

The Evening Times.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SEPT. 19, 1907.

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DR. PUGSLEY'S SPEECH

In his speech yesterday Hon. Dr. Pugsley denounced Mr. Borden and others because they treated of "petty things," rather than broad measures of statesmanship. Later he made it clear that by "petty things" he meant charges of political corruption, and curiously and inconsistently enough he forthwith produced a series of newspaper clippings and launched all the thunders of his eloquence against those Conservatives whom he charges with acts of political corruption in the year 1904. If such a criticism was unworthy of Mr. Borden or Mr. Bristol, is it less unworthy of the minister of public works? And, again it may be asked, why wait for some action on the part of Mr. Borden before proceeding to unboomer himself further than he has done in the Fairville and court house speeches?

Dr. Pugsley was at his best yesterday when he spoke of the great development of Canada, the transportation needs of the country, and his determination as a member of the government to do all possible to direct this development along national lines. He showed a clear comprehension of general conditions, and an equally clear conception of the responsible duties of his office. He was not less happy in his references to the development of maritime province ports, and his desire to serve his constituency and province. But with regard to his statements concerning the Conservatives in 1904 the Times still contends that he should have said more or said nothing.

THE GAME OF BLUFF

The Sun professes to have discovered a change in the attitude of the Times toward the Hon. Dr. Pugsley. This paper favored the return of Dr. Pugsley without opposition. What more does the Sun or Dr. Pugsley want? If they seek that this paper shall forego its right to express its own views and shall adopt theirs—they seek too much.

Dr. Pugsley should beware of the Sun. Its indiscretion is said to have caused one cabinet vacancy, and it has already caused Dr. Pugsley's friends so much anxiety that some of them have been led to re-monstrate. The truth is that Dr. Pugsley committed a foolish blunder at Fairville, and disappointed his own friends. He made vague charges and with theatrical bluster called upon somebody to challenge him further. He was criticised for it, and now he and the Sun seem to have decided to bluff it out. The Sun this morning, taking its cue from his speech yesterday, announces that it is ready to be sued for libel. Neither the shifting of the responsibility from Dr. Pugsley to the Sun, nor the heroics of both will deceive anyone. They know perfectly well that their statements are not sufficiently definite to provoke a suit for libel. The charge is that half a million dollars was raised by the Conservatives in 1904, and \$25,000 spent in one constituency. On such a statement they invite a suit for libel. Where is the wretch who dares to tread on the trail of Dr. Pugsley's coat? Let him do it, and forthwith he will be annihilated by the Sun.

A word with Dr. Pugsley. Discretion is a laudable trait in a public man. In the department of public works, so long without a head, there is an arrangement of work that will tax the energies of the strongest man. It presents to Dr. Pugsley an opportunity for the display of genuine statesmanship. Such a record may be greatly needed in the general elections to combat the prejudice the Sun's misguided zeal will have aroused against him in the meantime.

FOR THE CHILDREN

The International Congress of School Hygiene, which met recently in London, dealt exhaustively with the question of the medical inspection of school children and adopted the following resolution: "Whereas the maintenance and development of the health and vigor of school children is a matter of paramount importance, and whereas experience in all large cities has shown the importance of health inspection, be it resolved that in every city and town adequate provision should be made, both for sanitary inspection of schools, and for medical inspection of school children, the latter to include not only inspection for contagious diseases, but also of eyes, ears, nose, throat

and teeth, and of general physical condition."

So strong a resolution from an authoritative source must command wide attention, and should give a fresh impulse to a movement of such great importance to the welfare of the race. In Canada medical inspection is practiced in the schools in a few communities, and should be made general in all large centres of population. On this subject the Toronto News well says:—

"To arrange for the medical inspection of school children is not a simple matter. But it is only a question of time in Canada as well as in Great Britain until the public will recognize that money spent for determining the physical condition of children and the course of school life best fitted for them is spent wisely. When the state undertook the education of children and made that education compulsory, it regarded children as being all alike suited to the course which it prescribed for them. It has become evident that it is as necessary to classify children as it is men and women in after life. Probably it would be more correct to say that classification is more necessary in the case of children. Special classes of children need special schools. The majority are well looked after on the whole. But there are large minorities who receive little or no benefit from school life. The state has undertaken the proper education of its children, and it must see that they do not suffer while it can make arrangements which will enable them to reach their proper development. Medical inspection of school children, while it is likely to change to some extent our present system of education, promises to afford the state the aid which it needs in discharging its duty towards the children for whose education it has become responsible."

Premier Robinson invites the province to prepare itself for a pleasant political surprise. The work of cabinet reconstruction has not been overlooked. It is progressing famously, and in due time the completed fabric will be held up to public view. There have been many rumors, and the murmur of prospective ministers have been generally discussed wherever men do congregate. If Premier Robinson has discovered some new cabinet timber of exceptional quality it will readily be admitted that he has accomplished a notable feat, for which he will receive due credit when he delivers the goods.

POLITICAL NOTES

HANDING IT BACK.

(Toronto Mail and Empire, Can.) "But where were Mr. Foster and Mr. Fowler?" asks the Woodstock Sentinel, as a sort of commentary upon Mr. Borden's meeting. Well, Mr. Foster is delivering splendid speeches against the Ottawa grafters in the East. And you will no doubt hear from Mr. Fowler later. By the way, where are Hyman and Emerson?

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP.

(Toronto News, Ind.)

The Liberal journals may favor national telegraphs and telephones, but Sir Wilfrid Laurier is a convinced and consistent opponent of public ownership, and the Liberal papers must help to defeat the principle to which they are committed in order to support the leader who commands their personal allegiance.

RUBBING IT IN.

(Ottawa Journal, Ind.)

Hon. W. A. Weir is reported to have declared that Mr. Bourassa was a plague, distinct, worse than smallpox and worse than yellow fever. Most people in Canada know who and what Mr. Bourassa is. For the information of the vast majority which has never heard of Mr. Weir it may be stated that he is minister of public works in the present Quebec ministry.

AFTER 20 YEARS.

(Ottawa Journal, Ind.)

This (Sept. 17th), is the 29th anniversary of the election of 1878. And we haven't got over it yet. The tariff is today much higher than it was then.

THE VINTAGE OF 1893.

(Ottawa Journal, Ind.)

Nobody knows how many Liberals of the 1893 vintage there are left now. Outside the golden circle of patronage it is hard to meet them. So many of the Liberals of the 1893 brand are either dead or in the Senate, that there seems to be nobody to call to account but the prime minister himself.

ADVICE TO MR. GRAHAM.

(Eastern Chronicle, Lib.)

But, our advice to the new minister is to go slow; be sure he is right before he goes ahead. We have seen very clever men come down to the region served by the I. C. R. with bundles of drastic changes whose names were soon written in mud. The upper province's press are stuffing Mr. Graham full of fairy tales and he had better see for himself before he changes anything. We have a distinct recollection of Mr. Brydges, C. E., acting for that well intentioned statesman, the late Hon. A. McKenzie, of blessed memory, setting the maritime provinces in a blaze.

If Hon. Mr. Graham believes that every, or any, politician in these provinces runs the I. C. R., he will find that when his education is completed he has been all kinds of ridiculous fool. We repeat our advice to him to go slow. Examine carefully for himself before doing anything, except to draw his pay.

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B. THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 1907.

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SOMEWHAT IRONICAL
(Moncton Times)

The Commissioner of Public Works, Hon. Mr. LaBelle, was in town yesterday with the Hon. James Barnes, of Kent, on the way to Fredericton to attend a meeting of the government. Mr.

TRIBULATIONS

When a man is safely married. You would like to see him. That, his troubles being over. He had entered on his life. But just then he hears his love. Murder questions such as these: "Is my back hair flying, dearie?" "Will you put my comb in, please?"

Maybe he is in a hurry. Rushing out to catch a train. When he stopped by someone calling in a voice that's full of pain. Notwithstanding he is flying. In the hottest kind of haste, "Will you kindly wait a minute. Dear, and button up my waist!"

Sometimes when he takes her walking. Spoke and span and quite at ease. Feeling happy as you please. Stopping on a dusty crossing. Where the breeze is busy, too. She comes at him with a smile. "Won't you kindly tie my shoe?"

Often when his thoughts are busy with a great and dazzling scheme. He is rather rudely wakened. From his brilliant get-rich dream. By his wife, who stands before him in a sad and soulful pose. Saying, "Tell me, still me truly, is there powder on my nose?"

—Nashville American.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

THE YOUTHFUL IDEA.

"My folks," said little Bonnie Boodles, "move in the very best society."

"What is that?" queried small Bobby Biffbang, "plummy movers?"

NOT A CONFIDING NATURE.

Mr. Lucas—I don't like Farmer Jones. He's too suspicious.

Mr. Rattus—What's he done now?

Mr. Lucas—He's gone an' put a six-foot bab wire fence aroun' his hen coop.

EXPERIENCED.

While a motorist was trying to repair a punctured tire on a country road a farmer came along in a trap.

Said the farmer—"Is your horse afraid of motor cars?"

"No," answered the farmer; "he's hauled too many of 'em home for that."

EXACT INFORMATION.

A visitor to a hotel in a provincial town in England was shown up to his bedroom by the "books."

Wishing to know what the outlook from the window was, he asked:

"Does the window face north, south, east or west?"

The reply came quickly: "Neither, sir; it faces the back."

IS INTUITION.

"I suppose you are a little anxious about how your forthcoming speech will be received," said his friend.

"Not at all," answered the old campaigner; "I know beforehand. My friends will all say it is good and my enemies will all say it is bad."

IT WAS TOO TOUGH.

The second course of the table d'hôte was being served.

"What is this leathery stuff?" demanded the corpulent diner.

"That sir, is fillet de sole," replied the waiter.

"Take it away," said the corpulent diner, "and see if you can't get a nice, tender piece of the upper, with the buttons removed."

HARRIMAN'S JOKE.

"Why," said E. H. Harriman at a dinner in New York, "things have come to such a pass that even the man who is successful and rich will be looked upon with as much mistrust as the lawyer of the tale."

"This lawyer said sadly to his wife on his return home one night:

"People seem very suspicious of me. You know old Jones? Well, I did some work for him last month, and when he asked me for the bill this morning I told him out of friendship that I wouldn't charge him anything, & thanked me cordially, but said he'd like a receipt."

VANCOUVER RIOTS

(Victoria Colonist.)

The regret which all right-minded citizens feel over the Vancouver incident is not because the Japanese are subjects of an ally, although this may add to it. It is because of the fact that the good name of the country has been besmirched. Last week we could claim in the face of all the world that under the British flag there was liberty and safety for men of all nationalities, and of any creed or color. It was our proudest boast that we held the laws of the country in respect and that no man need fear to trust his life, liberty and property to their protection. We can no longer make that claim. A stain has been put upon our honor as a people. It has been sent broadcast to all the world that there is one place in Canada where the British flag is no protection to those, whose only sin is that their faces are not white and who are guilty of the heinous crime of wishing to make a living. Only a few years ago we sent our troops, and other nations sent their troops, to compel China, to respect foreigners in that country; now we find it necessary for our troops to be kept in readiness to compel people in Canada to respect foreigners here. It is the most regrettable thing in the history of this country. In comparison with it the riots which led to the burning of the Parliament Building in Montreal, was a respectable affair. That at the worst was a rough way of settling a question arising among themselves. The Vancouver riot was an attack upon foreigners entitled to the protection of our institutions. The whole country has been humiliated by it.

CHOCOLATE ADVANCES

NEW YORK, Sept. 18 Cocoa, which has been advancing in price since April, was marked up two to three cents a pound in the last week, by various manufacturers and is to be further advanced it is predicted. Prices of cocoa, chocolate and chocolate confections are now said to be higher than for twenty-five years. The reason given by the manufacturers is that the bean costs more than ever before and double what it did a year ago.

Thus far the retail prices have not been generally put up, but dealers say that users of cocoa and chocolate will soon have to pay considerably more; it is estimated about \$8,000,000 more than last year. The public will feel this, it is said, in the coming holiday season, when the demand for bonbons is greatest.

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