

THE HERALD

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JAMES McISAAC,
Editor & Proprietor.

Please don't delay your
Subscriptions for 1907. We
need the money, we
have earned it and
shall esteem it a great
favor if you remit now.

The question of erecting wire-
less stations at Vancouver and
Hong Kong, by which messa-
ges may be practically flashed around
the world, is now engaging the
attention of the Warrent. He says
there will be no difficulty in trans-
mitting a message from Glace
Bay to Vancouver, and the erec-
tion of a station at Winnipeg, to
compete for the inland business
is one of the possibilities.

London advices of the 2nd
inst. say: In view of the
rapidly increasing use of oil
fuel in the British navy the
Admiralty is creating a number
of storage depots at various
ports around the coast,
subsidiary to the main tanks
already established or about
to be constructed at the prin-
cipal naval harbors. Tanks
will be placed on tank vessels
most likely to be used by
torpedo craft in case of war.
Five hundred tons of oil will
be stored at Harwich and
Grimsby and 1,000 tons at
Quinsbury and other ports
such as Barrow, Birkenhead
and Queenstown. Four 5,000
ton capacity tanks will be
constructed at Port Victoria
and six of the same capacity
will be placed at Plymouth. The
excavations for this work will
be extensive as the tanks will
be below the level of the
ground and surrounded with
mounds to afford defence
against attacks from the sea,
while the supply pipes, run-
ning to jetties, will be laid in
deep trenches.

The financial statement and
the other departmental re-
ports of the Provincial Govern-
ment should now be before
the public. Many years ago,
this same Provincial Govern-
ment enacted that the public
accounts, for any year, might
be made public immediately
after the opening of the new
year following, whether the
House was in session or not.
At that time the Government's
fiscal year ended on the 31st
of December. Up to the
present time the Government
have failed to give the
public the benefit of the pro-
visions of this enactment;
as the public accounts have
never been made public until
the Legislature met. Recently
the Government have changed
the date on which their finan-
cial year ends. Their fiscal year
now terminates on Sept. 30th. That
is more than three months ago,
and there can be no reasonable
excuse for withholding the public
reports from the people until the
Legislature meets. Three months
should be long enough for the
preparation of these reports and
they should now be ready for
distribution. Are the Govern-
ment prepared to issue their
reports?

Much criticism has of late
been indulged in by leading
newspapers and by several
persons posing as authorities
in the United States, regard-
ing the navy of that country.
It is set forth that the armor
belts on the battle ships have
not been carried high enough
up and that when these ships
are prepared for sea they are
practically unprotected above
the water line. It is alleged
that in an engagement these
ships are in great danger of
being sunk in short order,
because they are so vulner-
able to an enemy's shots in
the very part the armor plates

were intended to protect.
One critic goes so far as to
state that \$150,000,000 has
been wasted in this species of
naval architecture. No
stronger case has been made
out in the matter than that
of the United States service
journal, "The Navy." Accord-
ing to this authority the armor
belts of some of the new
ships are three inches below
the water level at full load,
and battleships not yet com-
pleted will be in the same
position. It accuses the
bureaucrats at Washington of
"resisting the demands of
common sense in order to
preserve their own reputa-
tions for infallibility." The
New York Sun and New
York Post already call for a
radical reorganization of the
navy department.

The Victoria, (B. C.) Col-
onist requested Mr. R. L.
Borden to send it a Christ-
mas message. He did so,
and his words are now wide-
ly quoted in the newspapers
of several Provinces, and are
eliciting much praise for their
breadth of view and the true
Canadian note therein ex-
pressed. Mr. Borden wrote
in part: "From the Atlantic
to the Pacific, across great
provinces, each endowed with
the resources of an empire,
across far spreading prairies
and through giant mountains,
crowned with the snows of
eternity, fly the messages of
peace and good will from
kinsman to kinsman, from
family to family, from friend
to friend at this Christmas
tide. Our country bounds
two oceans, but let the season
remind us that, by the tradi-
tions of the past and the
hopes of the future, in senti-
ment and aspiration, in all
that shall serve to uplift our
national life and develop our
national resources, there
must be no East or West, but
one united Canada; and let
that Canada be inspired by a
spirit of high resolve, of earn-
est and patriotic endeavor, of
general emulation which shall
find her the place that is her
due among the great Domin-
ions of the Empire and among
the nations of the earth. If
there has been some tempo-
rary check to our national pro-
sperity, this may bid us re-
member that the spirit of the
market place should not be
dominant and that national
greatness cannot be firmly
based on material wealth
alone."

In the course of an article
dealing with the lines pur-
sued by Mr. Pugsley regard-
ing his accusation of wrong-
doing by the Conservatives in
the elections of 1904, the
Montreal Star, among
other things, has the follow-
ing: "Mr. Pugsley professes
to have some knowledge of
wrong doing on the part of
his opponents. He professes
to know the exact details and
the names of the guilty parties.
He boasts of this knowl-
edge on political platforms.
He hints at it, shows tantaliz-
ing bits of it, professes to be
shocked at what he himself is
concealing, and generally
acts like the sly villain in a
cheap melodrama who will
reveal the hero's 'past' if he
does not 'fade away' and cease
his attentions to the heroine.
"Yet Mr. Pugsley hinges the
revelation of this political
crime, of which he has knowl-
edge, upon Mr. Borden's
asking for it. He tells us that
Mr. Borden and his
party will suffer by the reve-
lation. He leads us to infer
that Mr. Borden is no such
zealot for political purity as
he tries to pretend. And then
he says that he himself will
not make his charges and
bring the guilty parties to
justice, unless this man, whose
zeal for purity is a pretence,
consents to suffer for purity's
sake by deliberately selling
down on his own head these
frivolous Pugsley revelations.
That is, unless the hypocrite

becomes a martyr, the police-
man will not do his duty.
Unless the accused asks for
punishment it will not be ad-
ministered." Both Mr. Bor-
den and Mr. Kemp challeng-
ed Mr. Pugsley in Parliament.
Mr. Pugsley, who had seem-
ed to be clamoring for a
chance to say something
dreadful remained silent."

Ottawa Weekly Letter.

Centre York Election

Government Majority of 303
in 1900 and 123 in 1904—
Reduced This Week to a
Doubtful Majority of 23.—
Though York Was
Mandered to Make
Safe Government Sur-

Five Contested By-Elections
and Five Conservative
Gains.

MR. LEMIEUX FAILS.

Japan Stands by the Treaty.
—Where Are Those Jap-
nese Assurances of 1906?
—Opposition Did Wrong
in Accepting the Premier's
Statement.

AUDITOR-GENERAL
PROTESTS

Against Government Advan-
ces to Ross Rifle Company,
and Says Government may
Be Paying For Junk.—
Contractor Gets Extension
of Time.—With further
Advances of Money.—
Even then fails to Deliver
the Goods.

Mr. Pugsley, Though Silent
in Parliament, Talks Again
At St. John

MR. FISHER AS A
CHICKEN FARMER.

Ottawa, Dec. 28 1907.
The by-election in Centre York,
Ontario, is another warning to
the government, and a sign of political
change. The seat is still held by
the government, but with a mar-
gin so small that a recent vote
will take place with the possibility
of a conservative majority. When
it is remembered that this riding
was established only four years
ago by the gerrymander as a safe
liberal seat, the importance of the
vote may be seen.

A GRIT HIVE

Before 1903 York County was
divided into three ridings, two
Conservative and one Liberal.
The redistribution was arranged
to make them two Liberal and one
Conservative on the same vote.
It threw a large part of the Con-
servative vote of West York into
the city of Toronto to swell the
enormous Conservative majority
there. To the remaining districts
were added the township of Mark-
ham, and a few other polls with a
strong Liberal majority. The
riding so made up and provided
with a Liberal majority of 808, on
the basis of the last previous
election, was called Centre York
and was understood to be made
solid for the party for all time to
come.

ADISAPPEARING MAJORITY.

But at the election of 1904 this
majority was cut down to 123 ac-
cording to the returned state-
ment, or 76 by the Blue-book
statement. Now it has been fur-
ther reduced to 23 and perhaps
swept away altogether. Natu-
rally a Government does better in
a by-election than in a general
contest, and in this late campaign
and other public buildings must
have had some effect. It goes
without saying that Captain
Wallace, the Conservative candi-
date, son of the late Hon. N.
Clarke Wallace, will win the rid-
ing for the next Parliament. Even
Liberal hives are becoming Con-
servative.

In the City of Ottawa where
the Government majority three
years ago was 1,500, and Labelle,
Quebec, in which the Conserva-
tives had no chance to win, there

was no party opposition, though
an independent ran unsuccessfully
in Ottawa. But we have now
five constituencies in which a fight
has been made at by-elections
since last Session with the follow-
ing results:

RECORD OF RECENT CON-
TESTS.

London, Ont., a former Govern-
ment seat, captured by the Op-
position by a majority of over
1000.

East Northumberland, Ont.,
previously Conservative, now
carried by the Opposition by an
increased majority.

North Wellington, Ont., pre-
viously Government, retained by
the Liberals with a reduced ma-
jority.

Centre York, Ont., previously
Government, still doubtful, but
apparently held by a greatly re-
duced majority.

Chester, N. S., previ-
ously a large majority,
the Opposition by

MR. PUGSLEY GOES AWAY
TO TALK.

The Minister of Public Works,
who sat silent as a mute with the
lock jaw for three weeks in Par-
liament, and refused all invita-
tions from Mr. Borden and his
colleagues to tell what he knows
about the Conservative campaign
fund, has again become talkative
when 600 miles away from the
changers. At St. John this
week he is reported as having
said that he is ready to make im-
portant disclosures whenever re-
quired. In a fortnight Mr. Pugs-
ley will again be back in the
House and it is safe to say that
he will have no more courage in
January than he had in December,
while his position will be all the
more contemptible by reason of
this last piece of distant bravado.
As a warrior, Mr. Pugsley is ad-
mirably qualified to play the
part of Falstaff.

THE MISSION THAT FAILED.

Mr Lemieux is returning from
Japan without success. The Gov-
ernment of Japan is standing by
the treaty with Canada, though it
may be willing as an act of grace
or in the line of its own domestic
policy to restrict immigration to
this country. But there will
evidently be no engagement to do
so and there is absolute denial
that any guarantee against a
Japanese exodus to Canada was
ever given. When the House
next meets Sir Wilfrid Laurier
will again be asked for the papers
containing the alleged Japanese
assurances on which the Govern-
ment got the bill accepted by
Parliament. If further excuse is
given for withholding these docu-
ments the country will naturally
conclude that they exist only in
the Premier's imagination.

IN A BAD FIX

It is understood that Mr. Nossé,
the trade representative of Japan
at Ottawa, denies having given
any such assurance, though his
name was connected in the Par-
liamentary debate with this
matter by several Government
speakers. Mr. Nossé had no
power to give guarantees, as he
is merely a commercial official. This
was made clear in Japan to Mr.
Lemieux. The treaty, in black
and white distinctly guarantees to
the Japanese the free and unre-
stricted privilege of settling in this
country. On this written con-
tract Japan stands. She may of
her own will restrict the migration
of her own people, but Canada is
never secure against an influx of
Japanese labour so long as the
treaty remains. Relief can only
be obtained in the end by abrogat-
ing the treaty some years hence
in the way provided. In the
meantime we see how Japan to
do us the favor to keep her people
from enjoying the privileges which
we have solemnly agreed to give
them. One lesson to be drawn by
Parliament, and especially by
Conservative members, out of
this affair is that in future when
a treaty bill is submitted by the
Government no statement should
be accepted concerning guarantees
and assurances that is not sup-
ported by documents produced.
Ministers argue that Mr. Borden
and the opposition are equally
with themselves to blame for the
present situation, since they did
not oppose the treaty bill. It
must be admitted that Mr. Bor-
den and his friends were too con-
fiding. They made the mistake
of accepting Sir Wilfrid's distinct
statement to parliament. It is
now certain that they should have
made him produce the report, and
prove the existence of the guaran-
tee which he professed to have
received. They will know better
next time.

ROSS RIFLE CONTRACT
AGAIN.

It is now established that the

Auditor-General last May stopped
the advance payment by the
Militia Department of the Ross
Rifle Company. Government
organs contracted this statement
when it was made, but the Audi-
tor's report shows that the state-
ment was true. The Auditor
found that the contractor had re-
ceived seventy-five percent on the
contract price of rifles two and
three years before he delivered
the goods, and was still obtaining
large advance payments and mak-
ing very slow delivery. Know-
ing that the contract did not per-
mit advances to be made except on
rifles to be delivered within a
year he thought this generosity
had gone on long enough and
brought it to an end. There was
a prolonged controversy, with the
result that an order-in-council
was passed, extending the time of
delivery and allowing payments
to go on as before. This was
July 27, 1907. At that time
5000 rifles remained to be deliv-
ered of the 10,000 that were to be
supplied in 1905, while none of
the 10,000 to be delivered in 1906
or of the 10,000 to be delivered
in 1907 had been completed. But
advance payments to the amount
of \$360,000 had been made on
25,000 undelivered and mostly
overdue rifles.

A NEW CONTRACT

The order in council extending
the time became a new contract,
under which the remaining 5000
of the 1905 delivery order and
the whole of the 10,000 originally
to be delivered in 1906, 15,000 in
all, were now to be delivered in
1907. The 10,000 originally to be
delivered in 1907 were now to be
delivered in the first six months
of 1908. At once advance pay-
ments were resumed and the Gov-
ernment in September and Oc-
tober of this year paid the con-
tractor \$98,283, in advances on
rifles to be completed next year.

THE SAME OLD STORY.

But the contractor has done and
is doing no better under the new
contract than under the old. Be-
tween the first of August and the
end of December he was to have
delivered 15,000 rifles, or 3000 a
month. The Minister stated on
December 4th that 4,500 had been
delivered by the 18th of Novem-
ber. Instead of 9000 in August
only 500 were delivered, in Sep-
tember 1,300, in October 2,100,
November 600. It is certain
that less than 6,000 will be deliv-
ered at the end of the year instead
of 15,000. By that time the con-
tractor will have received part
payment in advance for all rifles
ordered and not then delivered.
For in spite of the efforts of the
Auditor to close up the business,
payments in advance keep going
on faster than final payments.

The effect of the order extend-
ing the time has been to still
further delay the completion of
rifles and to enable the contractor
to receive another \$100,000 on
unfinished stock alleged to be in
the shops. The government is
thus lending without interest
these large sums, for two and
three years to its contractor while
paying 7 per cent interest on its
own large overdrafts.

THE AUDITOR'S PROTEST.

What the Auditor-General
thinks of it all is shown by the
following extracts from his pub-
lished letter to the Militia Depart-
ment. After stating his opinion
that no advances should be made
more than a year before delivery
the Auditor says:

SHOP BY MAIL.

Our mail order depart-
ment is growing rapidly—
every mail brings us orders
from different parts of the
country, and we have invari-
ably given the utmost satisfac-
tion. If anything by any
possibility might be wrong,
we are always here to make
it right. Stanley Bros. The
Always Busy Store; Char-
lottetown.

Overalls and working
shirts.—At this season of the
year every man wants a
fitting out in this line. There
is no place in town where
you can get better value for
your money than at

H. H. BROWN'S
The young Men's Man,

THIS IS STRONG LANGUAGE

"Whether we be doing? Does
your department intend to advance
75 per cent on 10,000 rifles for 1907
delivery and receive no rifles, 75 per
cent on 15,000 rifles for 1908 deliv-
ery and receive no rifles and so on ad
infinitum? ... Holding these views,

132 Richmond Street.
Stanley Bros.
GREAT CLEARANCE
-SALE!-

We have decided that our stock is too large
and as a consequence we are offering you all
kinds and classes of materials at never before
heard of prices.

1-3 OFF SHOP BY MAIL 1-4 OFF
Fancy Belts And enjoy all the priv-
Fancy Collars ileges which this great
Dress Trimmings sale affords, even
Fancy Combs though you cannot
All Furs come to the store.
Dressing Jackets Our Mail Order De-
White Lawn Shirtwaists partment gives imme-
Laces diate and careful atten-
Millinery Trimmings tion to all orders re-
Lace Scarves ceived, and there is
Ladies' Cloth Coats positively no reason
Curtains why you should not
Handbags and Purses participate and and en-
Fancy Linens joy the advantages and
Men's Winter Caps economies of this mem-
Jaeger Underwear orable sale.

ROBERT PALMER & CO.,
Charlottetown Sash and Door Factory,
Manufacturers of Doors & Frames, Sashes & Frames
Interior and Exterior finish etc., etc

Our Specialties
Gothic windows, stairs, stair rails, Balusters Newel
Posts, Cypress Gutter and Conductors. Kiln dried Spruce
and Hardwood Flooring, Kiln dried clear spruce, sheathing
and clapboards, Encourage home Industry.

ROBERT PALMER & CO.,
PEAKE'S No. 3 WHARF.
CHARLOTTETOWN.

OAK BRAND TEA.

In order to introduce our Oak Brand Tea we will ship
and prepay freight to any station or shipping point on
P. E. Island an 18 lb. caddie, and if you are not satisfied
in every way return at our expense, and we will refund
your money. Cut this out and enclose \$4.00 and mail to us.

McKenna's Grocery,
Box 576, Ch'town, P. E.I.
Enclosed find \$4.00 for which you will send us a caddie
of tea as advertised in this paper.
(Sign full name)
(And Address)