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THE SEM-WEEKLY COLONIST

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THE FACTS PLAINLY STATED

The facts of the case in regard to the Telqua coal leases are few and easily understood. Before recapitulating them, we shall state briefly the charge preferred by the Vancouver World, and repeated by the Victoria Times. It was as follows:

That the Transportation Exploration Company applied for leases of 32 sections of coal lands on the Pine River, which application was refused by Mr. Green because the lands were in the area out of which the Dominion government had the right to select 3,500,000 acres, which these lands were not at any time in any way connected with the transaction in the public mind.

That the necessary work of the company, wrote to Mr. Green, offering him stock in the company and asking him to name some one who would hold the stock in his interest; that Mr. Green named Mr. Neil McKay; that Sir Adolph Caron, president of the company, wrote to Mr. Green, stating that the stock was of the par value of \$37,000, and was intended as a free gift, and that thereupon the leases for the lands in the Pine River valley were issued to the Transportation Exploration Company, which Sir Adolph Caron subsequently secured other leases covering land in the Telqua valley, in consideration of which a further interest in the company was given to Mr. McKay for Mr. Green.

There were some further references to negotiations with which the name of Mr. Cuppage was connected, but it is now admitted that these were baseless.

Such is the charge. Here are the facts:

In 1904 several people applied for licenses to prospect for coal in the Telqua valley. The applications were irregular and no action was taken upon them until the irregularities had been rectified, whereupon they took the regular course, and in January, 1906, the applications became entitled to leases of the ground prospected. These leases were issued in regular course. At the time the issue, the Transportation Exploration Company asked that one might be issued in its name, but the request was not complied with for the reason that the company was not registered in this province. The transaction was at this stage, as far as the Telqua lands were concerned, fully complete and ended. There was nothing more to be done by the applicants, the government or any one else. Subsequently the company mentioned applied for coal licenses covering lands in the Pine River valley. The application was promptly refused by Mr. Green, because the part of the province in question was under a quasi reservation pending the selection by the Dominion of 3,500,000 acres. The application was pressed by the company, and a considerable correspondence passed between the government and the solicitor for the company, but the refusal of Mr. Green was supported by the government, and no licenses or leases were issued to the company or any one else over lands in the Pine River valley.

Now take up the charges serially: That the company's application was not for leases in the Pine River valley. This is untrue. That, on being refused this application, the company gave Mr. McKay for Mr. Green stock in its undertaking, and that thereupon the leases were issued. This is absolutely false. That the company subsequently applied for, and obtained, leases over lands in the Telqua valley. This is true. That, in connection with this application, the company gave Mr. McKay for Mr. Green stock in its undertaking. This is absolutely false. We repeat Mr. Green's own statement in regard to the offer of stock. It is as follows:

"After the licenses in the Telqua valley were granted, and before the applications for licenses in the Pine River district were before the department, Caron, whom I know very well, wrote me, saying he desired to allot me a few shares of stock in a company to be organized. I did not wish any of the stock. Mr. McKay, then secretary to the Premier, was in my office when I received the letter. I showed it to him, saying I did not want the stock, and that if he cared to take it he could have it. He said that while I did not consider it of much value, it possibly might be worth something to him some day. He signified his willingness to take the stock, and I notified Caron to issue it to him."

We promised the readers of the Colonist to give them the facts, and here they are. We do not feel called upon to justify Mr. Green's action in discussing the issue of stock to any one, but we draw attention to the fact that no proposal of the kind was made to him, while anything was pending in his department. The matter of the Telqua leases had been wholly closed, and as far as any one knew the company had nothing to ask or expect from the government. The fact that after the stock was offered to Mr. Green, every application made by the company to the department was refused, shows very plainly that if the company had hoped to gain Mr. Green's favor by offering him the stock, it reckoned without its host.

There is nothing in the whole transaction which in any way reflects upon the government as a whole or the administration of the Lands and Works Department in particular. It is not possible to prevent base-minded people from putting any evil construction that best suits their diseased imagination upon the action of every man in public and private life, but decent people will not allow such things to influence them.

There is the whole story, and no unprejudiced man can say that it reflects upon the government in the slightest degree.

RATHER LOW TACTICS

In an election dodger that is being circulated by the Opposition, reference is made to the grant of the two blocks of land in Southeast Kootenay to the Canadian Pacific, about which there was such an uproar some four years ago. The voters are asked by this precious dodger to remember that Messrs. McBride and Eberts were members of the government, which

made the order-in-council authorizing these grants. That is quite true. So also was Mr. W. C. Wells, Liberal candidate at the present election in Golden; so also was Mr. J. D. Prentice, an active Liberal, and so also was Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir, Messrs. McBride and Eberts had exactly as much to do with passing the order-in-council as had Messrs. Dunsmuir and Prentice, and not nearly as much as Mr. Wells. We are not going into the merits of the transaction at all. The present government is not responsible for it, and whether it was a bad or a good one makes no difference in the connection with this election.

There is a regular routine through which all order-in-council go, but the final stage before they are passed, is that they are recommended by the responsible minister under whose department the subject matter comes. In the case referred to the Lands and Works Department was charged with the subject matter, and the recommendation went to ordinary course by the Chief Commissioner, Mr. W. C. Wells. The evidence as published shows that in this case Mr. Wells made the recommendation, and that it was adopted by the whole cabinet. As a matter of fact, so far as anything appears in the evidence, the recommendation was made by Mr. Wells, and the cabinet merely regarded the matter simply as one of routine, just as Mr. Prentice did. We do not know whether the recommendation was made at any time in any way connected with the transaction in the public mind or not. The necessary work of the company, wrote to Mr. Green, offering him stock in the company and asking him to name some one who would hold the stock in his interest; that Mr. Green named Mr. Neil McKay; that Sir Adolph Caron, president of the company, wrote to Mr. Green, stating that the stock was of the par value of \$37,000, and was intended as a free gift, and that thereupon the leases for the lands in the Pine River valley were issued to the Transportation Exploration Company, which Sir Adolph Caron subsequently secured other leases covering land in the Telqua valley, in consideration of which a further interest in the company was given to Mr. McKay for Mr. Green.

There were some further references to negotiations with which the name of Mr. Cuppage was connected, but it is now admitted that these were baseless.

Such is the charge. Here are the facts:

The effort of the Dominion government, to induce the provincial government to surrender its reversionary interest in the 13,000 acres near Prince Rupert to the Grand Trunk Pacific, was discussed in Parliament yesterday. It does not seem that Mr. O'Brien, Minister of the Interior, made a very conclusive defence of the transaction, while that advanced by Mr. Templeman was worse than all. In fact the Minister of Inland Revenue seems to have simply made a fruitless effort to draw red lines across the scent. If any one can discover any connection between what Mr. Bodwell may have done in connection with the sale of Kalien Island and the request, almost equivalent to a demand, that the Dominion government should surrender its reversionary right to the 13,000 acres, more ingenuously than falls to the lot of the average man. There is absolutely no connection between the two things. Mr. Templeman was not quite frank in what he said. He ought to know that, while negotiations were carried on in connection with Mr. Bodwell, it was understood at all phases of the negotiations that the land was for the Grand Trunk Pacific, and the sale was not consummated until after the Grand Trunk Pacific had come sufficiently into the transaction to remove all doubt as to the object for which the land was being sold. The Minister of the Interior, who has the obligation to perfect frankly, more strongly than he appears to have done.

We direct special attention to the views expressed by Mr. Stokton, who is undoubtedly one of the best informed and most fair-minded men in Parliament. It was made very clear during the debate that the Dominion government had taken a very extraordinary course and that its interference with the administration of the affairs of this province was something that could not be justified.

The more this matter is considered, the more extraordinary does the action of the Dominion government appear. What the right way to the province would be to attempt to dictate or even to suggest to that provincial government what it ought to do? We could understand that it might say to the provincial government that the Grand Trunk Pacific wanted the 13,000 acres, and that the Dominion government had been made to extinguish the right of the Indians, the Department of the Interior would be glad to buy them what terms the province would part with its reversionary interest. It might have asked a cash payment, but what would have been better, might have insisted upon retaining an interest in the 13,000 acres, similar to the interest in the 20,000 acres on Kalien Island. Instead of that, there came what can at the very least be called a demand for the land, and the surrender the reversionary interest to the railway company. Mr. Templeman leaves it to the province to decide upon the part of the Dominion to make the request and throw upon the provincial government the responsibility of acceding to or declining it; but this is a view of the case that is hardly worthy of the Minister. He surely does not look upon the government of which he is a member as simply a purchasing agent for the Grand Trunk Pacific.

THE LATE A. G. BLAIR

The death of the Hon. Andrew George Blair will be deeply regretted by thousands of people all over the Dominion. Notwithstanding certain inexplicable events of very recent years, Mr. Blair must be regarded as one of the ablest men who have ever been in public life in Canada, and those who knew him best were the most surprised at the remarkable course followed by him since his resignation from the Laurier ministry. His re-entry into political life was very probable. It is all likelihood he would have been a candidate for Victoria, N. B., where a vacancy had just been created by the appointment of Mr. Costigan to the Senate. There is very little doubt that he would have been elected, and that he would have been elected by all persons, who know the constituency.

Mr. Blair was not really an old man, as public men go. He was yet on the right side of sixty-three, and he ought to have been good, in the ordinary course of things, for many years of active service. He aged somewhat rapidly after the drowning of his favorite daughter, while skating at Ottawa, and the unexpected death of one of his sons, and the very threshold of a promising manhood, also affected him very deeply. He never seemed quite the same man after these tragic events.

He had been before the public for so long a time that he seemed to be an older man than he was. His entry

VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST.

Tuesday, January 29, 1907.

"THERE IS A BEE ON IT."
SHOTBOLT'S Compound Balsam of Honey is just the medicine you need for a cold and cough, but be sure the cut of the BEE is on the label. 50 cents a Bottle.

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into political life was in 1885, when he was only 21 years of age, on which occasion he took a very active part in the historic Fisher-Pickard election in New Brunswick, which was the turning point in the campaign of Confederation, gave credit to young Blair for most of the victory. Mr. Blair shared political life, when he was a lawyer struggling to gain a practice, and with his wife, his mother and two sisters dependent upon him for support. He met defeat after defeat, finally securing a seat in the House of Commons after leading the Opposition for four years, formed the government, which has continued in power, though with several changes of administration, and in fact most of the time since 1885. He carried the government successfully through three general elections, and in fact most of the time since 1885. He carried the government successfully through three general elections, and in fact most of the time since 1885. He carried the government successfully through three general elections, and in fact most of the time since 1885.

He was very successful at the bar, and as a business man was far-seeing and enterprising. As a speaker he was in his younger days very powerful, although he did not take very high rank in Parliament. He was undoubtedly the greatest error of his life was his resignation from the Chairmanship of the Commission. Personally he was a very likable man, and he always had friends to him with a strong personal attachment. His most intimate business and political associates up to the very last were men, with whom he had been on terms of close intimacy since boyhood, and he collected in the West than he. His first great political disappointment was his failure to induce his colleagues to consent to the construction of the Crow's Nest Pass Railway as a public work. He was shaping his course to get a road through southern British Columbia to the Coast, and he would have to move fast to get there before I will. He was a believer in the government of the people, and he declared himself in private to be determined to see the government owned road from ocean to ocean. The refusal of his colleagues to accept his counsel at that point and the contract formed with the Grand Trunk Pacific seemed to throw him completely off his balance. His career closed in disappointment, for he was unable to carry out his views and almost boundless ambition.

THE ISLANDS

Our advices from the Islands are to the effect that the meeting with an excellent reception, and that the prospects of his election are very good. The people of the Islands are very friendly to the Dominion government, and Mr. Patterson will be fought out on principle. The candidates respect each other and there is no personal hostility between them. They are both residents of this city, so that neither has an advantage over the other in respect to residence. There are few local issues in the campaign there. It is a clear and distinct trial of strength between the two parties, which stand for things in local politics between which there is a wide distinction.

We suppose that there is no part of the province more interested in what the province has been doing for the Islands than the constituency known as the Islands. It means much to the frequent discussions of questions relating to agriculture in the Board of Trade. Mr. Patterson has always been inclined to throw cold water upon any proposals that have been advanced. We have no desire to do him the least injustice or to represent him as taking a position, which he has never held. When we say that he has always regarded efforts to promote the establishment of a public character that is open to the government of such a policy would be immediate. There is no danger of overproduction. The market for our most profitable products is large and increasing. One result of the government action is already seen in this appreciation of the value of farm land, and there is no doubt that we have only reached the beginning of a period of greater increase. The residents of the Islands are very deeply concerned in every thing that will promote the settlement of the riding, and we ask them to say frankly, if they do not believe that the policy pursued by the government in connection with agriculture has been of very great advantage to them. We ask them why they should not their votes in a direction that would lead to a reversal of that policy, and is certain to lead to more or less interruption in the industry of Mr. Tatlow, Minister of Finance and Agriculture.

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Size 25c - This is the cough medicine that we would rather sell than any other in our store. We know just what it contains. We know that it can be taken with safety, that its materials are of the finest quality, that they are compounded in the most effective way, that it is economical, and that it can be depended on in all emergencies. We should like to have you give it a trial. We feel sure that it will not disappoint you. It is suitable for old and young, to weak and strong. It is a Cough Medicine which you will learn to rely on, and feel safe while it is in the house. Buy a bottle. It's worth trying.

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Furniture Sale

Of odd pieces of high-class furniture—a little out of date, perhaps, but just as good as some of the latest patterns, but a good deal less in price—to clear them out quick. In order to make room for several carloads now on the way, and others to come in the spring, we have marked them away down in price. We accumulate very few slow sellers, as our life-long experience in buying teaches us what not to buy.

Buffet

Made of golden oak, very highly polished, size of top 16x44 inches, has nice shaped British bevel plate mirror, size 10x24 inches, has two small drawers and one large one, has one large cupboard with double doors, has polished brass trimmings, and is a grand bargain.

Price, \$30.00

Buffet

Made of golden quartered oak, beautiful flaked oak, has specially selected top, size 20x40, has nice shaped British bevel plate mirror, 8x32 inches, has neat shelf, also two small drawers and one long one, and shelf for front.

Price, \$37.50

Buffet

Made of golden quartered oak, size of top 18x50 inches, has British bevel plate mirror in back, 12x45 inches, has two small drawers and one large one, two cupboards and bottle rack, nicely carved and has polished brass trimmings, is a handsome and desirable piece of furniture.

Price, \$50.00

Buffet

Made of golden quartered oak, polished, size of top 20x40 inches, has nice shaped British bevel plate mirror, size 10x24 inches at back, contains two drawers and two cupboards and bottle rack.

Price, \$35.00

Sideboard

Made of beautiful golden oak, very highly polished, size of top 24x41 inches, has British bevel plate mirror 18x36 inches, has handsome top shelf and two small ones, standards upholding them nicely shaped, has large lined silver drawer and two small ones, has two cupboards with nicely carved doors, has one large linen drawer and has cast brass trimmings.

Price, \$38.00

Sideboard

Made of lovely quartered golden flaked oak, size of top 24x60, has very handsome top shelf at back with invisible drawers, has nice shaped British bevel plate mirror above shelf, 12x54 inches, has three medium-sized drawers and two cupboards, and is indeed a splendid bargain.

Price, \$68.00

China Cabinet

Made of quartered antique oak, stands 72 inches high and 30 inches wide, has three adjustable shelves, has bent glass door and glass sides.

Price, \$24.00

Parlor Cabinet

Made of birch mahogany, polished, has three large shaped shelves and two small ones, has beautifully shaped British bevel plate mirror at top, size 15x26 inches, is of very handsome design.

Price, \$16.00

Music Cabinet

Made of golden oak, very highly finished, has one large cupboard with five shelves, has one drawer and nice shaped British bevel plate mirror, 6x20 inches, in top.

Price, \$12.00

China Cabinet

Made of selected golden quartered oak, stands 57 inches high and is 39 inches wide, has two glass doors, nicely paneled, and shelf underneath; this piece of furniture is also suitable for a bookcase and is a good value.

Price, \$30.00

Parlor Cabinet

Made of birch mahogany, highly polished, has three large shaped shelves and three small ones, has nice shaped bevel plate mirror at back, over top shelf, 10x18 inches, and one square mirror underneath, top shelf at back 10x26 inches, is of most exquisite design.

Price, \$20.00

Music Cabinet

Made of birch mahogany, polished, has one large cupboard with double doors, has six drawers and polished brass trimmings, has handsome shaped legs and is a grand bargain.

Price, \$25.00

Parlor Table

Made of golden oak, polished, size of top 24x24 inches, is nicely carved, has beautiful twisted designed legs.

Price, \$6.50

Reed Table

Made of best selected reed, with nice oak top, 18x28 inches, and oak shelf underneath.

Price, \$10.50

Library Table

Made of French magnolia, size of top 36x49 inches, has bottom shelf and polished brass trimmings.

Price, \$10.00

Reed Settee

Made of very best selected reed, has very comfortable seat and low arms.

Price, \$6.75

Piano Chair

Made of best selected reed, is of handsome and artistic design, has nice high back.

Price, \$8.50

Dining Room Chairs

There are just a few of these lovely chairs left. Made of oak, in golden and antique finish, spring seat, upholstered and covered with No. 1 leather, backs are also upholstered and covered with leather, and are of very handsome designs.

Each, \$7.00, \$9.00, \$12.00 and \$15.00.

There are also a great many other nice things at greatly reduced prices, so do not miss this grand opportunity of purchasing high-class furniture cheap. NOW is your time.

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VICTORIA, B. C.

THE DAYS OF

Doubtless a good accept the idea that earth were created in four hours each, that the writer, who the fourth day is, proof that whatever mass he did not let us call a day, who read the things that are not childhood to accept construction of the not take the public what the things are told that salvation that they what some one tells writers of the book meant, and they are ordinary common doings of the mass, let us briefly sketch "days." First there of matter. Then on to it. Then light was a firmament was may mean, and the were separated. The passed. Then the were formed. Then and water fowl. Then and last of all man. Here is an sequence of events ning' up to the age, likely to be soon tempt to do more the of the chief events world. It will be as was not aiming at. On the face of the that he could not have been placed in the divided the waters, able that he wished as meaning that since they can only be dim most powerful teleated for the purpose to the earth. In the story it was placed in interpolation by who fancied that he had overlooked some In previous refer chapter of Genesis as an attempt to p sions of ancient leas shown how in many ways the story was changed. The story the final conclusion We do not know of events as there sity with the sequ geology. On this possible that the con for investigation, m changing. The story rocks is not very one subject upon much is positively h other, the formation has been found in wood to anthracite, taken as conclusive coal in the rock, unlike in principle in a charcoal furna for very many year pressure, and prob The testimony of th that at a very rem history of the world was exceedingly a suite in the rock of the first chapter. He also says that were not created un od of active veg though there alrea day an night. N ever is done to th none is the result of conclude that durie table era the wor by a mantle of m moon and stars w If we accept the st in the rocks or as ble, we must conce just such a per less degree of heat keep water in a ga required to do the other materials. Th taken as proved the development of surrounded by dens where the temper been warm, and if what is stated, it m profusion of which vegetation of the tr a faint idea. It means unlikely the heat and moisture introduction of ani all due allowance seems to be noth constant in the r table Age as told i Carboniferous Age. If some great ge never seen the Bibb take to tell in a ne what is thought to known about the C he would not prod materially different in the Bible. In reading anyth to bear several thi like to judge of the wrote about the a author. Now, we wrote the Bible, it was Moses, w the work of an ex learned man. Who have seen in prev