

The Charlottetown Herald.

NEW SERIES

CHARLOTTETOWN, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1908

Vol. XXXVII, No. 53

Summer Goods!

Hammocks Hammocks.

A large new stock just opened, all colors, all prices.

Croquet Sets.

4 Ball, 6 Ball, 8 Ball Sets, new and bright.

Garden Sets, Sand Pails, Sand Shovels.

Sporting Goods, etc.

CARTER & Co., Limited

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Dominion Coal Company's

COAL!

As the season for importing coal to this Province is again drawing near, we wish to advise dealers and consumers of coal that we are in a position to grant orders for Reserve, Screened Run of Mine, Nut and Slack Coal from Dominion Coal Co's Mines, F. O. B., loading piers at Sydney, Glace Bay and Louisburg, O. B.

We guarantee good despatch for schooners at loading piers.

Reserve Coal is well known all over this Island and is extensively used for domestic and steam purposes.

Prices quoted on application. All orders will receive our careful attention, by mail or wire.

Schooners always in demand during the season and chartered at highest current freight rates.

PEAKE BROS. & CO.,

SELLING AGENTS FOR P. E. ISLAND.
March 25-41

HARDWARE!

Largest Assortment, Lowest Prices.

WHOLESALE and RETAIL

Fennel and Chandler

Spring & Summer Weather

Spring and Summer weather calls for prompt attention to the

Repairing, Cleaning and Making of Clothing.

We are still at the old stand,

PRINCE STREET, CHARLOTTETOWN

Giving all orders strict attention.

Our work is reliable, and our prices please our customers.

H. McMILLAN.

How Much Do You Pay

For a "Ready-made Suit"? What value do you get for your money? You get no fit, no style, no wear, no satisfaction.



We want you to know about the kind of suits we make. Made to your measure, perfectly tailored, with one hundred cents worth of value for every dollar we ask for them.

Suit of good strong tweed, good pattern \$816

Our "farmers" suit, made of double twist ed tweed, made to stand wear \$20

Best "Oxford" tweed, dressy suit \$19

Lots of finer suits in every weave & color \$20 to \$30

These suits are made to your order and we guarantee a fit in every case. We are sure one of our suits will wear you longer than any two "Ready-made" you ever wore. If you want to save money on clothes try us for your next suit.

Maclellan Bros.,

MERCHANT TAILORS.

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 business.

H. H. BROWN,

The Young Men's Man.

168 Queen Street.

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 New 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.

Ottawa Weekly Letter.

The Walberg Contracts!

An Enterprising Contractor and Middleman.—Who always Makes a Good Thing Out of I. C. R. Business.

Several Contracts Without Competition.

Including One With 55 Percent Profit.—In Other Cases He Is Lowest Tender When the Accounts Are Settled.

The Department Thinks 4 Cents Is Cheap for Girders, When the Regular Price Is Less Than 3 Cents; Estimates That Are Nearly Doubled; Contracts Made Without Authority and Without Record; A Happy-go-lucky System of Checking.

ENQUIRY BLOCKED WHEN IT BECOMES DANGEROUS.

OTTAWA, August 1st, 1908.

A good deal of time in the Public Accounts Committee last session was occupied with the transactions of Government with E. A. Walberg, a contractor, who figures extensively in the Auditor-General's reports. Mr. Walberg is especially notorious in his dealings with the Intercolonial and with the Marine Department. The Civil Service Commissioners took notice of the peculiar negotiations and contracts made with Mr. Walberg for light-house towers. His dealings with the Intercolonial are numerous and varied, and nearly everyone of them has required an immense amount of explanation, much of it unsatisfactory.

Mr. Walberg came to Canada some years ago as the agent for United States manufacturing firms and has become naturalized while carrying on transactions with the Government.

THE LOCOMOTIVE CRANES.

The first deal to come before the Committee was a contract for five locomotive cranes for hoisting coal. This contract was for \$6,380 for each crane, delivered at Levis, duty free. There were other tenders, one lower than Walberg's, but the Deputy Minister stated that the Walberg crane had a bucket attached, and was the best value for the money offered and would be delivered more quickly. So Walberg got the contract.

One point made by the Department was that delivery would be immediate, as the contract was given in May, and the coal was to be handled early in June. As a matter of fact the first three cranes were installed in August and the other two some time after.

What happened was that Mr. Walberg turned over the contract to the Browning Engineering Company of Cleveland, Ohio, which sold the five cranes at \$5,300 each. Mr. Walberg said the freight was \$260, and estimated the cost of erection at \$200, bringing it to \$5,760. The Intercolonial paid him \$31,900, making a gross profit of \$4,900. There seems to be no particular reason why the Government should not buy direct from the Cleveland concern, but the twentieth century in Canada is the middleman's monopoly.

It might be further explained that the call for tenders mentioned only one crane, and all the offers but Walberg's were for only one. His was for five, and five were bought. The Deputy Minister says that the others knew all about it. If they did, there is nothing in their offer to show for it. He doubts the rate would be higher for a single one.

THE SEATING JOB.

The second contract was for a fine system of heating the Moncton car shops. Specifications had been sent out and Mr. Walberg put in a tender for \$6,705. This was the 12th of November, 1905. The past day Sheldon & Sheldon of Galt, Ontario, put in a tender in the same language for the same thing at \$4,300. The Buffalo Forge Company of Montreal offered to do the same work at \$4,700. On the 15th of November, two days after his tender, Mr. Walberg wrote again, explaining more fully that his offer was for a steam-heat apparatus, and

ing millions to rolling mills could not get one of them to fill an order which Walberg could arrange on demand. As to the price paid, the officers testified that four and a half cents "was very reasonable." When an officer certifies that four and a half cents is a reasonable price for girders that are regularly sold by the trade at that moment for less than three cents, we begin to understand why the Intercolonial is run at a loss.

PICTOU ENGINE HOUSE.

Number five was the contract for the engine house at Pictou, N. S. This was put to tender, and instead of a bulk sum contract with schedule rates for additional work, the contract was awarded to Mr. Walberg at \$12,700 for the structure, and other work on the quantities estimated by the Government brought his tender up to \$25,523.55. The officers worked out the next lowest offer at \$25,000.95, and the one above that \$5,000 higher.

There were seven tenders in all. The remarkable feature of this contract is that though the work was not completed when the inquiry was held, the cost had already reached \$100,222. That was the expenditure down to January, 30th, of this year, as stated by General Manager Fettinger (evidence, page 106). Not only is the amount paid 65 per cent. above the amount of the contract as reported, but it is \$25,000 higher than one of the rejected tenders.

Of course, the reason is that the quantities greatly exceeded the estimates. Some letters for the foundation was estimated at 1,500 yards and at Walberg's price of 75 cents would amount to \$1,125. The actual quantity for which Walberg has been paid up to the last return was 12,978 yards and the amount actually was \$9,733.50. His tender for concrete masonry was supposed to be \$14,000. The amount paid him was \$22,928. Mr. Walberg was not the lowest tender either for stone ballast or concrete masonry. There is no knowing what the other tenders would have been, but they agreed on the kind of a job, this turned out to be. According to the Deputy Minister's statement (page 120 of the evidence) the figures of one of the other contractors would have been lower than his on the actual quantities as worked out.

THE MONCTON SHOPS.

Number six contract is at Moncton. Mr. Walberg had contracts for a freight car repair shop, passenger car repair shop, paint shop and an office building. Three were given in a lump contract, with schedule rates for additional work. The freight car shop contract was given alone for \$24,630. Mr. Walberg's tender was not the lowest sent in, but the Deputy Minister explaining that the lowest tender was withdrawn before the day of opening. True, it was opened and figured out by the Department with the others. This was explained as a mistake. The result of the withdrawal was that Mr. Walberg got the contract.

The contract price of the other three buildings was \$150,945. Over \$10,000 was added by certain change and additions in the building.

A CHANGE.

But the special feature of the Moncton contract was a change in the foundation and the construction of a sewer over half a mile long. The contract for the concrete foundation was varied by increasing the width, and by making it 6 feet 3 inches deep instead of 4 feet 3 inches. Now it happened that Walberg's tender for concrete was \$12.75 per yard and for excavation 28 cents, while the price paid Rhodes & Curry on another of the Moncton buildings was \$200 for concrete and 28 cents for excavation. When the concrete and excavation foundation work is doubled these comparisons between competitors become important. The change in quantity was made by the officer on the ground by verbal contract.

A WONDERFUL SEWER.

As to the sewer there are many complications. The contract for the work was made verbally with Mr. Walberg at Moncton, and there is not a line written to prove it. The Deputy Minister informed the Committee that the Chief Engineer had no right to make the contract without reporting it, and that it should have been written and signed.

Chief Engineer Macintosh, who made the contract, told the Committee that the schedule rates for excavation would apply to the first six feet of the work. He seemed to have an idea how far this system would prevail, though he was certain that it would not be used for the lower depths because the contractor could not afford to do the work for the price. The Deputy Minister (Continued on fourth page.)

MILBURN'S LAXA LIVER PILLS

Many people make a mistake in thinking that the only effect of a pill is to loosen the bowels, but a properly prepared pill should not temporarily loosen the bowels but the entire glandular and digestive system.

This is just what Milburn's Laxa-Liver Pills do, and by their gentle action on the Liver, Gallbladder, Pancreas, Duodenum, Jejunum, Colon, Stomach, Prostate, Uterus, Heart, Lungs, Kidneys, Bladder, and all other organs of the body, they bring about a permanent and healthy condition.

They are small and easy to take, and do not grip, vomit, or cause any other unpleasant effects.

Price 25 cents a box, or 50 cents for a 30-day supply, or \$1.00 for a 60-day supply, or \$2.00 for a 120-day supply. The T. Milburn Co., Ltd., Toronto, Ont.

MISCELLANEOUS.

STILL BRING HELPED.

"I got my start in life," said the first magazine, who was reprehending his son for his selfishness, "by hard knocks and nothing else."

"You ought to be successful considering what help you have had," said the irascible youngster, who read the magazine, "because I see they are still knocking you."

Mr. Fred Laine, St. George, Ontario, writes:—"My little girl would cough so at night that neither she nor I could get any rest. I gave her Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup and she coughed so much that she was cured quickly."

ON THE MODERN LINER.

"How did you go to England?" "Well, I walked part way."

"Preposterous. How could you do it?" "Got on the stern of the boat when she left New York and started to walk forward. By the time she reached the port I was in the cabin."

Milburn's Liniment cures Dandruff.

Milburn's Shering Sarsaparil Powder gives women prompt relief from scabby scalp and leaves no bad after effects whatever. Be sure you get Milburn's. Price 50 cents and 25 cents, all dealers.

THE DIFFERENCE.

"What is the difference between being a good man and being a good business man?"

"A good man may and often does belong to the church."

"Yes?"

"And a good business man merely supports the church."

Sprained Arm.

Mary Orington, Jasper, Ont., writes:—"My mother had a badly sprained arm. Nothing we used did her any good. Then father got Hagyard's Yellow Oil and it cured mother's arm in a few days." Price 5c.

HIS PROBABLE OPINION.

"What would George Washington say if he could see the way we celebrate the Fourth of July at present?"

"I hardly know what he would say, but if you will send the children out of the room and close the windows I will endeavor to give you my opinion."

CONCERNED THING.

"I always feel so sorry when I look in the mirror."

"Do you indeed?"

"Yes."

"What for?"

"For the rest of the world."

Milburn's Liniment Cures Colds, etc.

No Disease is so Quiet and Steadily in its Approach as Kidney Disease.

It is the only disease that is so dangerous. It may become deep-seated before you realize the danger.

It is the danger of great complications to originate the early warning symptoms of kidney disease in the back, bladder, or elsewhere, and to get up four or five times every night, or to experience a thick brick-dust sediment, or to have a pain in the small of your back, and to feel as if you were going to sleep at night.

I am sure you will find Dr. Ross's Kidney Pills and in a very short time I will be all right again. I am very thankful to have found a cure so speedily in its action.

Dr. Ross's Kidney Pills are 50c. per box or \$1.00 for \$1.25, at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The Dr. Ross Kidney Pill Co., Toronto, Ont.

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