

THE ACADIAN.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., APR. 17, 1908

A Red Rag.

The Western Chronicle in commenting upon that portion of the Civil Service report which objects to the high salary paid by the government to J. W. Borden, a cousin of Sir Fred Borden, whom that minister has appointed to a lucrative position in the Militia Department, naively remarks: 'blood should not interfere with public duty.' We think this decidedly unkind. It is well known that Sir Fred has a warm place in his heart for those of his own household, and that he is a firm believer in the maxim that 'blood is thicker than water.' The Chronicle man is not, however, the one to trot the minister of this little weakness. Sir Fred's favors cannot truthfully be said to have been confined to his blood relations. A young man was allowed to sell rotten hay to the imperial government a few years ago, at a fabulous price, and he was not a relative of Sir Fred. A Kings county statesman recently got a generous allotment of stock in the Submarine Company, and there was no 'blood' in his veins. A Kings county seer was the first to get a vision of government drill grounds at Kentville, and yet he was not of the household of Borden. Surely the Chronicle's covert sneer at Sir Fred is neither generous nor kind.

The fact is that the 'honorable' boss of the Kentville paper has no use for anyone of the Borden name. J. W. Borden was a manager in the Union Bank service when Sir Fred had him appointed paymaster of the militia department. In parliament Sir Fred gave a reason why he was paid an exceptional salary that he was an exceptional man, and so far we thoroughly agree with Sir Fred. Mr. Borden, the paymaster, is a son of the late Andrew Borden, of Grand Pre, and a son-in-law of the late Frederick Brown, of this town, and a gentleman in every sense of the word. He is a strong liberal and an honor to his native county.

But the name Borden is a red rag to the 'honorable' ever since a certain local election not long ago, when Sir Fred was expected to slip in and save the day and he declined to make the attempt—after first looking over the ground. Ever since that day he has been accused of selfishness. Further, it is cause for remark that in his occasional visits to the county and the shire-town Sir Fred gives a certain law office a wide berth—so different from before that local election. Sir Fred is a shrewd politician and knows pretty well from which direction the wind blows.

Mr. Donaldson's Letter.

Secretary Donaldson's manly and straight-forward explanation, which appeared in our columns last week, seems to afford a perfect answer to the charges leveled by the Western Chronicle against the Union Agricultural Society. The spectacle of the pure, Western Chronicle accusing Cornwallis farmers of graft, seems amusing to residents of this county, but for the sake of our reputation outside Mr. Donaldson's letter came none too soon.

Kings county, unfortunately, has none too good a name in the other counties of this province. We have in past years been so careless in the selection of our representatives, and so many tales of graft and drunken orgies have been associated with our public men, that people outside have received the notion that those public men correctly reflected the sentiments and integrity of the people of the county. It would therefore not have been surprising if this serious charge against our farmers, notwithstanding the fact that it sprang from so unreliable a source, should have been believed by those not personally acquainted with the high intellectual and sterling integrity of the bulk of Kings county farmers. Mr. Donaldson's lucid letter will easily overturn the Chronicle's mischievous tale.

A Recent Convert.

Our valued contemporary, The Western Chronicle, has espoused the cause of temperance. Formerly The Chronicle put down liquor, now it will put liquor down.

In the course of a highly instructive article our temperance friend claims that the cause is being hampered in the western end of the county, and intimates that 'perhaps THE ACADIAN will inform the public' regarding the matter. 'This however,' says The Chronicle, 'is another story and will be referred to at greater length later on.'

From the above it appears that The Chronicle will do all in its power for the cause of temperance. Not only will it work itself, but it will also stir up its contemporaries to the end that they, too, may work for the cause.

Verily the days of wonders and miracles have not ceased. The next thing we know Sir Fred Borden will be stamping the county for Union Reform.

Grand Plans for Sale—\$500 cash. Apply to MORRIS H. BURNER, Acadia St., Wolfville.

Innocent.

In a recent move than usually against the Lunenburg Progress Reporter, moved by a sense of duty—to the printers—makes the statement that 'most voters in Kings is pretty "innocent".'

Our innocent friend further remarks that it obtained its information from the Lunenburg Chronicle of Kentville. This is wrong. The Eastern Chronicle is published at New Glasgow.

Political Skepticism.

If the people are skeptical of the good intentions of the Laurier government in the matter of Civil Service Investigation the blame lies with the government, not with the people. What are the facts?

Twelve years of control in the Marine and Fisheries department, during which time at least three Liberal ministers have been in charge, fixes responsibility for proper management upon the Laurier government.

A royal commission, appointed by this same government to investigate the Civil Service generally, reported that in this particular department a state of affairs exists that, to say the least, is disgraceful. Before the printed report of this commission is presented in Parliament the government names a new commission entirely ignorant of facts, to investigate the charges of the first commission, but in one direction only, that of the purchase of supplies. Before the new commission can get on the job the minister of the crown in charge of the condemned department is seized with a sudden zeal for house cleaning and certain officials are discharged by him.

Why the need of so much duplication of investigating authority? Was the first commission incompetent to report with all necessary detail upon its own findings? And if a second commission was advisable why limit its line of investigation? What excuse can be offered, also, for Hon. Mr. Brodeur's sudden burst of activity in house-cleaning a department into the management of which a royal commission investigation has been ordered? It is reasonable that the electors should ask such questions as these and reasonable that they should regard with suspicion the house-top proclamations of honesty of purpose being made by a government that is responsible for a reform program so badly mixed up and tangled as this one in the Marine department appears to be.

Premier Laurier himself made a great show of activity in respect of the Civil Service Commission. Justice Cassels, he announced, would be the royal commissioner to make a complete investigation into the Marine department. This announcement of course looked good; but, alas! one can never tell nowadays what sort of fruit is being handed out from Parliament hill until the rind has been removed. What looks like luscious orange may be a juicy lemon. It has all the appearance of a lemon in this case.

Instructions to the commissioner are of such a nature as to bind him to investigate in one direction only. Why? More sham, more pretence, more hypocrisy. Esmeshed in the tangled web of deceit and double dealing it has itself woven, the Laurier administration is so completely trapped that its free and effective action in the interests of the people is no longer a possibility.

A Chance for the Chronicle.

Now that The Western Chronicle is in the scandalous business to the end that all graft, corruption and malfeasance be promptly exposed, the attention of our virtuous contemporary is called to the manner in which is conducted the provincial sanatorium at Kentville.

Mr. Baillie, M. L. A. for Pictou, moved for correspondence in respect to supplies for the above mentioned institution. Three letters, written in March last, were laid on the table. These letters were to the superintendent directing her—

(1) To buy supplies from persons other than Messrs. DeWolfe and Lamont.

(2) To buy groceries from S. L. Cross and B. H. Dodge, and to buy dry goods from James Seely.

(3) To buy drugs from J. D. Clarke. In speaking of this matter The Orchardist says: 'Some time ago the superintendent was directed not to buy supplies from DeWolfe and Lamont and F. B. Newcombe & Co. As the goods supplied by these firms were in every way satisfactory, the orders were not entirely obeyed, and it seems that required a second mandate from those in authority to cut off all patronage to DeWolfe and Lamont. The only reason which anyone can give for this boycott of Messrs. Lamont and Newcombe is that they are liberals who stand for principles above party, and voted with hundreds of other liberals for the Union Reform candidates in the last election.'

'The patients at the sanatorium whether they live or die, survive or perish must be fed only on materials supplied by faithful government supporters. So far it has worked very well for the health of the patients, but whether the people of the province who pay the bills are equally benefited it might take a commission to determine.'

Here is a case of unjust discrimination. The Chronicle, ever on the alert, must scent in this a grievous wrong. It is a case demanding the Chronicle's prompt and earnest attention.

But will the organ act? Will it expose and denounce such acts on the part of its political friends?

'Not on your life! When there are scandals in its own party, The Chronicle, like the docile creature it is, maintains a discreet and stony silence. The Wickwire scandal, charged, published at Kentville, is called the Western Chronicle.'

'We have no interest in making these corrections. They are made solely because of a sense of educative duty on the part of the law shown by this great family and religious journal for its innocent Lunenburg friend.'

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Personal Mention.

Mr. J. Elliot Smith has gone to New York, where she will spend a few weeks.

Capt. R. Pratt left yesterday for Yarmouth, where he will spend several days, returning some next week.

Mrs. John W. DeWolf, of Vancouver, arrived recently to visit her sister, Mrs. J. Oscar Harris, and other relatives and friends. Mrs. DeWolf was formerly Miss Fuller, of Hostonville.

Mrs. George C. Johnson, who has been spending the winter in Queens county, has returned home. She was accompanied by her daughter, Mrs. Dr. Keddy, who will visit for a few days in Wolfville.

Mr. Emery has returned from a flying trip to Philadelphia.

Principal DeWolfe is spending part of this week in Amherst and Truro. He will return to-day.

Mr. H. T. Bagnall, of Acadia University, preached to the people of Newtonville on Sunday afternoon, April 5th.

Rev. G. J. C. White left on Tuesday for British Columbia where he has considerable property. His family remains in Wolfville.

Miss Elizabeth Higgins left on Wednesday morning for Montclair, New Jersey, where she will visit her brother, Mr. G. E. Higgins. She also expects to go to Terre Haute, Ind., to visit her brother, Prof. Frank K. Higgins, and may later go to Honolulu, where her youngest brother, Mr. Edg. Higgins, resides.



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AUCTION!

At the Elms, Main St., Wolfville MONDAY, APRIL 27TH Commencing at 1 O'clock, p. m.

All the Household Furniture, Vehicles, etc. of the estate of the late Mrs. D. F. Higgins as follows:

EAST PARLOR: 1 Piano, 100 years old; Carpet, Center Table, 2 Small Tables, 1 Sofa, Easy Chair, Old-fashioned Chair, Upholstered Old-fashioned Chair, 6 Walnut Chairs, 1 Cane-seated Chair, Wall Bracket, 3 Pairs Curtains, 3 Blinds, Wall Splot Bracket, Mantel Ornaments, Painted Table Scarf, Shells, Pictureque Canister, Picture Frame, Curtain Tassels, Dusters, Steel Fire Irons, Iron Rest.

SITTING ROOM: Carpet, Easy Chair, Mahogany Sofa, Mahogany Centre Table, 2 Rocking Chairs, 3 Small Tables, Old-fashioned Wicker Chair, Coal Hod and Shovel, Fire Irons, Stove, Mantel Ornaments, Mantel Scarf, Old-fashioned Salt Cellar, Clock, 2 Tea, Coffee, and Sugar Dishes, Picture with large Oak Frame, Picture with Mahogany Frame, Six Pictures, Sofa Cushion, Table Scarf, 2 Pairs Curtains, 3 Blinds, 2 Rods, 3 Blinds, Opera Glasses, Fruit Plate, Oriental Mat, 2 Wall Brackets, Music Books, 2 Plants.

HALL: 2 Mahogany Hat Trees, 2 Old-fashioned Chairs, 1 Table, 1 Piece of Oilcloth (English), 3 Rods, 1 Table Cloth, Grandfather Clock, 4 Pictures, 2 Hall Blinds, 3 Tapestries, 3 Pieces Mats, Oil-cloth Mat, Foot-scraper, Wire Mat, Lamp and Bracket, Card Receiver, Match Box, Bunk, Match Receiver, Mat, Stair Carpet.

LOWER BEDROOM: Bedstead, Mattress, 4 Mats, Stove, Bureau, Commode, chamber Set, Desk, 3 Chairs, 2 Pairs Curtains, 3 Blinds, 2 Rods, Towel Rack, Mahogany Framed Picture, 5 Pictures, 2 Round Paintings, Old-fashioned Clock, Match Holder, Ornaments, Luster Black, Red Strand Curtains and Blinds, Covered Box, Satchel.

LITTLE KITCHEN: 1 Table with drawers, 1 Table, 1 Box, 1 Blind, 2 Trays, Lamp Bracket, 27 Quart Jars, 55 Pint Jars, Jug and Crock, Mortar and Pestle, Heater and Stand, Photographic Mistrail, 2 Trays, 2 Brushes, Crumb Brush and Tray, Lamp and Oil Stove Wicks, Bed Pan, 8 Small Crocks, 2 Lamp Chimneys.

BACK HALL: 1 Side Saddle, Hard Wood Table, Table, Oil Cloth, Mat, 2 Parlor Lamps, Lantern, 3 Small Lamps, Table Cloths.

DINING ROOM: Linoleum, Stove, 6 Mahogany Dining Chairs, 4 ditto better, 2 Small Tables, Office Chair, Water Kettle, Castors, Pickle Dish, Old-fashioned Wooden Chair, Small Table, 2 Old-fashioned Jardiniere, Mantel Ornaments, 20 Pictures, Wicker Chair Baskets, 2 Tall Round baskets, 2 Pairs Curtains, 3 Blinds, 3 Rods, Dishes, Dinner Set, Glassware, Salad Dishes, China Saucers, etc., Steel Knives and Forks, 1 Carving Knife, 1 Dinner Knife, 2 Carving Forks, Sugar Shaker, 2 Picture Frames, 1 Japan Teapot, Old-fashioned Teapot, Teapot, Coffee-pot, Old-fashioned Water Kettle, Old-fashioned Soap Tureen, 2 Pairs Knives, 2 Carving Forks, Bread Slicer, 2 Old-fashioned Jardiniere, Large Granite Pot, Butter Printer, Ice-cream Freezer.

KITCHEN: Stove, Large Dining-room Table, Kitchen Utensils, 2 Clocks, 1 Clock, Brackets for Pots, Kitchen Cabinet, 100 lot of

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