SEMI-WEEKLY EDITION

The Edmonton Bulletin.

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THE PHOTOGRAPH OF A DOMINION CABINET MINISTER'S BANK ACCOUNT

Basis of Demand For Minister's Removal From The Government at Ottawa.

LETTER TO PREMIER.

Answer Arranging First of Seven Interviews.

ACCUSER STATED CASE

"I Have His Word; He Is My Colleague and Friend," Said Sir Wilfrid.

HE REFUSED DEMAND

Assailants of Cabinet Minister to Lay Documents Before Opposition and Have Fight Carried to House.

"——— is my colleague, and denies the statements you have made, and it is my duty to stand by my colleague."

"Then, Sir Wilfrid, if you believe that ——— is not what I say he is then I must be a liar who should be publicly denounced. I must be a forger who should be arrested, for fabricating the original of ——— bank account. Why don't ——— have me arrested for forgery."

The Closing Words.

These words, substantially, but not exactly, reproduce the conversation between the premier of Canada and the accuser of one of his ministers. These words represent the defeat of an attempt to run a cabinet minister out of the government by means of an alleged photograph of a page in the ledger that recorded that cabinet minister's bank account, or one of his bank accounts.

No history could surpass in thrilling interest of the facts that portray the general outline of an attempt to drive a cabinet minister out of the Laurier government and the defeat of that attempt. The stolen letter, the stolen telegraph despatch, the purloined stenographic notes, the expropriated bank book—all these are the inevitable stage properties of every great political melodrama that has ever been presented in the theatres of partisan action in Canada.

Stolen Secrets in Politics.

A telegraph operator heard a message going over the wire and caught the words that were transcribed into the first clue to the exposure of the Pacific scandal. The name of Lucius Seth Huntington was coupled with the letters which other people were bad enough to steal, and which Mr. Huntington was not too good to use to the detriment of Sir John A. Macdonald.

The immortal Lyon-Plummer election in Algoma in 1883 decided the fate of the Mowat government. The procedure that carried Algoma for Mowat was the text of a vote of want of confidence moved by W. R. Meredith, M.P.P., now Sir William Meredith, chief justice of Ontario. The charges against the purity of the Mowat campaign methods in Algoma were supported by the somewhat incriminating text of a telegraph despatch. Hon. A. S. Hardy, who carried the burden of the reply to W. R. Meredith, was curious as to the methods by which the despatch had reached the hands of the opposition leader, and, in further allusion to the despatch Mr. Hardy observed:—

"The presence of that despatch in the hands of the honorable gentleman makes some man a thief, and the honorable, the leader of the opposition, an accessory after the fact."

Liberals Waged War.

But W. R. Meredith did not consider himself responsible for the methods which had placed him in possession of the campaign secrets of the Mowat Government. The "muckrakers" who laid siege to Sir Wilfrid Laurier with evidence against a member of his Cabinet, were not of the Conservative persuasion. The scriptural statement that a "man's foes shall be those of his own household" was abundantly verified in the experience of the cabinet minister whose enemies compassed him about, photographed one of his bank accounts, and sought his destruction at the hands of Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

First Over Act.

The first avert act in the war for the removal of a minister from the ranks of the Laurier Government was the despatch of a letter to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The letter, with omissions necessary to conceal the identity of the writer, and the identity of the cabinet minister aimed at, is as follows:—

The Letter to Premier.

Ottawa, March 2, 1911.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier,
First Minister, Ottawa.

My dear Sir Wilfrid,—

* * * *

I see that you are having troubles of your own by the defection of the "young Napoleon" on the trade question and in other ways. The other ways are the more serious. Only in one instance in the history of Canada has the trade question played a part in making or unmaking a government, and that was in 1878. Even then, as you will know, there was contributory negligence on the part of the government.

Clifford Sifton's defection on the present occasion will not count against your government. He is a squeezed lemon politically, and without patronage, controls no following.

* * * *

Neither your government, nor any other government will fall, except from weakness on the inside. That was what happened to the Tories in 1896. Members of the cabinet had become corrupt, and the McGreevy-Langevin scandal, aided by the Manitoba School Bill and cabinet crookedness did the rest. Recently evidence had come to me that convinces me that one of your colleagues * * * is a grafter and a boodler. I shall willing to sumit the evidence to you as Tarte was willing to submit his evidence of the McGreevy-Langevin boodling to Sir John Macdonald. Should you see fit to take immediate action it would go no further. The alternative would be to place the document, letters and photographs of cheques, etc., in the hands of the Opposition.

Yours very truly,

First Historic Interview.

The above extracts are from the letter to Sir Wilfrid Laurier marked "Private," and dated March 2, 1911. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's answer per his private secretary was not marked "private" or "personal," and was dated March 3, 1911. The following is the answer:—

Ottawa, March 3rd, 1911.

Dear Sir,—I am instructed by the Prime Minister to inform you that he will be in his office at ten o'clock tomorrow (Saturday) morning, and ready to see you.

Yours very sincerely,
E. J. LEMAIRE,
Private Secretary.

The First Appointment.

The letter making the appointment with Sir Wilfrid was dated Friday, March 3, 1911. It reached the maker of the charges on Saturday, March 4th, after the hour fixed for the appointment. Another appointment was made by telephone on Saturday for Monday, March 6. Prompt at the hour arranged by telephone the framer of the charges carried his war to the knife on the cabinet minister into the presence of the Prime Minister of Canada. It may be that the pursuit of the cabinet minister in question originated in his virtues rather than his faults. It may be that the cabinet minister can show that there would have been no pursuit if he had consented to buy his accusers off. The accusers admit that they bear no good will to the public man they pursue. They are avowedly his enemies, but they declare that they are not "after a price," and that no price that could be quoted in cash or office would induce them to give up or suppress the evidence which supported the demand that Sir Wilfrid Laurier should drive their enemy out or his cabinet.

Purely Public Phases.

A public journal has nothing to do with the likes or dislikes, the ill-will or good-will, which may officiate as the mainsprings of action at Ottawa. The facts of this chapter in the recent history of Canadian politics are restricted to the purely public and obviously accurate phases of the case. The public has a right to know that a minister of the Crown was bombarded in a series of interviews between an assailant and the Prime Minister of Canada. The dates and time occupied by these interviews are as follows:

Monday, March 6, 45 minutes.
Wednesday, March 15, 30 minutes.
Thursday, March 16, 30 minutes.
Friday, March 17, 20 minutes.
Saturday, March 18, 15 minutes.
Monday, March 20, 40 minutes.
Tuesday, March 21, 50 minutes.

Photo of Bank Account.

The materials of this bombardment were in part a photograph of one of the cabinet minister's bank accounts. The letter to Sir Wilfrid Laurier mentioned photographs of cheques among the other materials. The cheques have no bearing on the charges. The only significance of the cheques is as proofs that the cabinet minister was not being pursued by faked photographs of a spurious page in the ledger that purported to record the deposits and withdrawals in one of his bank accounts.

The Old Question.

The items in the photographic reproduction of a page in the ledger in which the bank account was kept constituted the head and front of the attack. These items were:

October 3, 1907, deposit $50,000.
September 11, 1909, deposit $19,350.

The old question, "Where did the money come from" was asked early and often during the progress of the war that was continued by the Ottawa representative of enmity to the cabinet minister. That warfare was maintained throughout the six interviews that succeeded the original opening of the attack, in the office of the Premier.

Put Many Queries.

The fight continued from the first interview on March 6 to the last interview on March 21, and the first assault on the position of the embattled cabinet minister was repulsed substantially in these words, that have already been quoted:—

"——— is my colleague and denies the statements that are made. It is my duty to stand by my colleague."

Tarte His Model.

The Ottawa assailant of the cabinet minister took his photographs and documents, and changed the venue of the attack. The chief accuser appealed to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, even as J. Israel Tarte appealed to Sir John A. Macdonald. If history repeats itself the accuser will now get himself elected to the House of Commons and carry the war into the forum of Parliamentary enquiry. The Borden Opposition cannot find seats for assailants of cabinet ministers as readily as the Laurier Opposition found a seat for J. Israel Tarte. The charges and the evidence in support there of are now either in the hands of some member of the Opposition, or are in process of being placed before the strategists, who sit with R. L. Borden in the great council of war to the left of Mr. Speaker at Ottawa.

Facts Belong to Public.

The facts as stated in this recital were forced upon the attention of this journal. An honest and faithful newspaper cannot aid in the suppression of the facts that relate to the purely public phases of a controversy between a minister of the Crown and the foes of his own political household. This journal does not know how these foes secured a photograph of their enemy's bank account. A newspaper is no more entitled to refuse to serve the public interest by the reproduction of a photographed bank account in its columns in 1911, than Sir William Meredith was entitled to refuse to serve the public interest by reproducing a stolen telegram in his speech in 1884.

Opposition Has a Duty.

Sir William Meredith did not know how the Mowat campaign despatch was come by in 1884, and in 1911 this journal does not know how one set of partisans is able to photograph the bank accounts of another set of partisans. There are theories as to the origin and significance of the deposits of $69,340 an the credit side of the bank account. These theories cannot be tried out in these columns, or in the proceedings that might follow the disclosure of names and identities. This journal has tried to stick to the facts and leave theories to the parliamentary tribunals that can test such theories. The truth or falsity of the charges which warring Liberals urge against a cabinet minister of their own political faith was tried by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and decided in favor of the cabinet minister. The facts and issue of that trial are matters of public interest. Every minister of the Crown should be prepared to have the origin of his bank deposits shouted from the house-tops.

Publicity the Cure-All.

Publicity is the great cure for the ills of public life in Canada and facts that were forced upon the attention of this journal could not be suppressed without making The Telegram a party to the conspiracy of silence that clothes in the robes of secrecy proceedings that should be fought out, and controversies that should be decided in a blaze of publicity.

Three Exhibits in the Case.

Ottawa, March 2, 1911.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier,
First Minister, Ottawa.

My dear Sir Wilfrid:—

* * * *

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Yours very truly.

Sending Out Two Million Trees.

Qu'Appelle, Sask., May 2.—The Dominion forestry station at Indian Head is this week shipping over two million deciduous trees to the farmers of the prairie provinces. No evergreens will be shipped this year.

DATE		PARTICULARS	DEBIT		CREDIT		REMARKS
1907		Chequ. ledger Div					
Oct	3	✓			50000		
1908	20	✓	6000				
Jan	20	✓	1500				
Sept	21	✓	18000				
Nov	3	✓	7500				
	21	✓	5500				
			5230				
	21	✓	2000				
1909	20	✓	2000				
June	11	✓	500				
	19	✓	1666	67			
Sep	11	Ottawa			19350		
	10	✓	14	30			
	20	✓	1000				
	27	✓	700				
Oct	20	✓	1666	66			
		✓	100				
	23	✓	3000				
1910							
June	1	✓	3000				
	2	✓	1000				
		✓	750				
	4	✓	1500				
	8	✓	850				
		✓	400				
	8	✓	2000				
Sep	6	✓	175				
	9	✓	747	87			
	10	✓	522				
		✓	291				
	12	✓	200				
	19	✓	500				

No. 3—Reproduction of photograph of a page from the bank ledger in which the account was kept that was offered as proof of the charges.

Note—The name in which the account was kept and the word "trust" is in the original, but few have omitted from the top part of the pho tograph for purposes of publication.

United States Trusts Providing Sinews of War for Opposition to Reciprocity Pact.

Bulletin Special.

Ottawa, May 4—No decision has yet been reached in reference to what course parliament will pursue as a result of the premier's departure to the imperial conference next week. The parties are billed to hold caucuses tomorrow, when the respective plans will probably be determined. There is no weakening of the government's resolve to carry reciprocity through at the earliest opportunity. The opposition, however, seems determined to fight it off as long as possible.

The Montreal Herald editorially calls attention to the report that the Opposition is securing financial assistance to fight reciprocity in Canada from the protective corporations and combines in the United States and calls for a statement. Despite the fact that it has been repeatedly published that the Conservative anti-reciprocity campaign is being financed by secret contributions from Canadian corporation interests, the English Tariff Reform Tories and the United States trusts and protection interests and an authoritative statement from the party asked for, no denial has been forthcoming.

Already several Conservative papers have taken issue with the party becoming the hired men of selfish financial bosses and it is probable an investigation may be demanded. It is known that anti-reciprocity interests will stop at nothing to defeat the pact and that the opposition spoke their dictum in declaring to fight "to the bitter end."

NEW LADIES' COLLEGE WILL COST $65,000.00

Board of Directors of Presbyterian College at Red Deer Holds First Meeting, Col. Walker, of Calgary, President—Barnes & Gibbs, Edmonton, Appointed Architects.

Bulletin Special.

Red Deer, May 4—The board of the new Presbyterian Ladies' college held its first meeting here yesterday and today with Col. James Walker, of Calgary, in the chair. Mr. G. W. McKenzie was appointed secretary of the board and G. W. Greene, of the law firm of Greene Payne, was appointed its solicitor. The meeting was largely attended and enthusiastic. The visiting members of the board were driven in automobiles to the college site and afterwards met in session at the Presbyterian church. Dr. McQueen, of Edmonton, opened the meeting and called Col. Walker to the chair. It was decided to appoint Barnes & Gibbs, of Edmonton, and C. A. Julian, Shraman, of Red Deer, as architects and to proceed without delay with the erection of the building in order to open for classes in the fall. The plans submitted call for a building to cos about $65,000 to accommodate about 80 pupils in residence.

MONARCHISTS PLOT IN PORTUGAL

Arms Being Smuggled in in Large Quantities. Situation is Serious.

Lisbon, May 4—Several Portuguese monarchist plotters, who were expelled from Tuy, have taken up their residence at Pontevedra, four miles away, but many are still in Tuy.

The Provisional Government sent Silva Passos, an important member of the Carbonario, a Republican organization to enquire into the situation on the frontier, which the chief newspaper of the capital states is serious.

Plotting continues, and the smuggling of arms into Portugal is extensive. Two chiefs of the smugglers who supplied arms to the Republicans under the old regime have informed Silva Passos that they are now supplying thousands of rifles and revolvers to the Monarchists. There are smuggled across the river in fishing boats. It is the opinion that a Monarchical movement is certain. A great sensation has been caused by the report.

English Cricket Season Opens.

Canadian Associated Press.

London, May 5—The county cricket season opened successfully this week, Notts winning from the M. C. C. by 66 runs and Surrey beating Warwickshire by an innings and 46 runs.

JUDGE SEVERELY SCORES THE CITY

For Delay in Having Evidence in Bail Cases Transcribed.

(From Friday's Daily.)

"A man is innocent till he is proven guilty. It is not fair to a man in jail nor to a man out on bail that he cannot be tried speedily because the officials of the city police court can't get the evidence of a preliminary hearing copied.

"Something has to be done. These parties are entitled to their trial at the earliest possible time. Even a man out on bail is suffering, for he is under a cloud and is suffering in his feelings. It is not right.

"The trouble is in the police court of the city. The authorities are to blame for not having sufficient help to get out the evidence speedily. The attention of the Attorney General will be called to the injustice."

Such was the general criticism offered to the city authorities by His Honor Judge H. C. Taylor, in the district court yesterday These remarks were caused by Mr. Cogswell asking for a further adjournment of the trial of Barry, a real estate agent, charged with getting money under false pretenses. The reason given was because of inability to secure copies or evidence bearing on the case given at the preliminary hearing in the city police court. The lawyers stated the delay was caused by lack of sufficient help to get the evidence copied speedily. The solicitor for Barry urged for the speedy trial of his client. And the remarks of the judge were the outcome of the discussion. The trial of Barry was also fixed for May 11th.

It is claimed that this is not the first instance where delays in trials have been caused by delay in securing of copies of evidence taken at the city police court, and that is why the court spoke so strongly on the subject yesterday.

THREW "BOMB" AT KAISER.

But the "Bomb" was Merely Letter Concerning a Farm.

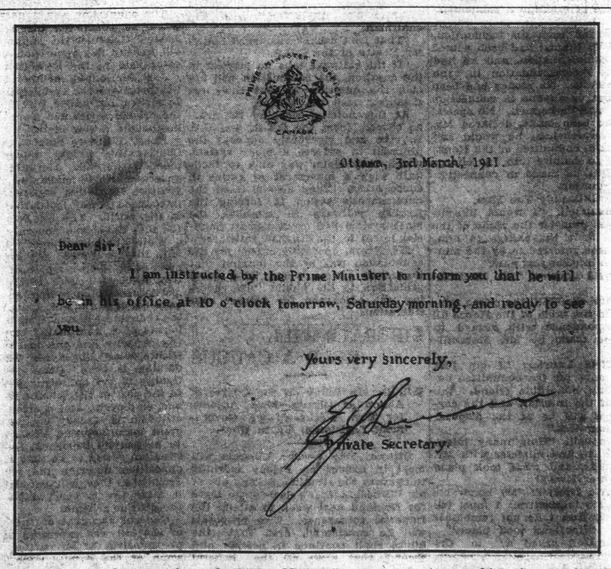
London, May 5—The police of Genoa thought that the Kaiser was dead yesterday, but their fears were short lived. While the Emperor and the Empress were landing from the imperial yacht Hohenzollern, in which they had arrived from Corfu, to take train for Berlin, and were about to enter their carriage, some one hurled a packet in the face of the Kaiser. The detectives, seeing the packet in the air, awaited the explosion in terror. The "bomb," which fell in the carriage, was harmless. It contained a letter from a German resident petitioning the Emperor to abandon a farm, which the insane brother of the thrower had given to the Emperor in 1898. The thrower of the missive is reposing in jail.

CANADA FOR INVESTMENTS

British Financial Expert Says Britain is Looking This Way.

Montreal, May 4—Mr. W. Leonard Palmer, of the financial News, of London, England, is spending a few days in Montreal, before going to Ottawa, and on to the Pacific Coast, investigating financial conditions for his publication.

Mr. Palmer says there is a general desire in Britain to transfer holdings from the United States to Canada, and gives it as his belief that Canada is on the eve of the greatest financial and commercial development ever seen on this continent. He said that no less than $2,100,000,000 of British capital is invested in the Dominion at the present moment. He will visit Toronto and interview leading financial men there.



Ottawa, 3rd March, 1911

Dear Sir,

I am instructed by the Prime Minister to inform you that he will be in his office at 10 o'clock tomorrow, Saturday morning, and ready to see you.

Yours very sincerely,

Private Secretary.

No. 2—Facsimile of the letter from the Prime Minister's private secretary making the appointment that led to seven interviews on the subject of the charges.
This reproduction is exact except for the obliteration of the address of the recipient.