

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 1908
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CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND.
JAMES MCISAAC,
Editor & Proprietor.

Please don't delay your
Subscriptions for 1907. We
need the money, we
have earned it and
shall esteem it a great
favor if you remit now.

The Bogus Surplus.

In our last few issues we
have pointed out some of the
subterfuges and misleading
tactics to which the Provin-
cial Government, their sup-
porters in the Legislature and
their organ, have had recourse
in the hope and with the in-
tent of deceiving the people.
We have shown that their
contentions regarding the
revenue and expenditures of
the last fiscal year were un-
equally false, and that the
deficit on the financial
transactions of the year ended
on Sept. 30th 1907, was
\$45,679.85. We have also
shown that accrued interest,
deferred payments and bal-
ances on contracts, due on the
date in question, amounted to
\$64,308.50, bringing the debt
and liabilities for the fiscal
year ending Sept. 30, up to
\$109,988.35. We also pointed
out that the deficit for the
three months, to December
31, 1907, could not be less
than \$43,000; but from this
should be deducted the \$35,000,
additional subsidy re-
ceived on November 30th.
That would leave the net
deficit, for the three months,
\$8,000. Adding this amount
to the \$109,988.35 due on
Sept. 30th we have \$117,988.35
as the debt and li-
abilities of the Province for the
calendar year ending Dec 31,
1907.

In addition to all this, we
have shown that the figures
of revenue and expenditure,
from Sept. 30 1907, to Feb.
29, 1908, laid on the table of
the House by Premier Has-
zard, brought the debt and
liabilities of the Province up
to \$129,333.68 on the said
29th day of February 1908.
This means, as we have al-
ready shown, that on the 29th
day of February 1908, we had
used up every dollar of the
half yearly subsidy received
on January 1st, of this year,
and were \$129,333.68 behind,
if the interest and other bills
then due were paid. This is
the last data possessed by the
public regarding our Provin-
cial finances; and taking the
Premier's figures as they
stand, and assuming the Govern-
ment would not go any
further in debt before Sept.
30, 1908, the case is bad
enough, all will admit. But
we may be sure, they will
vastly increase this deficit
of \$129,000, especially, as this
is election year. Putting
the best possible construction
upon the whole question, the
debt of the Province must
now be over \$1,000,000.
That is, as we have previous-
ly pointed out, a mortgage
of \$100, on every farm of 100
acres of land in the Province.
This mortgage has been
placed on our farm lands
against the will of the people.
Are the electors, therefore,
desirous of retaining any
longer in power the Govern-
ment that saddled this mort-
gage upon their lands?

These statements cannot be
denied and the Government
have made no attempt to
contravert them. On the con-
trary, they have recourse to
all manner of deceptive tactics
to slur over and conceal from
public view the real state of
Provincial matters. Their
administration of our Provin-
cial affairs has been so dis-
astrous and so scandalous that
they dare not refer to their

record; on the contrary, they
employ all manner of artifices
in their policy of concealment
and deception. Their game
is a game of deception. They
will deceive the people if they
can, and in this game of de-
ception and concealment, their
pliant and obsequious organ,
The Patriot, scruples not to
go to any lengths.

When Premier Haszard
delivered his budget speech,
he admitted that there would
be a deficit on the financial
transactions of the year end-
ing September 30th, 1908. It
is true that his estimated
deficit was only small, a little
over \$7,000. We may be
very sure it will be at least
seven times seven thousand;
but the admission of a deficit
at all was something; it
showed that he had a little
conscience, what cannot be
said of the Government organ.
Another statement made by
the Leader of the Govern-
ment was that the sum of
\$40,000 would be raised on
debentures, and subsequently
a bill authorizing the issue of
debentures to the extent of
\$40,000 was passed through
the House. The issue of
these debentures immediately
adds \$40,000 to the debt of
the Province and adds about
\$1,600 to the annual interest
burden. But what does the
Patriot say about it? It pro-
claims to the world, in the
most brazen faced, cold blood-
ed manner that the Govern-
ment will have, this year, a
surplus of \$33,000. It simply
subtracts from the \$40,000 to
be raised by the sale of de-
bentures, the \$7,000 deficit
admitted by the Premier, and
calls the balance of the de-
benture debt a surplus. Did any
one ever hear of a more bare-
faced, misleading statement?
If an addition of \$40,000 to
the debt of the Province pro-
duces a surplus of \$33,000,
why stop at that? Why not
make the debenture issue
\$140,000, and then we would
have a surplus of \$133,000?
As a matter of fact there is no
limit to the surplus that could
be created in this manner.
According to this theory all
that is necessary to produce
a surplus, is to pass an act
through the Legislature for
that purpose. If a man
mortgages his farm for \$1,000,
and spends the money he
raises in this way, has he sur-
plus? This is the manner of
information that the Patriot
sends out regarding the pub-
lic affairs of this Province;
this is part of the game of con-
cealment and deception play-
ed by the Government, their
supporters and their press.
What do the honest yeomanry
of our Province think of it?
Do they consider a party cap-
able of descending to such tactics
worthy of further confi-
dence?

The award of Arbitrator
Schreiber in the claim of
Haney against the Dominion
Government re Hillsborough
Bridge, brings the cost of that
bridge up to a round \$1,500,000.
The first Government
estimate of cost of this struc-
ture, was half a million, and
when the work had begun
parliament was assured that
it would not cost more than
\$800,000. Now we find it
has cost almost twice the last
named amount; a round
million and a half. From
this we may understand how
the Transcontinental railway
is costing two or three times
the Government estimate. It
seems wise to multiply by
two, and safer to multiply by
three any advance statement
of the cost of any public work
undertaken by the Laurier
Government. That is how
the money goes.

In the House of Commons
on Wednesday last, Mr. Alex.
Martin, member for Queen's,
called the attention of Sir
Wilfrid Laurier to the fact
that this Province was without telegraphic communi-

cation with the mainlands in
consequence of the cable be-
ing broken. He pointed out
that this service was under
the control of the Dominion
Government and he wanted
to know what the Govern-
ment intended to do in the
matter. Sir Wilfrid said he
did not know that the Govern-
ment had any jurisdiction
in a matter of this kind and
asked Mr. Martin if he had
any suggestion to make. Mr.
Martin replied that his sug-
gestion, made some time ago,
was that we should have a
second cable. He had called
the attention of the Govern-
ment to this necessity, when
the cable was broken over a
year ago. It was now broken
again, and he repeated his
suggestion of that time, and
he hoped the Government
would act with despatch in
the matter.

The Royal Commission.

(Ottawa Citizen.)

The opening of the Royal com-
mission to enquire into the ad-
ministration of the marine depart-
ment developed a course of pro-
ceeding which fully bore out the
objections to its constitution
which were voiced by the opposi-
tion in the house of commons.
The counsel in charge of the in-
vestigation placed two of the Civil
Service commissioners in the box
and endeavored to cause them to
make personal charges against
officials of the department. The
commissioners quite properly re-
fused to do anything of the sort.
If they had wished to do that, or
if they had the requisite evidence
to convict individuals they could
have embodied it in their own
report, and all that would have
been necessary would have been
to place the individuals on trial
or dismiss them on the evidence
deduced. But the Civil Service
commission merely reported the
general condition was, in their
opinion, such as to demand in-
vestigation and reorganization.
It was the duty of the counsel ap-
pointed by the government to in-
vestigate the department and
collect the evidence to be placed
before the Royal commissioner.
Instead of that they put two of
the Civil Service commissioners in
the box and endeavored by an
inquisitorial cross-examination to
force them to lay charges against
individuals in the department. If
they had been induced to do this
they would have been placed in
the position, as already pointed
out by the Citizen, of being prose-
cutors in a case without any coun-
sel and without any guarantee
that the counsel appointed by the
government would use proper
diligence in securing the necessary
evidence to make good their
charges. If the government had
succeded to the demands of the op-
position in parliament and allowed
the appointment of counsel to
represent the commissioners, coun-
sel selected by themselves in
whom they would have confidence
that existing evidence would be
ferreted out and produced, there
would be an element of fairness
in the attitude assumed by the
counsel for the government. But
this was refused. The govern-
ment has placed the whole con-
duct of this case in the hands of
its own selected lawyers, and,
whatever may be said to the con-
trary, the interests of the Civil
Service commissioners and of the
government in the investigation
are diametrically opposed. The
commissioners have made various
charges against the administra-
tion of the marine department and
those charges are bound to reflect
upon the government. The commis-
sioners' interest lies in the
proving of these charges up to the
hilt as a justification of their re-
port. The interest of the govern-
ment lies in minimizing the force
of these charges to the vanishing
point in order that it may not
stand before the people of Can-
ada as being guilty of negligence,
misadministration and incompet-
ence in the control of one of the
chief spending departments. In
the investigation the government
is on the defensive, and it has two
lawyers to conduct its defence, in
the same manner that any coun-
sel retained looks after the inter-
ests of the client by whom he, or
they, are retained. The Civil
Service commissioners are in the
position of accusers, but they have
been deprived of counsel whose
duty it would be to gather evi-
dence and see that their charges
are made good before the Royal
commission. As the commission
has been instituted by the govern-
ment there is no counsel for

the prosecution but there are two
lawyers for the defence. Had
the Civil Service commissioners
made personal charges against in-
dividuals in the marine depart-
ment they would have to rely on
the counsel for the defence for the
production of evidence to justify
the commission and incidentally
condemn the government which
employs these lawyers. The com-
missioners have properly taken
the stand that as the constitution
of the commission points to a
white-washing performance, they
do not propose to assist in the
white-washing. They have placed
the general data in the hands
of the government, and it is up to
the government to verify that
data and bring those who are
found responsible into the im-
elight of publicity. If the govern-
ment does not see fit to do that
then the responsibility rests with
the government. When it is
borne in mind that the Civil Ser-
vice commissioners are appointees
of the government, in whom the
government naturally reposes im-
plicit confidence, it seems strange
that at the inception of the in-
vestigation they should be placed
on the stand and cross-examined
as if they were hostile witnesses.

The Civil Service.

(Montreal Gazette.)

The statements of ministers
during the debate in the House
of Commons on Thursday do not
give much hope of an early reform
in the civil service. Though some
of the departments have been
under their present political heads
for nearly twelve years, and
though only two of the ministers
may be said to be new, the revela-
tions of the report of the royal
commission and the interest ex-
cited thereby seem to have come
to them all as a matter of sur-
prise. Possibly this was not so
much that some of them did not
know what was going on as be-
cause they thought that it was
the regular thing, what was to
be expected and what would help
the party. So, when three men
of business training and instincts
told in their report how money
was being wasted and evil tradi-
tions being perpetuated, the men
responsible to Parliament did not
know what to do or say.
What they did do was as curious
and illogical a thing as could have
been conceived. They appointed
another commission to look into
one, out of over a dozen depart-
ments, apparently in the hope of
finding something that would
show the first report was not
justified. Anything more foolish
or futile it would be hard to con-
ceive. The commission did not
report much that was new. There
had been occurring all along in-
cidents to show that there was
lack of efficiency in many of the
departments. Large thefts of
money had occurred. Those who
pay attention to the reports of the
auditor-general have noted the
insolence that characterized some
of the replies to his enquiries
about expenditures. It was
not to be believed that accounts
which showed widely varying
prices paid about the same time
for the same class of merchandise
could have been approved of by
officials who were at once capable
and honest, or could have persist-
ently escaped the notice of min-
isters who sought to understand
what was going on in their depart-
ments. The report of the com-
mission was useful because it
came at a time when people's
minds were ready to think of
such matters and because it was
so framed as to force attention on
what was weak and wrong.
Everybody but the ministers
seems to undertake what should
be done, and what is wanted.
They act as if such things as were
drawn to their attention had never
been heard of at least when
connected with a demand for re-
form. Their attitude at once
shows where the chief responsibility
for the evil lies and how
hopeless it is to expect that reform
will come without a change in the
whole administration.

The Market Prices.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Butter, Eggs, Flour, Hay, etc.

LOCAL & OTHER ITEMS

Yesterday afternoon Alexander Ander-
son, a Norwegian longshoreman, was crush-
ed to death between the heavy cargo stage
and the ship on which he was working at
St. John N. B.

Tom Longboat, the famous Indian race-
runner, beat a fast trotting horse, in a race
from Hagerville to Caledonia, Ont., last
Saturday, making ten miles in 54 minutes
and thirty seconds.

The texts of two treaties passed by the
United States and Imperial Governments,
respecting international fisheries and bound-
ary questions, at issue between Canada
and the United States, were presented to
the Dominion Parliament by Sir Wilfrid
Laurier yesterday afternoon.

As a result of recent naval disasters the
British Admiralty has issued orders sus-
pending all night manœuvres by
vessels until further notice. It is under-
stood that when a full investigation of
these disasters has been completed new
instructions and rules will be issued, espe-
cially concerning the torpedo craft.

The Tagona Water, Light and Power
House of the Lake Superior Company's
Power Plant, and the Ste. Elizabeth and Paper
Mill Storeroom at Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.,
were completely destroyed by fire last
Monday night. Two men, the chief opera-
tor and his assistant lost their lives. The
loss is placed at \$150,000.

A collision occurred near Montreal a few
days ago between the steamer Ottawa and
the sailing ship Tread. Five men were
sleeping in the lower hold, right in the
steamer's bow, and without a moment's
warning, they were buried in steel plates,
driven in by the prow of the colliding ves-
sel. One of the men died without regain-
ing consciousness, and a block and tackle
had to be used by thirty men to release
the other four from the mass of twisted
steel plates which enveloped them.

On Saturday evening a fatal accident
occurred at Johnston's River. James
Dunphy, a well to do and highly respected
farmer, was engaged in building a load of
hay, which he had just sold to his son-in-
law, Mr. George Simpson. He had fasten-
ed the front end of the pole and was walk-
ing towards the rear to fasten the other
end, when the pole broke and Mr. Dunphy
fell to the ground, dislocating his neck.
He never spoke again, and was picked up
by a plow. A plow, three sons and five
daughters are left to mourn. He was 74
years of age.

The annual height of the St. Maurice
River this spring has apparently shown a
bad engineering mistake in the construc-
tion of the National Transcontinental Rail-
way in the district of La Tuque, P. Q. At
the present time several miles of the new
Transcontinental road bed are practically
direct to consumers, avoiding the Smith-
field Market tolls, as this would destroy
a navigable stream, and people are con-
sidering over the site of the new railway. One
of the contractors came into La Tuque
Saturday and reported that he had paddled
a canoe for over two miles over the rail-
road tracks, there being over two feet of
water during the entire distance.

A London despatch of the 18th inst. says:
The British meat dealers, especially those
in London, are greatly perturbed by the
Armour's scheme to compete with the meat
trade here. Mr. C. W. Bowerman, Laborer,
will, on behalf of the traders, question
Mr. Churchill, President of the Board of
Trade, in the House of Commons next
Monday as to whether he purpose taking
steps to prevent the Armour from carry-
ing out their proposal to open in London
and elsewhere retail shops to supply meat
direct to consumers, avoiding the Smith-
field Market tolls, as this would destroy
the business of English butchers, who could
not compete with American packers if the
latter were allowed to trade on such terms.

DIED

At North Bedouque on the 18th inst.,
Angus McDonald, aged 90 years. Deceased
was twice married. Of his first mar-
riage one daughter and two sons are living
and one son dead. Of his second marriage
one son, Ronald James, an ecclesiastical
student, died some years ago. Besides his
daughter and two sons, he is survived by
his widow. His funeral to Summerside
takes place today. May his soul rest in
peace.

Dissolution of Partnership.

This is to certify that the Partnership
heretofore existing between the under-
signed, carrying on business under the
style and firm of McKay Brothers & Co.
has this Third day of March, A. D. 1908,
been dissolved by mutual consent.
Dated this Third day of March, A. D.
1908.
Signed by the said
Lancelan McKay
in presence of
Catherine Martin
John W. McKay,
and by the said
Lancelan McKay,
John W. McKay,
Daniel C. McKay,
and Daniel C. Mc-
Kay, in presence
of A. H. McQuaid.

JOHN W. MCKAY,
DANIEL C. MCKAY.
April 29, 1908—31

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Mrs. Larter, Proprietress.

Will now be conducted on
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Near Corner of Queen.

Look out for the old sign,
King Edward Hotel, known
everywhere for first class ac-
commodation at reasonable
prices.
June 12, 1907.

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fort

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COAL!

We would advise cus-
tomers to order their
Coal and have it deliv-
ered before the season
gets too late, as

The Strike now on at the
Springhill Mines may
cause a scarcity and
be the means of ad-
vancing the prices.

G. Lyons & Co.

Sept. 4, 1907—31

FIRE INSURANCE.

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Mar. 22nd, 1906

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