

the Pacific railroad, and the long journey. The will be made up of at least 100 feet wide and one and a half miles from the town park which embraces the station. When this, from the States, has been counted the calves, that Canada will be at least 900 buffalo.

AT BALGONIE  
The received the sad news of the sudden death of her brother, Mr. deceased had just pur- bugged and set of harm home with it. When the buggy he complain- ing pain in his head. A was offered him, but saying, he would be another word.—Indian Witness.

ETNA ACTIVE  
The Mount Etna broke this morning and its clouds of smoke and Sicilians are greatly fear that the Etna has another earthquake which destroyed Messina of Catalonia and the d the base of the vol- cano is alarmed and par- tially to leave their eruption continues or ceases.

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**HON. WM. PUGSLEY AND LIEUT.-GOV. TWEEDIE**

**Placed in a Very Bad Light as a Result of the Commission's Report--Startling Account of the Misappropriation of New Brunswick Public Money --Millions of Money Tossed Recklessly About.**

Frederickton, N.B., April 8.—The report of the royal commission which inquired into the transactions of the Central Railway presented to the legislature contains the most startling account of misappropriation of public money in the history of this province. Judge Landry, Fulton McDougall, manager of the Bank of Montreal at Moncton, and N. I. Teed of St. Stephen were the commissioners.

The report is a damning arraignment of Central Railway transactions. The commissioners find that "the conduct of Hon. Wm. Pugsley and Hon. L. J. Tweedie (now lieutenant-governor of New Brunswick) and G. McAvity is open to the gravest censure, and that they must be held accountable by the province for \$134,000 which they have misappropriated."

"Far larger sums," says the report, "than \$134,000 might well have been switched from their legitimate course, for nearly a million dollars was tossed about without any special guidance."

The report makes eighty pages. The commissioners give the following as their conclusions:  
"Briefly to sum up this whole matter, we have waded through a chaos of disconnected accounts and have carefully weighed all the evidence submitted as well as studying all documents, orders in council, etc. Having thus patiently labored to ascertain if possible the true facts of the case, we find a number of leading features governing the operations to which we call special attention."

"1. It is clear that the enterprise was chiefly promoted by two members of the government, the controlling influence of one of them was clearly evident from beginning to end. It is true a company was organized without any capital, which existed in name only, whose shareholders never attempted to influence its policy. Having everything to gain and nothing to lose, they left control to ex-officio officers, as the government was putting up all the money. The company never performed the functions usually exercised by an incorporated company; it was in fact, nothing but a disorganized department of the government of this province, whatever may be claimed for it in theory. The policy of granting government assistance to any company whose shareholders have not on their own account a dollar at stake, is unsound, if not vicious."

"2nd. On the whole fact of it the motive of the promoters as stated, was men from various parts of the province, were obtained to lend their names as directors, and from the fact that \$430,000 of the total \$500,000 authorized capital was to be distributed as founders' shares, we conclude that interested parties had visions of ultimate large profits, with the absolute certainty of no personal loss."

"3rd. As shown in the earlier pages of this report, the coal mines failed to materialize. It was found inexpedient even to attempt to develop mines in a large way. Thus at an early stage the original visions of profit making must have departed and the decision called for as to the abandoning of the expenditure of \$350,000 intended for coal development. However, it would seem that the prospect of spending large sums of money under cover of the company, was too alluring to be resisted. Accordingly, a stage name was adopted, and the New Brunswick Coal and Railway company's existence was continued. How much better it would have been for the province had these moneys been expended directly by the government and a yearly account of the expenditures published in the public accounts."

"It is also clear to your commissioners that it was never the intention of those controlling the company to keep books of accounts for public information, for there was never any complete working organization of the company of special officers secured whereby method and system could have been pursued. The fact that advances far outstripped, particularly in the earlier stages, legitimate expenditure, made it imperative that to conceal the truth no uniform system of bookkeeping be adopted. It is claimed the Barnes Construction company kept books, which could be produced, but we are by no means satisfied that they were not destroyed or that they were not intentional- ly concealed. From evidence before us, and from careful study of bank accounts and other matters by which we could trace disbursements of moneys, we have no hesitation in stating that especially during 1902, moneys used up and liabilities incurred far outstripped any legitimate expenditure that was being made, and the difference we believe to have been misappropriated, otherwise sufficient

and moneys spent under the conditions stated in this report."

**PUGSLEY'S STATEMENT**  
St. John, N.B., April 10.—On arrival here today, Hon. Mr. Pugsley discussed the report of the Central railway commission. He said that whereas the act creating the commission had set 1901 as the period for commencing the investigation, the commission had delved back into history, 14 years for one instance, and six years prior to that date to bring in figures and allegations for the purpose. He claimed that the report was unassisted by the evidence, and that the evidence should have been printed with the report, so that the public might form their own conclusions.

"In the ordinary course of the company's interests, and those of the province, from whom it received all its resources, would have been in a business sense antagonistic. Therefore we believe that good business demanded that the provincial secretary and attorney general remain outside the company. Then as members of the government they would have been in a position to have seen to it that the stipulations safeguarding the provincial treasury were lived up to. As it worked out, by their position in the company as members of the government their influence was paramount, representing as they thus did all the capital that was invested by their presence in the house of assembly on the other hand, they were able from their knowledge and control of the company's affairs to present such statements as were necessary to allay the suspicion of the legislature and conceal from the country the true state of affairs."

"Finally, we believe the directors of the company, and especially the ex-officio directors are responsible to the province for an enormous sum. They should be called upon to submit an account showing the expenditure of \$356,799.76 or at least that portion of it supplied by the province. What steps should be taken to enforce this finding, we hardly feel called upon to determine."

"We find, putting the most charitable construction on the whole transaction, that \$134,035.35, given as unaccounted for, was misappropriated and diverted from its proper channel. Considering that the doors were never locked, that nearly a million dollars were tossed about without any special guardianship or any reasonable prospect of anyone being called to account that temptation in its most seductive form was continually in the path of the politicians interested, it is not very difficult to understand how an amount never larger than \$134,035.35 might well have been switched from its legitimate course. The \$39,000 underpaid Evans and Elkins in their option we have not the slightest doubt forms part of the total shortage."

"As to who personally got this money, we are unable to state. Want of records, as shown by illustrations given in a former part of this report the fact that the secretary, George W. Allan, and the director or solicitor, A. J. Trueman, had died before the investigation began, greatly enhanced the difficulties of discovering anything definite on the above point. Then too, many of the leading actors in this drama did not in their evidence disclose with any certainty their relations with the transactions with which their names appear in the written documents. A notable case was that of N. C. Skinner, whose memory appeared almost blank as to his acts and reasons therefor. Even the amount of remuneration he had been receiving had passed from his mind. We cannot but believe that Mr. Skinner felt more personal responsibility in the duties he performed and better appreciated the ones in which we were engaged, his memory would have been much improved."

"Leading witnesses, with almost unflinching monotony, referred us to two deceased officers of the company, Geo. W. Allan and A. J. Trueman, when any critical point as to the disposal of moneys was in question. We have become painfully convinced after examining the evidence and documents submitted to us, that in the expenditure of public funds provided for this enterprise, every person charged with a public duty in connection with the same has been culpably negligent in the discharge of such duty. The degree of culpability attached to each individual had, perhaps not been the same. Some were guilty of negligence in accepting positions of trust and in not acquainting themselves with what transpired in regard to the same, but allowing others, unquestioned, to undertake the sole discharge of duties, the responsibility of which they themselves had assumed. They lent their names and allowed the moral influence of their high standing in the community to assure the province that legitimate business methods would be followed."

"The provincial secretary and attorney general, ex-officio directors, who were especially appointed by the legislature to watch the company's doings in the interest of the province we consider by their conduct, open to the gravest censure. It is true, the provincial secretary was not satisfied with matters as they were going, for more than once we find, by letter or otherwise, he registered objections, but it would seem he had assisted to call into play forces he could not control if he wished to do so, and the bonds were in due course guaran-

**SETTLERS ARRIVING**  
Maple Creek, Sask., April 10.—During the past week a large influx of settlers has taken place into this district, cars of settlers' effects arriving daily. The class already arriving is distinctly a good one and the quality of the stock arriving with them is excellent. Both north and south the movement is spreading rapidly and settlers wagons loaded up full with supplies purchased from Maple Creek may be seen everywhere threading their way to their various destinations.

**EDISON SETTLES**  
Newark, N.J., April 10.—Thos. A. Edison has settled for \$450,000 the suit for breach of contract brought against him by the Newark Phonograph Company. In addition his counsel have signed agreements to settle approximately 700 suits started by the Newark Company against dealers in that state. The amount involved in the settlement of these and the principal suit is approximately \$2,000,000. The settlement was reached after an all night conference in this city, preliminary to which there were negotiations of several weeks during which the wires were kept busy between Orange, N.J. and Mr. Edison's winter home in Florida.

**PROVINCIAL UNIVERSITY**

**Will Be Located at Saskatoon—Arts and Science Course to Be Opened in September—Prof. Rutherford Appointed Dean of the Agricultural College—Bracken on the Staff.**

The Board of Governors at their meeting last Wednesday evening decided by ballot to locate the university of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon. The claims of Regina were presented on Wednesday morning by Rev. G. C. Hill, P. McAra, Jr., Dr. Thomson, J. A. Allan and others.

The governors visited the site Regina had to offer and then settled down to work. The question of the location did not come up till the evening session when the ballots were taken which gave a majority to Saskatoon.

In addition to deciding the location the governors have decided to open the college of arts and science in September, 1909. The university building will not be erected before 1910. Meanwhile the university classes will be held in temporary quarters. It is the intention of the governors to provide instruction in the subjects usually required in the first and second years of the B.A. course. This will mean the appointment of professors, probably in English, foreign languages, ancient and modern, mathematics, history and economics and one of the sciences. Owing to laboratory difficulties the science departments will not be fully organized until 1910.

The governors have also decided to open the college of agriculture in the fall of 1910. After a consultation with the dean of the agricultural college, it was thought best to get the staff and equipment of the college of agriculture fairly complete before admitting any students. So much of the work in agriculture is of a practical nature that it is useless to attempt teaching without a farm in working order, with stock, machinery and laboratory equipment. It is proposed, however, that extension work similar to that done at the agricultural convention this winter will be carried on in the meantime.

The university is offering scholarships to the value of \$100 and \$75. One of these scholarships will be placed at the disposal of each college and high school of the province for award among its students. The university fees in arts and sciences will be low, not to exceed \$30 a year. In agriculture the fee will be a nominal one. In agriculture the chief features will be the short courses extending over the winter months for farmers' sons. These courses will be open to boys of at least 16 who have gone through the public schools and have worked on a farm. The course will be open after the fall work is done on the farm, and closed before seeding begins, so that the boys' courses will not take them away from the farm during the busy season of the year.

The governors of the university have appointed Professor Rutherford dean of the agricultural college, and Mr. John Bracken one of the professors. They propose to open the college for students in the fall of 1910. Meanwhile Dean Rutherford and Professor Bracken will remain in the department of agriculture and have supervision of the preparations for the opening of the college.

Last summer Dean Rutherford succeeded the late Mr. Ketchen as deputy commissioner of agriculture. He came to this province with an excellent record as teacher and writer and judge of live stock. Dean Rutherford received his education in Ontario and taught there for nearly eight years. He attended the agricultural college at Guelph, and upon receiving his degree in 1904 was offered a position in the college. This, however, he declined, and was appointed to the staff of the agricultural college at Ames, Iowa. Here he received rapid promotion in the department of agriculture and animal husbandry. In 1906 he was appointed to the staff of the agricultural college of Manitoba, and from the first was recognized by the farming community as an authority upon agricultural matters. Under the guidance of a man with the thorough training, the teaching experience, the keen interest in agriculture, the tact and executive ability of Mr. Rutherford, it should prove to be of incalculable value to the farmers of the province.

Professor Bracken is one of the most distinguished of the younger graduates of Guelph, and on graduation received the gold medal for the best man of the year. For a year he was the Dominion representative in Manitoba of the seeds branch of the Dominion department of agriculture. The next year he entered the employ of the department of agriculture of this province as superintendent of fairs and institutes. Here he has proved an ideal official, courteous and prompt in the discharge of his duties active in promoting in every way his position and possessed of excellent judgment and unquestioned ability. As one who knows him intimately recently remarked: "Bracken has made

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**UNPROTECTED TIMBER**  
Paris, April 12.—"Twenty years from now the problem of how and where to obtain a sufficient timber supply will bother the people of the United States," said Mr. M. A. Robertson of St. Paul, Minn., one of the leading lumber dealers of the Northwest. Mr. Robertson was speaking at the Hotel Bristol, was talking on the lumber supply, which gives evidence of falling to meet the demand sooner or later. He said: "Our properties are located in Canada. We ship to the United States. Therefore considering the tariff legislation, the shoe may pinch us on the other foot. We want to see the tariff reduced."

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