

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 1907.

SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.00 A YEAR.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

JAMES MOISAAC

Editor & Proprietor.

Please send in your subscriptions.

The Quebec Chronicle of the 14th, in an article discussing the Baron L'Epine of fair, among other things has the following:

Mr. Parent, who succeeded Mr. Marchand, had not been in office long when an attack was made upon him. Senator Legris and Senator Choquette, important Quebec Liberals, alleged that the Government was a characteristic of the department over which he presided. At this time an inter-party campaign against the continuance of Mr. Parent in office was commenced. Three of his colleagues—Messrs. Gouin, Turgeon, and Weir, resigned. Mr. Parent endeavored to patch up his Cabinet, but without success. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, owing to the close relations of the Quebec and Ottawa Governments, undertook to smooth the difficulty over. He appointed Mr. Parent, who had been held responsible by Messrs. Legris and Choquette for "brigandage," to the high position of chairman of the Transcontinental Railway Commission, whereupon the politicians who had operated against Mr. Parent succeeded to the positions of influence at Quebec. Mr. Gouin, one of the Ministers who had resigned from the Parent Cabinet, became Premier, while Mr. Turgeon, another anti-Parent Liberal, became Attorney-General. Now comes the "brigandage" charge against some of the men who supplanted Parent. It is of their Administration that the Baron from Belgium tells the story of the proposed "rake-off" on the land transaction for campaign purposes. We have thus, in the L'Epine case, a repetition of the accusations made in the Parent case, which charges were a repetition of those developed at an earlier period, when the Quebec Treasury was first invaded for the purpose of the Laurier election fund.

"We are a power in Quebec and in Ottawa, and if you do not change your attitude we will cite you before Parliament, and we will cause you to lose your salary and your pension." This is an extract from a threatening letter sent to Judge Boase, who presided at the trial for libel recently held at Quebec, to which we referred in a late issue. As our readers will remember, the action was brought by one of the ministers in the Provincial Government of Quebec against Oliver Asselin, editor of a paper, who had severely animadverted upon the conduct of the Government in connection with the sale of crown lands to a Belgian syndicate.

Baron L'Epine, it will be remembered gave evidence at this trial, that was damaging to the Government. He testified on oath that the Government agreed to sell the land, only on condition that thirty cents an acre of the purchase price should go into the election fund. By this deal the Government stood to obtain \$150,000 of corruption fund for the next election. The friends of the Quebec Government took fright at these damaging revelations and stopped at nothing in their frenzied endeavors to choke off exposures. They certainly reached the limit when they attempted to intimidate the trial judge as evidenced by the words quoted above and read by the judge in open court after the jury had retired. Things have surely come to a

pretty pass, and party exigency have reached desperate straits when a judge is threatened with dire consequences, if he dares to conduct a trial in accordance with the merits of the case and with his oath of office rather than in such manner as will shield the improper and immoral transactions of one party to the trial, because that party is dominant in both Provincial and Federal politics. Has it come to this that the party in power must be permitted to do as they please; to trample every principle of honesty and morality for the purpose of keeping themselves in power that even the fountain of justice must be polluted and the judges of the land brow beaten into submission rather than that the dominant political party shall suffer any diminution of their prestige? In the case under review, the overzealous friends of the Quebec Government over stepped the bounds of discretion and reckoned without their host. Judge Boase proved himself an honest and fearless dispenser of justice; he showed he had a conscience and regarded the sacredness of an oath. He dealt out even handed impartial justice without fear or favor and his public exposure of the attempts to brow-beat him aroused intense indignation against all associated in the scandalous business.

Ottawa Weekly Letter.

Mr. Borden Speaks

Opposition Leader Was in Favor of Full Inquiry.—When Bourassa Called for Investigation.

FAST STEAMSHIP QUESTION.

Mr. Borden Favors the Idea,—But Hopes the Farmer Will Not Be Forgotten,—And That Cold Storage Will Be Provided for Perishable Farm Products.

TRURO LAND DEAL.

The Most Costly Site Chosen,—And a Middleman Gets the Benefits.

MR. PEARSON TAKES A HAND.

He Was a Halifax Land Dealer Also,—The Rake-off Included 18 Building Lots.

TROUBLE FOR LAURIER IN QUEBEC.

Ottawa, June 8, 1907

The Leader of the Opposition was one of the speakers on Wednesday at a political meeting in Carleton County near Ottawa. Mr. Borden welcomed the renewal of the fast line steamer project, recalling the fact that almost the last act of the Tupper Government was the arrangement for such a service. The Laurier Government cancelled the contract on the ground of its expense though the present proposition will be more costly. The first substitute contract made to the Laurier Government after two or three extensions of time failed altogether and the service never even began. Mr. Borden hopes that the scheme now proposed will prove to be better considered and more practical.

MUST PROVIDE FOR PERISHABLE GOODS.

But Mr. Borden points out that the Atlantic steamship subsidy question involves considerations more important than fast passenger travel. For every person who wishes to cross the Atlantic quickly many are interested in the rapid and safe transportation of perishable farm products to the European market. The Govern-

ment has encouraged various cold storage enterprises, but there is no complete chain of communication between the producer and the market which ensures the delivery in good condition of dairy products, of tender fruits, poultry, eggs, meat, and other perishable articles. They are kept at more or less correct temperature, in ventilated chambers, part of the time and distance, but at some points there is a failure that impairs all. Mr. Borden insists that this feature of the transportation question should not be overlooked in dealing with the proposition before the country. The farmers pay the greater part of the steamship subsidies, they are the people to whom the subsidies could do the greatest service, and it is they who are in greatest danger of being forgotten.

THE OPPOSITION WAS READY.

The Opposition Leader recalled the "wine, women and graft" discussion in the House and declared that he still thought he had done right in speaking and voting in favour of full inquiry and publicity. Mr. Bourassa's motions in favor of such investigation were both rejected, one by a straight party vote in which the Government majority prevailed, the other by the action of the Premier who brought forward an obsolete rule of the House and secured a ruling of the Speaker which shut off the vote. Mr. Borden is still of the opinion that he and his supporters did right in voting against that decision in the one case and in favor of Mr. Bourassa's motion in the other. The inquiry would have included any Conservative Member against whom charges and reflections had been made. It is Mr. Borden's view that the action of the majority has created the impression throughout the country that Parliament is protecting its members from investigation on matters affecting the honour and integrity of the House. No one has the right to believe this of opposition members. They voted for publicity.

THE TWO MONCTON LAND DEALS.

The public is already in possession of the essential facts regarding land purchases for the Intercolonial at Halifax and Moncton.

In the first Moncton deal the government paid Matthew Lodge, the middleman in the deal, \$18,880 for four lots of land which Lodge has just purchased in the open market for \$5,075.

In the second Moncton deal the Government paid the same intermediary \$10,490 for properties just bought for \$8,800.

A LARGER RAKE OFF.

In the Halifax deal Mr. B. F. Pearson, M. P. P., and his partner, Mr. Henderson, bought six lots in Halifax for \$18,753 and immediately turned them over to the Government for \$45,400, retaining, however, one block. The profits of this deal, ascertained by the amount paid Mr. Pearson as his half share of the gain, were \$28,892.42. The legal agent for the Government in this deal sued the Halifax Herald for libel in consequence of certain criticisms of the transaction, and the Halifax jury found a verdict in favor of the newspaper.

THE TRURO LAND DEAL.

But there was another land operation of the same class which has not yet been fully exposed, though its character may be pretty well understood from correspondence brought down in the House last Session. Truro, Nova Scotia, is the scene of this transaction. The Intercolonial required additional land for a round house at that place. Correspondence on the subject opened in April, 1903, but nothing important transpired till July, when the General Manager of the Government railway wrote to the Chief Engineer telling him that \$75,000 was to be expended that year at Truro, whereupon the Engineer asked Superintendent Price to indicate a suitable location. The Superintendent, the Chief Engineer, the local Superintendent two Trackmasters, and the Mechanical Foreman examined the ground, and Mr. Price reported on several possible sites.

THIS SITE OUT OF THE QUESTION.

As to one the report said that Engineer McKenzie estimated the

grading at \$60,000 and therefore Mr. Price thought "it not worth our while to further consider the place." However the trackmaster was asked to ascertain the price of this land as well as the others and reported that Mr. Hiram W. Yuill represented the owners and asked \$11,000. The trackmaster reported "I do not consider the price a reasonable one." We may anticipate by saying that this was the site chosen.

A BETTER LOCATION.

October arrived, and it was soon revealed that Mr. Yuill, who was an active party man, had bounded this property from the owner. Another site, which would be much less expensive, was favored by the Chief Engineer and other officers. This was called the Dogget property, which Engineer McKenzie had shown to Mr. Fielding, acting Minister and to Mr. Pottinger, the manager. On the 6th of January, 1904, Mr. Mackenzie wrote of this site, "I consider it to be a fairly suitable location." He added that the foundation was likely to be satisfactory, and said "I enclose you herewith a copy of an offer for all the land necessary and it is a very reasonable one. An early decision in this matter will enable me to proceed with the plans and specifications."

RELATIVE COST OF THE TWO SITES.

The Engineer gave estimates of the cost of land and of grading on these two sites as well as three other locations. The comparison between the Dogget property and the one which Yuill had bonded is as follows:—

	Yuill Site	Dogget Site
Land and legal expenses	\$12,000	\$1,500
Excavation and grading	45,000	16,000
Drainage	2,000	4,300
Track approach and tracks and turnouts	9,500	6,800
Ash pit	1,000	4,000
Coal Handling plant	17,000	6,000
Engineering, etc.	21,200	16,400

The other items such as the water supply, the construction of buildings, heating plant, boiler plant, etc. were the same for both. The total cost was—

For the complete outfit on the Yuill site	\$233,200
For the complete outfit on the Dogget property	180,510
Difference	\$52,690

ENTER B. F. PEARSON.

This might be supposed to settle the matter, since Dogget site had all the advantage, but another person appears on the scene and engineering questions cease to be of account. Nothing has been done until June of 1904, which is election year. The vote of money lapsed and a new vote was taken. Mr. B. F. Pearson, one of the partners in the Halifax land deal, proprietor of the Halifax Chronicle, a Government organ, Member of the provincial Legislature, writes to ask the Chief Engineer to meet him in Truro "to take into consideration the proposed site of the new round house." Mr. Pearson said he wanted "to have this matter settled" before he went to Newfoundland. A fortnight later Mr. Pottinger was in Ottawa and Mr. Pearson had evidently been heard from there, for Mr. Pottinger wired the Chief Engineer not to forget that he was to go to Truro and see Mr. Pearson. On the 16th of August Mr. McKenzie wrote, "I have no idea what site will be finally selected."

This was probably a candid statement (it had become a question of pull and not of engineering. People who were not engineers were settling the matter on other grounds. Before the month was out five residents of Truro had signed a kind of certificate that Mr. Yuill's price, then started at \$11,500, was reasonable. This communication went to Mr. Emmerson, and a few days later Mr. Pearson's son and partner was informed that Mr. Emmerson would like to have the wording of the certificate changed. Thus we see who is working out the programme. On the 20th of September, Mr. Emmerson sent instructions to purchase the properties.

INQUIRY OF MR PEARSON.

The last report from the Engineer and other experts favors the Dogget site. The last estimate submitted to Mr. Emmerson, according to the return, is the one quoted above. But influences in favor of the purchase of the more expensive and apparently less suitable property prevailed. It may be remarked that the election was only a few weeks off when Mr. Emmerson wrote to Mr. Pottinger "I wish you would please make arrangements to purchase the property referred to for the purpose of a round house at Truro. I do not know the

names of the parties, but Mr. G. F. Pearson of Halifax could give them to you." Mr. Pearson Jr. furnished the information, but Mr. Pottinger seems to have proceeded with less rapidity than the political situation demanded.

PEARSON AND YUILL COULDN'T WAIT.

Consequently on October 3rd Mr. Emmerson telegraphed to Mr. Pottinger in the following hysterical language: "Secure that land for Truro round house immediately at price named in paper appraising value. Get Mr. Laurence to search the title. Rush the work with all possible speed. Signed, H. E. Emmerson."

Mr. Laurence was the Government candidate for the House of Commons and he threw himself into the work spurred on by a telegram from Mr. Pottinger to the engineer: "To push it forward as fast as you can." Mr. McKenzie telegraphing to Mr. Laurence to hasten "so that the transfer can be made and the cheque written at once." The cheque actually arrived in Mr. Yuill by the end of October, several days before the election.

THE TRURO.

The property which Mr. Yuill as intermediary sold to the Government had been bonded to him in two lots, one on October 7th, and the other on October 13th. His own deed to the Government was given on October 17th so that he was in possession for five days of part of the land and for ten days of the rest. It is understood that the price for which he settled with the previous owners was nearly \$1,000 less than the amount the Government paid him, but all hands appear to have shared in the sudden rise in the value of this property. Mr. Yuill seems to have differed from the other middlemen in that he shared the unearned increment with the original vendors. For it is said that the value of the property when negotiations began was no more than \$4,000.

A RAKE OFF IN KIND.

But the Government did not get for \$11,500 anything near all the land which Mr. Yuill had purchased for \$10,600. The plans brought down in the House show that Mr. Yuill was able to retain out of his purchase a block of land fronting 883 feet on Queen Street and 150 feet deep. This area of more than three acres, or a fourth part of the block gives middlemen in the case as part of the rake-off eighteen splendid building lots. On account of their location these lots will probably be worth more to him than all the property transferred to the Government would have been.

THE OUTCOME.

Thus it has come about that the people of Canada are paying \$60,000 to \$80,000 more for the additional accommodation at Truro than it ought to cost. The deal shows how a man with some political influence, assisted by others who are themselves successful middlemen, is in much better financial circumstances than he would have been if the Intercolonial engineers had been allowed to proceed on business principles.

WHITNEY HOLDS HIS OWN.

The Whitney Government seems to be gaining strength in Ontario. The death of Speaker St. John caused a vacancy in West York. Though the riding was one that had furnished many sharp contests the Opposition did not name a candidate. Two opponents of the Government candidates took the field without a convention, one of whom polled 275 votes, the other 123. The Conservative candidate received 2,645 votes.

NO LIBEL PROVED.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier is expected home earlier than was intended. It is believed that this haste is due to trouble in Quebec among the supporters of the Federal Government. Not long ago there was a quarrel between Premier Parent and other Quebec Liberals which culminated in a revolt and the deposition of the Premier, whom Sir Wilfrid provided with an \$3,000 federal office. Now a member of the Gouin Government has been accused of maladministration. The accused is a Liberal and the Minister prosecuted him for libel. In the course of the proceedings a witness swore that another provincial minister tried to obtain a \$150,000 election rake-off out of a Crown land deal. Finally the jury disagreed and the action for libel fell through. Now the question is whether the witness who swore to the \$150,000 proposition should be prosecuted for perjury. It is a situation which calls for Sir Wilfrid's presence, and perhaps for the appointment of another discredited politician to a federal office.

DIED

At Kensington, James Smith, in the 67th year of his age.

In this city, June 17, Joseph Murray, in the 72nd year of his age.

In this city, on the 16th of June, 1907 at the P. E. I. Hospital, Catherine Welch, aged 47.

At Denver, Colorado, on June 9th, 1907, Mrs. D. J. Mackay, (nee Miss Josephine Whitehead) in the 84th year of her age.

Montague Dental Parlors

We guarantee all our plate to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Teeth pulled and extracted absolutely painless.

A. J. FRASER, D. D. S. Aug. 15, 1906—3m

PROWSE BROS., Ltd

Charlottetown's Big Departmental Store.



A Corset Stock THAT AFFORDS Splendid Choice.



The P. C. Tape Girdle is a popular style with many—very easy fitting—short waist—straight front style. Made of excellent quality tape. See Cat. Special. 35c.



SPECIAL.—In "Dora" Corsets we offer a value that is unbeatable. Correct in style, faultless in workmanship, perfect fitting. Made of fine white batiste, medium length habit hip, bias cut, lace trimmed and steel filled throughout. Hose supporters attached. All sizes. Best value ever offered in an up-to-date Corset. Mail orders add 5c. for postage. 49c.

From 49c. to \$1.75 is a big jump, yet it will serve to show the variety of choosing possible at this store. There are many models at different prices between.

"P. C. No. 810 is a very high class Corset, of heavy English coutil of extra quality. Straight front style, deep "Princess" hip, fitted fine silk suspenders, front and sides—gored hips. Sizes 21 to 31. \$1.75.

Popular "D. and A." Models.

Many of our customers prefer "D. and A." Corsets to all others. We stock a number of the best "D. and A." styles affording an excellent style in the make. Three very popular styles are:



"D. and A." style 363—a stylish new model fashioned after one of the latest French designs—made of excellent quality English coutil. New deep long hip—good adjustable suspenders front and side. White and drab, sizes 20 to 30. \$1.10.

"D. and A." Crest Corset No. 401 possesses all the grace, style and comfort—qualities for which "D. and A." Corsets are famous. And Positively Will Not Break at the Hip causing discomfort and ill fitting grows. Sizes 30 to 36. \$50. Sizes 22 to 30. \$1.35.

SPECIAL.—"D. and A." style 384, an excellent model in a new design, of fine white coutil, bias cut, lace trimmed, hose supporters front and sides. Sizes 19 to 30. Extra special value at 75c.

PROWSE BROS., Ltd

Charlottetown's Big Departmental Store.