

THE HERALD

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CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND.

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 National Debt.

From time to time we see
referred in the Liberal news-
papers, glowing accounts of
surpluses secured to the Fed-
eral treasury by the wonder-
ful financing of Mr. Field-
ing. A little research and
some slight examination of
the public records easily re-
veal the fact that these sur-
pluses exist only on paper, or
in the exuberant imagination
of the Finance Minister and
his admirers. It does not
require any very extraordi-
nary knowledge to understand
what a surplus is. A surplus
is that which remains
after all requirements are
satisfied. In the case of the
Government finances a sur-
plus, we must suppose, is the
money left over after the pub-
lic services have been provided
for. In simple language,
when you place on one side
of the account what you re-
ceive and on the other side
what you pay out, whatever
remains after all the claims
are satisfied is the surplus.
Now, if the Dominion Gov-
ernment, with Mr. Fielding
as Finance Minister, have had
any genuine surpluses, the
national debt would there-
by be reduced. Let us apply
this test to the surplus ques-
tion. If we find, on examina-
tion, that the debt of Can-
ada has been reduced since
Mr. Fielding became
Finance Minister, then we
have had a real genuine sur-
plus; but if the records show
that the debt has not been
reduced, or has been increased,
then we must conclude that
the surpluses we have heard
so much about have been sur-
pluses only on paper.

When the Liberal Con-
servatives were in office, Sir
Wilfrid Laurier and his pres-
ent colleagues were greatly
distracted over the national
debt and the increasing obli-
gations of the country. At
the time of the charge of gov-
ernment the net debt was
\$258,497,432. The increase
in the previous ten years had
been \$31,000,000 or \$3,100,
000 a year. In the six years
preceding 1896 the increase
had been less than \$21,000,
000, and the Government in
that time made reductions in
taxes relieving the people of
burdens to the extent of \$21,
870,000. Had these taxes
been retained the debt would
have been less in 1896, when
the Conservatives left office,
than it was in 1890.

The Laurier Government
took office in 1896. In ten
years they took from the peo-
ple in taxation through the
Customs and Excise depart-
ments \$142,398,430 more
than would have been paid on
the basis of 1896. No great
national work was carried
on during that period. The Con-
servatives had completed the
Canadian Pacific Railway and
deepened the canals. Expen-
diture on the Grand Trunk
Pacific had only begun in
1906. From the pledges
given, the country might have
expected a great reduction in
the debt out of this enormous
taxation and the Finance
Minister's boasted surpluses.

But this is what happened:
Net debt, June 30th, 1896 \$258,497,432
Net debt, June 30th, 1906 289,042,977
Increase 30,545,545
In the short fiscal year
1906-7 the taxation was still
further increased, and the
debt was diminished by \$3-

371,117. But in the fiscal
year 1907-8 ending March
31st, according to Mr. Field-
ing's statement, the net debt
increased no less than \$12,
000,000. In round numbers,
therefore, we have the follow-
ing:

Net debt, June 30, 1896 \$258,500,000
Net debt, March 31st, 1906 276,000,000
Increase 17,500,000

And this in the face of \$229-
000,000 added to the proceeds
of taxation in 11 years and 9
months. For the year be-
ginning April, 1908, Mr.
Fielding anticipates at least
\$14,000,000 increase of expen-
diture over the previous
year. He expects a loss of
\$6,500,000 in the revenue.
If these things happen there
will be in these twelve months
an increase of \$32,500,000 in
the debt. In any case the
increase must be much greater
than that of the previous year.
Last year's increase in the
debt was the greatest for
more than 20 years. Yet it
was incurred by a party which
"viewed with alarm" an in-
crease one quarter as large,
which was caused by a re-
moval of sugar duties and
other taxes.

Quite lately, Sir Wilfrid
Laurier and his friends seem
very anxious to have it under-
stood that Federal and Pro-
vincial politics are quite dis-
tinct and apart. It is really
wonderful how quickly this
change came over the spirit
of their dream. When the
Provincial elections, which
concluded on the 8th of June,
were going on in Ontario and
Quebec, Sir Wilfrid and col-
leagues in the cabinet were
very emphatic in their declar-
ations that there was no dis-
tinction between Federal and
Provincial politics, so far as
voting for candidates was con-
cerned. Cabinet Ministers
and Members of Parliament
supporting the Government
toured Ontario and Quebec,
and besought the people not
to give their votes to candi-
dates supporting the Govern-
ment of Ontario or the Op-
position in Quebec; because
every vote cast in this way
was one against Sir Wilfrid
Laurier. These cam-
paigners besought the elect-
ors to vote for opponents of
the Conservative Govern-
ment of Ontario and support-
ers of the Liberal Govern-
ment of Quebec, and thus
show their confidence in
Laurier. They were par-
ticular to impress upon their
hearers the fact that there was
only one Liberal party in
Canada, and that all calling
themselves by that term
should disregard all other con-
siderations and by their votes
show their confidence in Laurier.
When the elections were
over the emissaries who had
gone forth from Ottawa dis-
covered that their appeals
had largely been in vain and
that the electors exercised
their own good judgment in
the matter of voting. They
discovered that where they
pleaded strongest, there was
polled the largest vote against
Laurier and his followers and
admirers. When Laurier and
his friends found that the
Conservatives of Ontario and
Quebec took no stock in their
hypocritical appeals, they
suddenly turned a right about
face and now try to persuade
the public that a Conserva-
tive victory in a Provincial
election can have no bearing
on Federal politics; that it is
without significance from a
Dominion point of view. The
conversion of Laurier and his
friends is a little too late and
is altogether too palpably in-
sincere. Had the Provincial
elections in Ontario and in
Quebec, too, resulted to the
liking of Sir Wilfrid and his
friends, we should now hear
proclaimed from the house-
tops the political doctrine that
Liberalism was one and the
same, whether in Federal or
Provincial elections. This
voltage of Laurier and his
friends is characteristic of the
deception and hypocrisy

works should be got ready for
tendering as soon as possible.
Why did they want these
works to be tendered for before
the 30th of June, 1904? Because
they intended to issue the writs
for an election, and wanted these
tenders to be out to deceive the
people. They did not intend to
go on with any of these works, and
they do not intend to-day to have
any contract for the Elmsira
branch any more than they did
for these three branch lines. This
letter goes on to say:

If you require any more peo-
ple to attend to this, please let me
know, and I will ask Mr. Schreiber
to give me the names of some that
he says he has on his lists here.
He wanted some men to go out
and tell the people that the gov-
ernment were going to build these
branches, but there were never
any contracts issued for that pur-
pose. In March, 1908, I asked the
Minister of Railways this ques-
tion:

1. Did the government receive
petitions from inhabitants of Clif-
ton, Stanley and Hope River,
Prince Edward Island, praying
for extension of railway from the
main line of the Prince Edward
Island to Stanley Bridge or vicin-
ity, and for the placing of a sum
sufficient for the purpose in this
year's estimates?
The answer was: Yes. He
received those petitions, and he
received petitions also in 1904,
and the Minister of Finance said
in 1906 that he would appoint
a competent engineer, an independ-
ent man, to go and make a survey
of these branch lines, but no sur-
vey has been made up to the
present day. The next question
was:

Is it the intention of the gov-
ernment to grant the prayer of
the petitions?
The answer was: The govern-
ment has not so decided. The
third question I asked was:

Is it the intention of the gov-
ernment to make surveys this
year with a view to extend the
railway system along the north
shore of Prince Edward Island?
The answer was: No decision
has been reached. Although the
Minister of Railways gave this
answer in March last, I presume
that he has not considered the
matter even up to the present
time. I would ask him now if he
has reached a decision with refer-
ence to the construction of a rail-
way on the north shore of Prince
Edward Island?

Mr. Graham—My hon friend
has named several railways.
What railway does he now refer
to?
Mr. A. A. McLean—The New
London branch.
Mr. Graham—The hon gentle-
man was complaining that no in-
dependent engineer has been sent
to fulfil the promise of the
Finance Minister to make a sur-
vey of that branch up to the pre-
sent time. If he looks at the sup-
plementary estimates he will see
that there is an amount for that
work.

Mr. A. A. McLean—Will the
minister say that work has been
done yet?
Mr. Graham—The hon. gentleman
was asking me if it had been consid-
ered. I was replying to this question.
Mr. A. A. McLean—The question is
this:

It is stated that the Conserva-
tives of Ontario expect to carry 80 out
of the 92 seats at the next Dominion
election. This prediction is based
on the fact that a large percentage
of Liberals who supported Sir Oliver
Mowatt because of the honesty and
economy of his government abandon-
ed Ross and will likewise abandon
the Laurier Government because of
its reckless waste of extravagance,
and particularly for the deception
practised as to the cost of the G T P
Railway.

When the question of branch
railways was up for discussion
in the House of Commons on the
10th, inst, the following occurred:

Mr. A. A. McLean. Some time
ago I put some questions on the
Order Paper with reference to the
New London branch of this rail-
way, and they were answered by
the Minister of Railways. In the
year 1904 a survey was made of
the New London branch and the
hon. Finance Minister, then acting
as Minister of Railways,
promised to do everything in his
power to build that branch.

Mr. Fielding. No, my hon.
friend is not serious when he
talks of the Minister of Finance
promising to build railways.
Mr. A. A. McLean. I will just
read a copy of a return dated
1904, and I think the Finance
Minister will change his mind.
Mr. Fielding. No, I did not
promise anything.

Mr. A. A. McLean. I believe
the present government do promise
anything, especially when an
election is coming on. Here is a
letter dated Moncton, N. B., the
1st of August, 1904, and signed
by D. Pattinger, an officer of the
government, with reference to the
New London branch, the Elmsira
branch and the O'Leary branch.
This letter states that \$1,500
would be the cost of a survey of
each of these branches, and at the
end it reads as follows:

All these amounts will have to
be expended before the 30th June
next, so it is important that the

works should be got ready for
tendering as soon as possible.
Why did they want these
works to be tendered for before
the 30th of June, 1904? Because
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The Always Busy Store.

Dress Goods Special
Send for Samples

A Line of Fine Heavy
ALL WOOL TWEED

In neat plaid and overchecks.
Regular price \$1.35 and \$1.65 a
yard, while they last 75c a yard.

Millinery

Our Millinery Department
has a large number of good
things in regard to Hats, etc.

Trimmed Hats

\$2.50 Up
Shapes, Wire Shapes, Sail-
ors', Merrie Widows. All are
here at reasonable prices.

Stanley Bros.

Souvenir Post Cards

Are a nice thing to send to friends abroad. We have a
nice selection of City and Provincial views to select from.
The following are some of the titles.

One color 2 cents each.
St. Joseph's Convent, Ch'town
St. Dunstan's College, "
Notre Dame Convent, "
Hillsborough Bridge "
Soldiers Monument "
Bishop's Palace & Church
Interior St. Dunstan's Cath-
edral, Charlottetown
View of Charlottetown from
Victoria Park

Colored Cards 2 for 5 cents.
Victoria Row, Charlottetown
Block House Point, "
City Hospital, "
Crossing the Capes
Str. Stanley in ice
Str. Minto in ice
Apple Blossoms
Travellers Rest
Beautiful Autumn
Terrace of Rocks
Catching Smelts at S'Side
Sunset at S'Side Harbor
Summer St., Summerside
High School, "

Pioneer Family, five genera-
tions
Among the Birches
A Morning Walk, Bonshaw
Trout Fishing
A Rustic Scene
North Cape
By Still Waters
The Border of the Woods
Harvesting Scene
A Shady Nook
Surt Bathing, North Cape
Looking Seaward

We also have a large variety of Comic Cards at one
cent each. Any number of cards will be sent by mail pro-
viding one cent extra is added for each 10 cards.

EUREKA TEA.

If you have never tried our Eureka Tea it will pay you
to do so. It is blended especially for our trade, and our
sales on it show a continued increase. Price 25 cents
per lb.

R. F. Maddigan & Co.
Eureka Grocery.
QUEEN STREET, CHARLOTTETOWN.

UP-TO-DATE
HATTER,

Clothier & Furnisher
When you want your
Spring Suit,

Hat, Cap, Shirt, Vest, come to
the only exclusive

GENTS' OUTFITTER

In the city. I can easily save
you a dollar on your next suit,
because I do a strictly cash busi-
ness.

H. H. BROWN,

The Young Men's Man.
158 Queen Street.

The Atlantic Mutual Fire Insur-
ance Association.

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Vice-President.....H. P. BUTHFIELD.....St. John
First Vice-President.....A. B. SCHOFIELD.....St. John
Second Vice-President.....H. P. BUTHFIELD.....St. John
Secretary-Treasurer.....J. M. ROBINSON, Banker and Broker.....New Glasgow
Managing Director.....W. I. FENTON.....St. John
Solicitor.....A. G. WATSON, K. C., LL. B.....St. John
Bankers—BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

The following letters speak for themselves:
THE MARITIME MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LIMITED.
W. I. FENTON, Esq., Managing Director,
Atlantic Mutual Fire Insurance Association,
St. John, N. B.
Dear Sir,—I acknowledge receipt of your cheque for \$5,000.00, in settlement
of loss in recent fire, under Policy in your Company, No. 1975.
We wish to place on record our appreciation of the promptness and fairness
with which you settled said claim, and to say that among six companies in which
we were insured, your cheque was the first to reach us.
And further you may use this letter if you wish.
Yours very truly,
J. McL. FRASER, Secretary, Treasurer and Manufacturing Director
WOODSTOCK, N. B., January 26th, 1907.

S. J. PARSONS, Esq.,
Agent Atlantic Mutual Fire Insurance Co., Woodstock, N. B.
Dear Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of the Company's cheque on Bank
of N. A. for the full amount of my claim for damages by the fire of January 6th,
1907.
I placed the claim in your hands on the 22nd, and have the Company's
cheque on the 26th, so have to thank your company for this prompt response and
for their courteous treatment. I shall place other insurance with you as soon as
it can be arranged and satisfied in dealing with the Atlantic Mutual.
Yours very truly,
(Sgd.) A. W. BROWN.
LONDONBERY, N. S., December 15th, 1906.

To ATLANTIC MUTUAL FIRE:
Received from the Atlantic Mutual Fire Association the sum of Two Hundred
and Seventy Five Dollars, in full settlement of my claim against the Association.
I can acknowledge the promptness of this settlement, having been paid my
claim within three days of my loss.
Yours truly,
(Sgd.) GEO. L. MUNRO.

JAMES H. REDDIN, Barrister, etc.,
CITY HOTEL BUILDING,
SPECIAL AGENT FOR P. E. ISLAND.
June 17, 1908—5m