The three Italians were locked up in default of bail.

**FOUR NEGROES DEAD FROM ALCOHOLIC POISONING**

DANVILLE, Va., April 22.—The dead bodies of John Dandridge, Ada Moore and Wm. S. Praggins and the unconscious form of Lillie McCain, all negroes, between 20 and 21 years of age, were found stretched out on the floor of Rev. W. H. Atwell, presiding elder of the Danville district of the Methodist church today. The circumstances indicated the party were drinking and died while asleep from poisoning. The police are investigating. The McCain woman is in a critical condition.

**Gas Range Facts.**  
HEAT is conveyed direct to the bottom of cooking utensil not ten inches away.  
TIME. You get your heat immediately and  
EXPENSE ceases on turning off.  
CLEANLINESS. No ashes to carry.

**ECONOMY OUR IDEAL RANGE CONSUMES:**  
1 Burner 12 ft. per hour, cost 11-2 cts.  
2 Burners 24 ft. per hour, cost 2 cts.  
3 Burners 36 ft. per hour, cost 4-2 cts.  
4 Burners 48 ft. per hour, cost 6 cts.  
Oven 24 ft. per hour, cost 3 cts.

**The St. John Railway Co.**  
Tel. 323 Main.

**INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.**  
TENDER.

Sealed tenders, addressed to the undersigned, and marked on the outside "Tender for Double-Tracking" will be received up to and including FRIDAY, MAY 10th, 1907, for the work in connection with the double-tracking of the existing main line between Moncton and Falmouth Junction, N. B.

Plans and specifications may be seen at the office of the chief engineer, Moncton, N. B., where forms of tender may be obtained.

All the conditions of the specification must be complied with.

D. POTTINGER, General Manager.

Railway Office, Moncton, N. B., 15th April, 1907.

**STEAMERS.**  
**ATLANTIC STEAMSHIPS**  
OF THE  
CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY  
**ROYAL MAIL SERVICE**  
FINEST AND FASTEST

**"EMPRESSES"**  
ST. JOHN, N.B. to LIVERPOOL, via HALIFAX  
Fri., April 19 ..... "Empress of Ireland"  
Sat., April 20 ..... "Lake Erie"  
Fri., May 3 ..... "Empress of Britain"  
ST. LAWRENCE SERVICE—FROM MONTREAL  
AND QUEBEC  
Sat., May 11 ..... "Lake Manitoba"  
Fri., May 17 ..... "Empress of Ireland"  
Sat., May 25 ..... "Lake Champlain"  
ST. JOHN, N.B. to LONDON, via HALIFAX  
Wed., April 24 ..... "Mount Temple"  
(2nd and 3rd Class.)  
"Steamers marked thus sail from Halifax afternoon, after leaving St. John."  
SS Lake Champlain and Lake Erie carry only One Class of cabin passengers (second class), to whom is given the accommodation situated in the best part of the steamer \$45.00 and \$60.00.  
1st CABIN—\$45.00 and upwards according to steamer.  
2nd. CABIN—\$40.00, \$45.00 and \$47.50.  
3rd CABIN—\$25.00 to \$28.75.  
For tickets and further information apply to W. H. C. Mackay, St. John, N. B., or write W. F. Howard, D.P.A., A. C. P. R., St. John, N. B.

**EASTERN STEAMSHIP COMPANY**  
INTERNATIONAL DIVISION  
WINTER REDUCED RATES  
Effective to May 1, 1907

St. John to Port  
Land ..... \$3.00  
St. John to Boston  
..... \$3.50  
Commencing Tuesday, April 23rd, steamers leave St. John on Tuesday and Fridays at 6.30 p. m. (Atlantic Standard) for Lubec, Eastport, Portland and Boston.  
RETURNING  
Leave Boston on Mondays and Thursdays at 9.00 a. m. for Portland, Eastport, Lubec and St. John.  
All cargo and live stock, via steamers of this company is insured against fire and marine risk.  
W. G. LEE, Agent,  
St. John, N. B.

**CANADIAN PACIFIC**  
Commencing March 1st and until April 30th, 1907.

**SPECIAL LOW RATES**  
SECOND CLASS.  
To British Columbia and Pacific Coast Points FROM ST. JOHN, N. B.  
To Vancouver, B. C. .... \$56.40  
Victoria, B. C. ....  
New Westminster, B. C. ....  
Seattle & Tacoma, Wash. ....  
Portland, Ore. ....  
To Nelson, B. C. ....  
Trail, B. C. ....  
Rossland, B. C. ....  
Greenwood, B. C. ....  
Midway, B. C. ....  
Proportionate Rates from and to all other points.  
Also rates to all parts of Colorado, Idaho, Utah, Arizona & California.  
For Full Particulars call on W. H. C. Mackay, St. John, N. B., or write W. B. Howard, D.P.A., A. C. P. R., St. John, N. B.

**INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY**

ON AND AFTER MONDAY, APRIL 22nd, 1907, trains will run daily (Sunday excepted) as follows:  
TRAINS LEAVE ST. JOHN.  
No. 6—Mixed train to Moncton. 6.30  
No. 2—Express for Halifax, Campbellton, Point du Chene, Pictou, and Sydney. 7.00  
No. 3—Express for Pt. du Chene, Halifax and Pictou. 12.25  
No. 4—Mixed for Moncton. 12.30  
No. 8—Express for Sussex. 17.10  
No. 134—Express for Quebec and Montreal, also Pt. du Chene. 19.40  
No. 10—Express for Moncton, the Sydney and Halifax. 23.45  
TRAINS ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN.  
No. 3—From Halifax, Pictou, and the Sydney. 6.30  
No. 133—Express from Moncton. 9.00  
Quebec and Pt. du Chene. 12.45  
No. 8—Express from Moncton. 16.20  
No. 25—Express from Halifax, Pictou, Pt. du Chene and Campbellton. 17.30  
No. 2—Mixed from Moncton. 19.30  
No. 1—Express from Moncton. 21.20  
No. 11—Mixed from Moncton. 23.45 (daily)

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.**  
Owing to the Increased Patronage which Advertisers are giving to the Star, we are compelled to request those who require changes in their Advertisements to have their Copy in the Star Office Before 9 o'clock in the Morning, to Ensure Insertion Same Evening.

**W.R.A.'s TWO BIG BUILDINGS ON MARKET SQUARE FOR EVERYTHING THAT'S NEW and RELIABLE IN FURNITURE!**