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OLD AGE PENSION BILL TO BE TAKEN UP THIS WEEK

Election Bill Will Also Be Introduced in the House Today

Mr. Veniot, Collector of Customs at Bathurst, Explained His Partisanship in Last Local Election to the Satisfaction of Hon. Mr. Paterson—Other News of Parliament.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Ottawa, May 4.—In the House this afternoon Sir Wilfrid Laurier quoted from a speech of David Henderson on Friday last to the effect that the government was apparently trying to force through its estimates and that the election bill and other important measures would be allowed to stand over.

"We intend," said Sir Wilfrid "to proceed with this bill and to-morrow we will take it up."

Mr. Broder asked what other government measures would be brought down and the prime minister said the Manitoba boundaries bill and one or two others.

Mr. Lemieux said the old age pension bill would be proceeded with on Thursday.

Answering Claude MacDonell, Mr. Lemieux said, practically letter carries have an eight-hour day, and under the law it is possible for them to obtain a period of vacation greater than three weeks allowed other members of the service.

Mr. Oliver told Mr. Herron that the Southern Alberta Land Company, successors to the Robinson Irrigation Co., had made an application to the government to exchange 186,000 acres of land granted by their contract for a similar amount outside the area. No decision had been reached in the matter.

Mr. Veniot's Partisanship All Right.

Mr. Crockett was informed by Mr. Paterson that the collector of customs at Bathurst, N. B., had written to him in reply to the complaint that he had engaged actively in the late provincial election in Gloucester. The collector stated that he had spoken at meetings, defending himself against personal charges and the minister considered that no further action was necessary.

Mr. McLean (Queens, P. I. E.) brought up the rights of sailing vessels in cooling cargoes. In one case a Norwegian vessel, every vessel would receive its cargo in turn, claiming that sailing vessels were delayed for months sometimes before getting cargoes. In one case a Norwegian vessel, returned and got another cargo of coal before a Canadian sailing vessel could get in.

Mr. Broder said that the subject had been brought to the attention of the department and was referred to Mr. Paterson, departmental agent at Halifax. The latter, however, reported that all papers were private property of the collector and the government could not interfere. This was the minister's own opinion also. He held it would be a serious thing for the collector to interfere with civil rights.

Another Bako Off.

Ottawa, Ont., May 4.—Tonight Richard Blain (Peel), precipitated a discussion on the right of the minister of marine to retain possession of the original file that had been laid on the table of the house at the request of a member. Both himself and Mr. Foster had made an effort to insert the documents but the minister had declined.

Mr. Broder expressed his surprise at the unfairness of Mr. Blain's insinuations—low base insinuations—made but was compelled by Mr. Speaker to withdraw his expression. Proceeding Mr. Broder attempted to show that he had not written the letter quoted by George Taylor on Friday. But Taylor insisted the letter was written by his authority. The minister declared that the contract given to Cameron had been cancelled.

Mr. Speaker gave the opinion that when a minister quotes from a public document it is necessary to lay it on the table if the demand is made for its inspection, for the purpose of the debate in progress. He assumed that the practice would be for the minister to lay the document on the table though it need not become part of the record of the house, unless laid there upon authority.

Mr. Foster then requested that the papers be again laid on the table and Mr. Broder complied.

George Taylor said the country might as well have a sack of wool or a man of guity as the minister of marine who thus attempts to get away from responsibility. He was also surprised that Mr. Broder should play the baby act by posing as one who is persecuted. "He goes into Quebec," he said, "and tells them that because he is a Frenchman he is attacked."

Mr. Taylor said he would take no more bluffs from the minister. He had received a letter from Mr. Lemieux castigating him for attempting to cast aspersions on an honorable name. "Those honorable names?" But after all he would not read Mr. Lemieux's letter.

Foster's Discovery.

Mr. Foster poured over the original file not more than ten minutes when he found evidence which put a different face on the transactions than that given by Mr. Broder. In December, 1901, A. W. Fraser wrote to the department on behalf of Mr. Paterson. He said was "a good friend of the Liberal party and a liberal one." Moreover, Mr. Paterson was willing to wait for his money until after the minister got his estimates through.

DEPUTY SURVEYOR-GENERAL W. P. FLEWELLING A SUICIDE

Fires Bullet Into Heart in Departmental Building, Fredericton

Found by Search Party in Basement With Revolver Clutched in His Hand—Left Letters to Wife and Premier Hazen, the Contents of Which Are Being Kept Secret—Auditor Was to Have Examined His Accounts Monday Evening, But Postponement Was Asked by Dead Official.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Fredericton, N. B., May 4.—Wm. P. Flewelling, deputy-surveyor-general of New Brunswick, killed himself this afternoon in the basement of a departmental building here. A bullet from a 22-calibre revolver, fired through the heart caused instant death and later he was found lifeless on the floor above which for years and years he had worked as an honored and popular official of the province.

The sound of the shot was heard by no one and for several hours he lay being discovered, but once it was known that the deputy-surveyor had died by his own hand, the news spread like fire over a parched prairie. First came expressions of regret from everyone, then followed speculation as to the cause of his act.

A man of quiet life, host of friends, no habits such as would mean big strains on his nerves, none could see in his daily routine a cause for self-destruction. Then people sought in the fact of the recent change of government a reason for his suicide, but not for the first time he believed the election result would not mean any change as far as he was concerned.

The new audit of the provincial accounts and the form in which it might affect the case were speculated on, but with none to venture doubt that all would not be found right. It was told this evening, however, that the auditor, Mr. Dunlop, had proposed beginning his work on the surveyor-general's department this evening and that Mr. Flewelling had asked him to postpone it until tomorrow, because of the absence of Game Commissioner Knight from the city.

Mr. Dunlop assented, and Mr. Flewelling then asked how it would do to have Mr. Boyne come up from St. John, and Mr. Dunlop agreed, saying by telephone "Mr. Flewelling, I will be glad to see you."

During the afternoon, Mr. Flewelling left his desk for a time and said if he was needed he could be found at the boat-house on the river bank. A citizen saw him standing by the river and called out to him jocularly: "Hello, Will, are you going to jump in?" Mr. Flewelling had been standing by the water. No doubt suicide by drowning was then in his mind.

Two Letters.

Perhaps the place and the method seemed too public. At all events he returned to his office. He wrote two letters, one to Mrs. Flewelling, and the other to Premier Hazen. After the tragedy was known and the house had begun the evening session, the letter addressed to the premier was delivered on Mr. Hazen's desk. It left his place in the House and was soon in consultation with Governor Tweedie, the provincial secretary, and the surveyor-general. The premier declined to read the contents of the letter. The note to Mrs. Flewelling was a note of farewell.

Mr. Hazen was seen later on by your correspondent, but declined to discuss the matter in any way except to say that he had known Mr. Flewelling all his life and he very deeply regretted the awful occurrence of his death.

The letter to Mrs. Flewelling is understood to contain no reference to the reasons for his suicide.

Story of the Tragedy.

The shocking discovery that Mr. Flewelling had ended his life in the night of 7:30 o'clock by Jas. Lynn, caretaker of the departmental building. Mr. Lynn had returned to his work after supper, when E. S. Barker, draughtsman at the Crown Land office, entered and asked him if he had seen Mr. Flewelling. Mr. Barker went on to say that he had just received a telephone message from Mrs. Flewelling informing him that her husband had been home to supper, and she was a little excited about him. It was on the strength of this message that Barker visited the departmental building and instituted search. Arriving there he was joined by J. Howie Hudson, clerk of the Executive Council and entering Mr. Flewelling's office they noticed his coat and hat hanging where he had placed them on returning from lunch at 2:15 o'clock. Accompanied by Mr. Lynn they made unsuccessful search of lavatories and finally went down into the basement. It was along the main corridor and upon entering the room used for storage purposes directly beneath the Crown Land office, they were shocked to find the dead body of the deputy surveyor-general lying upon the concrete floor in a large pool of blood, which was oozing from his mouth. He was lying on his back, with his left hand beneath his head and his right hand clutching a 22-calibre revolver. It was about nine o'clock when he was shot through the mouth. Later it was found that the bullet had penetrated the heart. This caused instant death.

It was a most ghastly sight and it was with a feeling of horror that the three men withdrew from the room and retraced their steps to the floor above.

The first man they met on leaving the basement was Hon. G. Hudson Flewelling, brother of deceased, who is employed as engineering clerk in the house of assembly and is staying at his brother's home during the session. He had left the house with the message he received from the three men who had come out of the basement was a staggering blow to him. He covering his self-possession, he sent a message to Rev. Dean Schofield and being joined by him shortly afterwards the trio proceeded to the late home of deceased and broke the terrible news to Mrs. Flewelling. The shock to her was a most painful one, but she bore up bravely under the trying ordeal. Sub-Dean Street and other friends called during the evening and everything possible was done to cheer and comfort the heart-broken woman so suddenly bereft of a loving husband and companion.

Tragedy Shocks Citizens.

In the meantime large crowds had collected at the departmental building and expressions of heartfelt regret at the awful tragedy were upon everybody's lips. The legislature was to have an evening session but on learning of Mr. Flewelling's death adjournment was immediately made and the members quickly found the throng at the departmental building.

Coroner G. J. McNally was soon on hand in response to a telephone message, and visiting the basement made a superficial examination of the body and took possession of the revolver. He expressed the opinion that the man had been dead for a least three hours. An examination of the revolver showed that all six chambers had been loaded and two shots discharged. The coroner decided that the circumstances warranted the holding of an inquest and he immediately empaneled a jury composed of M. W. Carrier, George Hazen, H. M. Blair, Percy Gilroy, and Edward Barry and C. W. Hall. After they had viewed the body an adjournment was made until seven o'clock tomorrow evening.

Shot Through the Heart.

Undertaker John G. Adams was then called in and entered the body of the deceased in the St. John street. An examination subsequently made by Drs. Bridges and McNally showed that the bullet had passed through the heart. His death was carefully examined but his wounds were unable to find any wound, although he had been severely wounded. It is supposed to have been due to the hemorrhage caused by the bullet wound in his heart. He had evidently died while he was still clutching in his hand the revolver which was the cause of his death. Mr. Flewelling was one of Fredericton's best known and most highly esteemed citizens. He was a man of quiet life, and in the talk of the city tonight, nobody not even his most intimate friends, is able to find a motive for his rash act. He had been enjoying excellent health and was most attentive to his official duties. He was not a drinking man and lived quietly. He was an expert bowler.

When he was ordered to lunch on Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock he took a walk down to the river bank near the Bicycle and Boating Clubhouse. While he was standing on the river bank gazing out upon the water, L. C. MacNutt, editor of the Herald and a personal friend of the deceased, called on him and they were talking of the evening session. "Will, are you thinking of jumping in?" he turned around and glanced at the speaker but made no audible reply. This incident gives rise to the belief that he contemplated suicide by drowning but changed his mind.

Deceased was a man of most unassuming disposition who rigidly minded his own business and seemed to quietly take all the enjoyment out of life that he possibly could. He owned a cottage on Woodstock Road where he spent the summer months and he was also the owner of a motor launch. He was an enthusiastic member of the Fredericton Park Association.

MONCTON WANTS TROLLEY LINE

Will Ask Legislators for Charter to Shut Out Others

AFRAID OF MONOPOLY Will Not Build Road Themselves But Propose to Control the Company That Does—Council to Request Local Government to Pay All of Smallpox Bills.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Moncton, May 4.—The city council tonight decided to apply to the legislature this session for a charter empowering the city to construct and operate a street railway in Moncton and the vicinity, and also to construct a line to Shediac. Power is asked in the charter to lease to any company for a period of forty years the right to construct and operate under the city franchise.

The present council makes it clear that it is not proposed to have the city construct and operate the electric railway but the application for the charter is for the purpose of securing the franchise and making its own terms with any company wishing to build the road.

The decision of the city council to ask the legislature for a charter of its own means that the city will not assist the company being promoted by Moncton and St. John parties to secure a street railway franchise for Moncton.

It was decided by the council tonight to ask the local government to pay the whole expense incurred in connection with the suppression of smallpox in this city. The ground is taken that as the money spent for the suppression of the disease was for the benefit of the province, therefore the province should pay the bills.

The New Brunswick Union of Municipalities is to be asked to take the matter up with the government. Mayor Purdy, Ald. Reilly, Ald. Jones and City Clerk J. S. Magee were appointed delegates to the New Brunswick Union of Municipalities meeting at Fredericton.

The council tonight decided against asking for authority to issue bonds to the amount of \$20,000 for making permanent sidewalks.

The local Y. M. C. A. will hold a seven mile road race on June 6, confined to local competitors. Last year's distance was ten miles.

At the annual meeting of the Moncton rifle club tonight, A. E. Barton was elected captain, A. R. Jardine, first lieutenant; Dr. L. C. Harris, second lieutenant; E. B. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer; executive committee: W. McK. Weldon, G. C. Davison, A. Carter, A. R. Bos.

BRITISH TROOPS ATTACK AND ROUT AFGHAN RAIDERS

Simla, British India, May 4.—The promptitude shown by Major-General Sir James Willcocks, Commander of the British forces in making his troops to the scene of the disturbances, has deprived the Afghan raid of present dangers. He attacked the raiders on the hills west of Landi-Kotal, in Khyber Pass, and drove them back over the frontier, scattering them in various directions. Finding no support from the other tribes, the raiders are dividing away. According to advices received here, the Mohmands and other border tribes are quiet and engaged in harvesting.

Both Ontario and Quebec Elections Fixed for June 8

(Special to The Telegraph.) Quebec, Que., May 4.—Hon. Lomer Gouin will be here tomorrow morning when a meeting of the cabinet will be summoned at once.

Your correspondent is authorized to announce that the house will be immediately dissolved and that polling day has been fixed for June 8, or the same day on which the Ontario elections are to be held.

Archbishop O'Connor's Successor.

Toronto, May 4.—It is reported that the appointment of Archbishop McWay, of London (Ont.), to succeed Archbishop O'Connor has already taken place and will be announced June 23.

Another Texas Tornado.

Paris, Texas, May 4.—A tornado twenty feet wide, struck the village of Ambia today and destroyed several buildings.

FLEMMING ANSWERS MCKEOWN'S CRITICISMS

Ex-Attorney General Finds Fault With Government Bill of Fare

Professes Now to Be Very Anxious for Investigation of Central Railway Finances—Provincial Secretary Explains Several Proposed Reform Measures—Several Bills Introduced.

Fredericton, N. B., May 4.—The house met at 3 o'clock. Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced bills to legalize certain marriages and amend the probate court act. The latter bill he explained, was designed to remedy certain difficulties which might occur owing to the death of a judge of probate. At the present time there did not appear to be any power in registrars to adjourn the court in the case of the death of the judge, and this bill was to enable that to be done. It also might include provisions for dealing with the accumulation of fees arising from the probate courts which were greatly in excess of the amount required to pay the salaries of the judges and registrars.

Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced a bill to amend the succession duty act, which, he explained, was designed to render the residents of other countries, who might hold shares or lumber interests in this province, liable to pay succession duties which they were not now compelled to do.

Hon. Mr. Flemming presented the report of the trustees of the Hotel Dieu Tracadie, also the report of the Provincial Board of Health. Hon. Dr. LeBlond presented the annual report of the Dept. of Agriculture; Hon. Mr. Grimmer the annual report of the Crown Lands department.

Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced a bill to correct an error in the valuation of the County of Sunbury.

Hon. Mr. Hazen presented the petition of T. D. Leger and others against the Leger Corner Water Company and bill.

Mr. LaBilloy gave notice of enquiry as to the office of superintendents of highways for Restigouche County.

Mr. Byrne gave notice of enquiry as to what were the items making up the amount of the suspense account due the bank of B. N. A., appearing on page 4, auditors-general's report.

Mr. LaBilloy gave notice of enquiry with reference to the passenger bridge over the Restigouche at Metepedia.

Hon. Mr. McKeown.

Mr. McKeown in rising to continue the debate on the address said—"There were some things in the speech to which reference had been made on many occasions, both in the house and in the campaign, which had recently closed, upon which it was desirable for him to say a few additional words and make several corrections. Reference had been made to the great growth of the export trade of the city of St. John and to the enormous benefit not only to the city of St. John, but also to the remainder of the province. If the conditions which are represented as existing at St. John are as favorable as has been made out were not the workers who had brought about that condition entitled to some credit? It was all very well for the hon. gentleman to say it was good to find conditions as they are today, but what about Messrs. Blair, Jamieson and Pugsley?—the men to whom those conditions were due and who had been so severely and unjustly criticized.

Gold Storage.

One of the most important items in the equipment of the city as an export centre was the structure put up in aid of gold storage.

That structure had been referred to in language which was certainly anything but complimentary by the hon. gentleman who had preceded him and in order that these hon. gentlemen who were new to the house and therefore were not so familiar with the circumstances might be roughly understood then he would go into the matter a little more fully than otherwise.

The question of gold storage was one of the most important not only to the city but to the whole of the province. The structure was one of the largest if not the largest in Canada. When it became apparent that the cost of building this structure was likely to be between \$100,000 and \$200,000 and that the promoters were not able to complete the work out of their own private means the act provided for assistance being given to them. The act provided that any company which would undertake the building of the gold storage plant and would carry it through should receive assistance to the extent of \$50,000.

A great deal had been made out of this guarantee, but he would like to call the attention of the hon. gentleman to the fact which all of them appeared to overlook and that was that when any grant or guarantee was made to a private company under circumstances such as happened in that case the company were required to transfer and make over the whole of that property in respect of which the grant was made to the government as a security. It was just the same in fact as a mortgage. The facts were that there was a gold storage plant in existence now in St. John which cost between \$150,000 and \$160,000, towards which the government had already guaranteed bonds to the extent of \$60,000 and they had proposed to increase it by \$30,000 more.

The promoters had put into the undertaking of their own money no less than \$18,000 and before they could get their money back or even the interest on it, the government must be paid the whole of the interest on the bonds guaranteed. It might be that those men would never get their money back and no interest might ever be paid to the government and under these circumstances the promoters would lose all the money they ever put into it.

He submitted that if private individuals were willing to put their money into a business of that sort and then hand the property over to the government where they had a great deal of men who would be willing to do such a thing as that unless they were quite certain that they had got hold of a good thing? Personally he thought it was a most wise investment. The property of the company stands in the name of the King as representing the province of New Brunswick. That being so there was nothing serious to be criticized in the position taken up by the late government in the matter. Before they set out on a course they undertook to bring in legislation to increase the guarantee from \$50,000 to \$80,000. Such a transaction was on the same line as increasing a loan on mortgage and he did not think it would be running very close to the wind in advancing on property of that value a loan of \$30,000. 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