

(Continued from page two.)

and cabinet ministers even being proven thieves there only came forward two almost unknown Conservative members of parliament against whom the slightest breath of suspicion was blown. What happened? Did Sir Robert Borden defend them as Sir Wilfrid Laurier defended men in his party who were guilty of the most glaring frauds? By no means. He had investigation of their conduct made and when satisfied that their hands were not clean, that they had dabbled in war contracts he let the country know that parliament was no place for these men. To-day he read W. F. Garland, M. P. for Carleton and Arthur DeWitt Foster out of the Conservative party. Their constituencies may send them back to parliament, but the Conservative party on Parliament Hill will have none of them. And so Sir Robert Borden has made good the promises he made in opposition. He told the people that the party he led must be clean and the government he formed must be bright. He has the record of having fulfilled his promise. No man is wanted in his party who is not prepared to accept the standards he has set.

The Men of the Hour in Canada

Several of his ministers have added to their reputations during the short session that is gone. At its beginning General Hughes was the man against whom most of the attack was concentrated. Today he is the man of the hour. He does things in his own characteristic way, but he succeeds. Hon. Dr. Roche has advanced in public esteem. As the spokesman of the Public Accounts Committee he has steered a straight course. He has been the man who brought out truth and then he had placed the further pursuit in the hands of the Justice Department. Hon. J. D. Hazen as head of the naval service department had a trying time especially at the beginning of the session, but he came out of the ordeal with colors flying. Perhaps he is another of the men of the hour. This being a war session other ministers were less in evidence than usual, but the government on the whole stands in the eye of the country immeasurably higher than it did two months ago. It is honest, which is a new thing, it is capable and it is British to the core.

Ottawa, April 15.—In making his statement in regard to the report of the Public Accounts Committee, at the opening of the House this morning Sir Robert Borden stated that the committee had considered matters a year in advance of the time, when under ordinary circumstances these matters would have come under their review. Two courses, he said, had been open to the government in connection with the investigation of war contracts, one to rely on technical considerations and declare that such matters should only be investigated in the usual way, and at the time appointed by law. The other course, and the one the government had considered correct to take, was to open the door wide to the fullest and freest investigation. The government had decided it was its duty to investigate, and to know whether frauds and irregularities had been practiced on the people of Canada. This had not, however, said Sir Robert, been the course adopted by the late government in its fifteen years of office. From the time of the refusal of an inquiry into important matters connected with the Yukon, in 1898, till the last refusal to investigate even more important matters of greater moment in connection with the National Transcontinental Railway, there had appeared to be a disposition to restrict inquiry and investigation to their narrowest possible compass. The Prime Minister then pointed out that every one of these matters upon which the committee had reported had taken place during the first six weeks of the war, when there was the greatest possible stress and urgency, and it could not be expected that attention could be paid to the safeguarding of the public interest which was undoubtedly given later. Sir Robert then turned to the Powell case. The Premier referred to the evidence given by Mr. Shaver before the committee, that he had been informed by Col. Carleton

Jones, now General Jones, that the government did not desire to purchase directly from the manufacturers and producers, but had decided to employ the services of middlemen. If General Jones had said anything of the kind, then his conduct must be called into question by this government, and if not able to deny satisfactorily that he ever had used such language, then he was no longer fit to hold his position. In the meantime the Prime Minister did him credit to believe that he had never uttered anything of the kind. Returning to the Powell contract, the Prime Minister said that the transaction undoubtedly presented features of a very unsatisfactory character, something which he admitted at once. He did not propose either to shield any one, Liberal or Conservative, but to mete out just treatment to every one concerned. Powell was a very young man, whose salary had been \$75 per month, and whose duties were exacting. He had been enabled to make a contract by means of which, in a few weeks, he had received a profit of \$9,000, equivalent to ten years' salary. A portion of this profit had been, through the vigilance of the director of contracts withheld, and a further sum of \$6,300 had been restored, after a motion by the Minister of Customs recommending that the whole matter be submitted to the Justice Department. Any further investigation possible would be made by the Department of Justice.

Justice Department Authorized To Make Thorough Inquiry

The Prime Minister then turned to the purchase of binoculars, stating that as a result of misrepresentation, and inadequate inspection, 166, out of 2,175 glasses, of inferior quality, not worth the money paid for them, had been bought. I have only now to announce," continued the Prime Minister, "to parliament and the country that we propose to give the Department of Justice, or such other means as may seem adequate, the fullest and most searching inquiry which can be devised." Sir Robert said it had been intimated with regard to the purchase of binoculars that there had been misrepresentation and inadequate inspection. The inspection of the glasses had been entrusted to an official who had been appointed by the former government. The Minister of Militia had seen fit to suspend that official until the matter was cleared up. The Prime Minister then spoke of the purchase of 8,000 horses for the first contingent. The Minister of Militia, he said, had found, when he took office, a system of purchasing horses under which the price paid by the department covered the cost of the horses, and also the expenses and remuneration of the buyer. He had decided that the man who bought horses should be paid a fixed rate for remuneration and expenses, and that the government should know how much each horse cost. "It seems," continued the Prime Minister, "that an honorable member of this house (Mr. A. DeWitt Foster) went to Col. Neil, the chief veterinary officer of the Militia Department, and urged that horses should be purchased in the Maritime Provinces. He was employed as a purchasing agent, and was given credit for a considerable amount, and about \$73,000 was paid out. The Prime Minister declared that Mr. Foster was appointed a purchasing agent without the knowledge of members of the government. "Had I known," he said, "I certainly would have prevented it. The Minister of Militia knew nothing of it, and he says he certainly would not have allowed a member of this House to act as purchasing agent." Mr. Foster was appointed by Col. Neil, and lest there should be any impression that political considerations had any influence in the appointment of purchasing agents, Sir Robert pointed out that other agents whom he had mentioned were Liberals. In justice to Mr. Foster it should be pointed out that the average cost of horses bought by Major Anderson was \$225.70; by Messrs. Crow and Thurston, \$180.50; by Messrs. MacLeod and Thurston, \$186.64; while the average price of the animals secured by Mr. Foster and his associates was \$170.54. "Apart altogether from any comment upon the

manner in which Mr. Foster had secured them, the Prime Minister discharged his duties," then came to a vital part of his remarks. "I have a duty to perform which is not of an agreeable character, but which must be discharged," he stated, speaking with great care and firmness. "It is one of the penalties one must pay who occupies a prominent position in public life. In connection with the two members of parliament to whom I have already alluded, it is my duty to say some things to see that a careful and scrupulous account was kept of every dollar of public money entrusted to him. And I regret to say that the Mr. Foster's own evidence concerning the purchase of his action, which regard to that duty in the way was in brief, that he had considered the people of his own country and the people of the King's, who had suffered as a result of the failure of the apple market some time before, should be in part compensated, if possible, such procedure can be tolerated by an opportunity to sell their horses to the government as recognized. He had finally accepted the duty of purchasing agent in this connection. "As far as Mr. Foster's connection with this matter is concerned," continued Sir Robert, "it should be taken into consideration that he is a young man, inexperienced in business, and it has not been shown that he personally profited. But I am bound to say that his explanation—if it can be called an explanation—of his failure properly to supervise the expenditure of government money, must be regarded as far from satisfactory." "As far as the member for Carleton is concerned, Mr. Garland, it has been shown, was the owner of the business carried on by the Carleton Drug Company. He had a young man in his employ whom he not only permitted, but encouraged, to make a contract with the government under which, in a few weeks, he acquired a profit of \$9,000. I cannot give my sanction to conduct of that character, because it is bound to arouse very grave suspicion, in connection with government contracts, should always keep himself above suspicion. "I feel I owe it as a duty to the government of which I am the head, to the party of which I am the leader, and to this house and country, to express my very grave disapproval of the conduct of these gentlemen in the matters under investigation by the Public Accounts Committee."

Will Punish Defenders.

"I think some of the most cynical passages that were ever uttered in the presence of members of the Public Accounts Committee have been uttered upon oath by some of the men who have been brought before that committee during the past six weeks, by men who did not hesitate to testify that they were defrauding this country, knew they were defrauding this country, and rejoiced at the opportunity (hear, hear). So far as those men are concerned I want to say two things: If the laws of the country permit the courts of justice to enforce restitution against them, that restitution will be enforced; if the laws of the country permit the walls of the penitentiary to encircle them, they will go there." (Applause.) The duty of the government will not stop there. The horses purchased elsewhere in the province of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick seem to have been purchased at a higher rate than those of which I have been speaking. There shall be a thorough inquiry into those transactions. Sir Robert felt that, in spite of the public clamor and without minimizing the importance of the disclosures, that very little had been brought out by six weeks of investigation before the Public Accounts Committee. After a searching inquiry the net result shown had been that \$9,800 had been paid to E. E. Powell in connection with his drug contract; that an estimate in the sum of \$9,000 had been lost in the binocular contract; and an equal sum in the purchase of horses, as far as had been shown in the evidence. This meant \$12,000 out of the total war vote expended of \$50,000,000, or one fortieth of one per cent. But if allowance were made for the \$9,800 already restored the net amount of money improperly expended was seen to be one-eighth of one per cent. only.

A Warning.

The Prime Minister said that early last October there had been brought to his notice the allegation that a certain agent had been forced to pay \$500 as a political contribution in order to obtain an order from the Militia Department. He had ordered an investigation, and on such investigation it had been found that the person who alleged he had made the payment for political purposes had put his employer's money in his own pocket. A warrant was issued for him and he fled the country. Sir Robert then issued a warning that if any man in Canada, Conservative or Liberal, committed any fraud on the Government, or was concerned in any attempt, especially in connection with war vote, to do so, he must remember that there were courts of justice in this country, and that the doors of the penitentiary were yawning for every man who undertook such a thing. However, said the Prime Minister, though there were undoubtedly men in Canada who sought to make an undue profit in their dealings with the government in the sale of war supplies, it must be remembered that this was not a condition confined to Canada alone. He read from the London Times an article in which there was expressed a suspicion that war votes in the Old Country were finding their way into the pockets of unscrupulous profit-

seekers. The Prime Minister then came to a vital part of his remarks. "I have a duty to perform which is not of an agreeable character, but which must be discharged," he stated, speaking with great care and firmness. "It is one of the penalties one must pay who occupies a prominent position in public life. In connection with the two members of parliament to whom I have already alluded, it is my duty to say some things to see that a careful and scrupulous account was kept of every dollar of public money entrusted to him. And I regret to say that the Mr. Foster's own evidence concerning the purchase of his action, which regard to that duty in the way was in brief, that he had considered the people of his own country and the people of the King's, who had suffered as a result of the failure of the apple market some time before, should be in part compensated, if possible, such procedure can be tolerated by an opportunity to sell their horses to the government as recognized. He had finally accepted the duty of purchasing agent in this connection. "As far as Mr. Foster's connection with this matter is concerned," continued Sir Robert, "it should be taken into consideration that he is a young man, inexperienced in business, and it has not been shown that he personally profited. But I am bound to say that his explanation—if it can be called an explanation—of his failure properly to supervise the expenditure of government money, must be regarded as far from satisfactory." "As far as the member for Carleton is concerned, Mr. Garland, it has been shown, was the owner of the business carried on by the Carleton Drug Company. He had a young man in his employ whom he not only permitted, but encouraged, to make a contract with the government under which, in a few weeks, he acquired a profit of \$9,000. I cannot give my sanction to conduct of that character, because it is bound to arouse very grave suspicion, in connection with government contracts, should always keep himself above suspicion. "I feel I owe it as a duty to the government of which I am the head, to the party of which I am the leader, and to this house and country, to express my very grave disapproval of the conduct of these gentlemen in the matters under investigation by the Public Accounts Committee."

Measures For Supervision of Issue of War Contracts.

The Prime Minister's tone then lightened and the House, which had sympathized with him in the painful portion of his speech, through which, with evident feeling but no faltering he had just taken his way, listened with relief to his outline of the measures which the government is prepared to take in future for the proper supervision of the issue of all war contracts. Sir Robert announced that a commission of either one or of three of the best business men available in Canada for the purpose, would be selected without regard to any consideration at all except those of ripe experience, high ability and perfect integrity, and that there would be conferred to them the full direction and control of all supplies purchased under the appropriation of \$100,000,000. "The people of this country have nobly done their duty in the present crisis, and so has parliament," concluded Sir Robert. "It remains for the government so to do its duty in regard to the expenditure of the one hundred millions of war vote, that we may be able at another session of parliament to give an account of our stewardship which shall commend itself not only to parliament but to the people of this country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific."

DIED.

GRANT.—In this city, April 20th. William Grant, aged 88 years. R. I. P.

ALLAN.—At Cardigan Bridge, P. E. I., on April the 11th, Annie, beloved wife of Dr. A. A. Allan, formerly Miss Annie M. Hughes, Tignish. R. I. P.

The winter steamers are now running between Charlottetown and Pictou; each one making a round trip in two days. The Steam Navigation Company's boats will likely soon start.

Local And Other Items

The Legislature will likely prorogue this week.

His Lordship, Bishop O'Leary, crossed to the Mainland via Pictou, on Monday.

The volunteer soldiers who had been mustered here some time ago, and had been drilling in the city for several weeks, left here for Halifax on Monday Morning. They presented a fine appearance and were heartily cheered by the immense crowd assembled on the wharf to see them off. They will likely be engaged in garrison duty for some time at Halifax and will likely eventually find their way to the front, at least some of them.

The funeral of the late John McEachern, who died so suddenly early Tuesday morning, was held on Thursday afternoon. The deceased was well and favorably known in this community where he had lived for over half a century. In all the walks of life he had the entire confidence and respect of his large circle of acquaintances. One brother Donald, resident at Pictou is the sole survivor of the family. The funeral was largely attended. The Caledonian of which he had been a member, turned out in large numbers, preceded by their piper.

The great temperance movement which began with his Majesty, King Edward, and is now spreading throughout the Empire was appropriately inaugurated in this Province at a grand mass meeting held in the Drill Hall in this city on Sunday evening last. His Honour, Lieut. Governor Rogers presided, and with him on the platform were His Lordship, Bishop O'Leary, Premier Mathieson and several others whose names will follow. His Lordship, the Bishop was the first speaker. He delivered a most eloquent and admirable address, dealing with the evil effects of the excessive, or even moderate use of alcoholic liquors. He was followed by Rev. Canon Simpson, Rev. J. L. Dawson, Premier Mathieson, and Hon. Mr. McKinnon. Rev. Dr. Fullerton. The object aimed at is the taking of a simple pledge to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquor during the war. At the close of the meeting, Rev. Dr. Fullerton pointed out that it was impracticable to receive signatures to the pledge from such an immense audience. He so asked for a show of hands. A forest of hands was immediately raised. The proceedings closed with the National Anthem.

Tenders for Coal

SEALED TENDERS will be received at this office until noon on WEDNESDAY MAY 5, 1915.

From any person or persons willing to contract to supply the Provincial Building, Law Courts, Prince of Wales College, Hospital for the Insane and Provincial Infirmary, Queen's County Jail, Georgetown Court House, and Jail, Summerside Court House & Jail, with coal. Coal for the Hospital for the Insane and Provincial Infirmary to be delivered on Falconwood Wharf and for the other buildings to be delivered in their respective vaults at the post of the Contractor by the first of September next.

Weights scales to be approved by the Department.

Full particulars as to the quality and quantity for each building may be had at this Office.

The names of two responsible persons willing to become bound for the faithful performance of the contract must accompany each tender.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

Tenders to be addressed to the undersigned and marked "Tenders for Coal".

L. B. McMILLAN,
Secretary of Public Works,
Department of Public Works,
Charlottetown, P. E. Island.
April 21, 1915.—2

PATRIOTISM and PRODUCTION
Complete Your Plans Now

The important thing now is to complete at once your plan for the year's work—for increased production. By planning well in advance, each month's operations can be carried through more effectively when the time comes. Delays later on, through neglect of this, will mean loss to you and to the Empire.

Use the Best Seed

This year, for the sake of the Empire, farmers should be exceptionally careful in the selection of seed. Cheap seed is often the dearest. If every Canadian farmer would use only the best varieties, and sow on properly cultivated soil, the grain output of Canadian farms would be doubled. Deal only with reliable seedsmen. Write at once to Canadian Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, and to your Provincial Agricultural Department for information as to the best varieties of seed to be used in your particular locality, and use no others.

ATTEND YOUR CONFERENCE

Clean Your Seed

All grain intended for seed should be thoroughly cleaned and selected to retain only the strong kernels. You can reap only what you sow. It does not pay to sow weeds. Clean seed means larger crops and helps to keep the land clean. When you have your seed grain ready, put it through the cleaner once more.

Test Your Seed

Test your seed for vitality, too. Seed is not always as good as it looks. For example, oats, quite normal in appearance and weight, may be so badly damaged by frost that their value for seed is completely destroyed. If you have any doubt as to the quality of your seed a sample may be sent free to the seed laboratory at Ottawa, or Calgary, for test. But in most cases this simple test will prove sufficient. Take a saucer and two pieces of blotting paper. Place seed between blotting papers. Keep moist and in a warm place. In a few days, you will be able to see whether the vitality is there. Neglect to test your seed may mean the loss of crop.

The Farm Labour Problem

The Government suggests the forming of an active committee in every town and city, composed of town and country men and women. This committee would find out the sort of help the farmers of their locality need, and get a list of the unemployed in their town or city, who are suitable for farm labour. With this information, the committee would be in a good position to get the right man for the right place.

Increase Your Live Stock

Breeding stock are today Canada's most valuable asset. The one outstanding feature of the world's farming is that there will soon be a great shortage of meat supplies. Save your breeding stock. Plan to increase your live stock. Europe and the United States as well as Canada will pay higher prices for beef, mutton and bacon in the very near future. Do not sacrifice now. Remember that live stock is the only basis for prosperous agriculture. You are farming not speculating.

Canadian Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Canada

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Publications Branch, Canadian Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.
Please send me Bulletins relating to Seed.

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P.O. Address.....
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Our Dollar Package
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This package is made up of the sort of things that every housewife simply has to have. There is not a useless or undesirable thing in the lot. Figured at the lowest valuation, when you buy the items one by one in the regular way they would cost you \$1.50. Most stores would charge you \$2.00. As a banner special, you get the entire assortment for **ONE DOLLAR**.

Postpaid Anywhere in the Maritime Provinces 5c. Extra—Here are the Contents—Study them—Order Right Now.

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| 1 Bottle Opener | 1 Cube Assorted Toilet Pins |
| 1 doz. Dress Fasteners | 1 pkg. Darning Needles |
| 1 "MOROCOCO" Dressing Comb | 3 Lead Pencils |
| 1 Pair Beauty Pins | 3 Rolls Wire Hair Pins |
| 1 doz. Pearl Buttons | 1 doz. Assorted Safety Pins |
| 1 pkg. Sewing Needles | 1 Box Mixed Brass Pins |
| 1 Tape Measure | 1 Spool Linen Thread |
| 1 Card Bone Hair Pins | 1 doz. Assorted Tapes |
| 1 doz. Boot Laces | 1 doz. Spools (Clapperton's) |
| 1 Elastic Hair Net | 3 Thimbles |
| 1 Pair Hose Supporters | |

Any purchaser anywhere who buys this famous dollar parcel and is not satisfied absolutely, will have price refunded immediately, including postage. If not delighted, return the goods and get your money—no arguments—no objections, just the money right in your hand. If you have had any postage to pay in the matter, we will return that too.

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MOORE & McLEOD

Charlottetown, P. E. I.

Herewith find \$1.05 for which send me one of the Dollar Smallware Packages. Money and Postage to be returned if I am not satisfied.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

WEIGHT scales to be approved by the Department.

Full particulars as to the quality and quantity for each building may be had at this Office.

The names of two responsible persons willing to become bound for the faithful performance of the contract must accompany each tender.

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L. B. McMILLAN,
Secretary of Public Works,
Department of Public Works,
Charlottetown, P. E. Island.
April 21, 1915.—2

Mail Contract

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon, on Friday, the 25th May 1915, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed Contract for four years, six times per week.

Over Rural Mail Route No. 2, from Beaton's Mills P. E. Island, from the Postmaster General's pleasure. Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed contract may be seen and blank forms of tender may be obtained at the Post Office of Beaton's Mills, Gascoigne, Pictou, and at the Office of the Post Office Inspector.

JOHN F. WHEAR,
Post Office Inspector,
Charlottetown, P. E. Island.
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