

WEATHER FORECAST.

MARITIME PROVINCES.

Showery today, becoming much colder towards night. Temperature at 3 A. M. 40 Degrees Above Zero.

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TWELVE PAGES

THE PROVINCE IN FINE FINANCIAL SHAPE

FARMERS LISTED TO PRACTICAL ADDRESSES

Farmers' and Dairymen's Association Had Interesting Day Yesterday.

POSSIBILITIES OF PROVINCE

Agricultural and Live Stock Experts Point Out Great Chances in Horse Raising and Potato Culture.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, Mar. 19.—This afternoon the delegates to the Farmers' and Dairymen's Association meeting assembled in the heated portion of the exhibition building when Dr. J. Standish, V.S., delivered a brief address on judging of draught horses followed by an hour's instruction in the treatment of various diseases of the horse. The remarks were rendered more comprehensive by the presence of four horses which he used to illustrate his remarks. Dr. Standish pointed out that an animal should not be judged by its possibilities. The successful judge of the merit of live stock must take it as it appears, not as it has been or might be. He then touched upon some of the more common ailments of horses, showing that the very simplest cures are often most effective and that many a good animal has been lost by improper treatment.

Evening Session. The evening session of the association commenced at 8 o'clock in the city council chambers with Col. H. M. Campbell in the chair. The proceedings were opened by the president, who introduced Geo. J. Dickson of Chatham. Mr. Dickson spoke on breeding and the care of horses, recounting his own experience regarding the most suitable time of breeding and the best treatment of the foal. He particularly emphasized the value of clover hay to which he attributed much of his success. He also advised the use of the check before horses were broken to accustom to it afterwards. Morris Scovill of Gagetown read a comprehensive paper on the draught horse in New Brunswick and its prospects, pointing out that what is the check before horses were broken to accustom to it afterwards. The speaker deplored prevalence of scrub stallions and mares on mixed breeds, stating an effect of importation of Clydesdales and other thoroughbred horses was lost if crossed too freely with these varieties. In closing he advocated legislation to curtail the number of scrub sires in the province. Col. Campbell in congratulating Mr. Scovill heartily endorsed the opinion he expressed.

Potato Growing. After a brief discussion W. W. Hubbard was called upon for a few remarks on potato culture. P. DeL. Clements, who was to have spoken on the subject being unavoidably absent. Mr. Hubbard reviewed the progress made by the province in recent years in the growth of potatoes, stating that last year the province produced 2,000,000 bbls. Few countries could boast a soil so well adapted to the growth of the tuber as New Brunswick. He believed New Brunswick had reached that place where, having achieved a desirable reputation, it was essential to retain it by producing the best grade and marketing it by means of the best sources. Good cultivation of potatoes was necessary and a careful selection of fertilizer alone would ensure the best results. The commercial product had proven satisfactory but the natural fertilizer of the farm with exception of clover seed had seldom been used with success. Mr. Hubbard told of one New Brunswick farmer whose entire crop for the next five years was contracted for by Montreal concerns at a figure below the present market price, but still one to ensure him a good profit. Other producers had been able to sell their crop in advance for seed purposes. There is practically an unlimited demand for Canadian potatoes, said the speaker, and the outlook for the future of this industry if present high standard is maintained, is very bright. Rotation of crops had not only proved of great benefit to the soil of many farms but had a marked effect in the quality of the crop produced. The most effective alteration yet tried

ABILITY, NOT POLITICS, THE CHIEF POINT

Fitness for Position More Important than Party Pull in Militia Department Says Col. Hughes.

WOODSOCK JANITOR A CASE IN POINT.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, March 19.—The first business transacted this morning was the second reading of Mr. Hazen's bill to allow fishermen's gasoline boats to run without having a certificated engineer on board, and to carry freight. In the discussion Mr. Hazen announced that at the next session a considerable revision of the merchants shipping act will be undertaken. Mr. Borden promised consideration. Supply being moved Mr. Graham made a statement as to the circumstances attending the letting of the Quebec Bridge contract. He did so in consequence of certain statements in the English press. The gist of his defence was that he acted throughout wholly on the advice of the best engineers available. The House went into committee on militia estimates. Mr. Carvell brought up the dismissal of a caretaker in Woodstock, N. B. Discussing the question of this man's successor, Col. Hughes laid down his policy very explicitly. "If there are two men," he said, "one a Liberal and another a Conservative and unqualified, the Liberal gets it. If there are two men equally qualified, the Tory gets it. I never saw much advantage in being a hypocrite. If my good friend chooses to say it is politics, it is politics."

Col. Hughes added that this applied only to caretakers and posts of that sort. As regards officers there would be no politics. He further observed that the Woodstock caretaker associating as he did with young men about the drill hall, had been a very clever and effective Liberal canvasser. Caretakers must attend to their business, whether Liberals or Conservatives; if they neglected it they must be removed. Mr. MacDonald and Mr. Carvell attacked the proposal to send the cadets to camp. Col. Hughes gave a spirited defence of the large increase in the score of drinking and morality. In Toronto, he said, not one who had passed through the cadet corps has appeared in the police court.

MR. HAZEN WILL DO ALL IN HIS POWER FOR THE FISHERMEN

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Mar. 19.—The delegation from Nova Scotia opposed to the operation of steam trawlers placed their views before Hon. J. D. Hazen, minister of marine and fisheries, today. Premier Borden invited the delegation to his office where the hearing was held and listened attentively to the presentation of the case of the Nova Scotia fishermen. They were accompanied by Clarence Jameson, M. P. for Digby; Duval Stewart, M. P. for Lunenburg and F. B. McCurdy, M. P. for Shelburne-Queens, who strongly supported the views of the visiting delegation. Hon. Mr. Hazen stated that his department were looking very exhaustively into the whole question and have been in correspondence with the English government and the British ambassador at Washington with a view to arranging an international conference. He stated that everything possible would be done to protect the interests of the fishermen of the Maritime Provinces and was in hearty sympathy with the views of the delegation.

Premier Borden stated that the question would receive the sympathetic consideration of the government. The delegation were very much pleased with the reception accorded them by the government. They leave for the east Wednesday morning.

PREMIER FLEMING'S RECEPTION

Fredericton, Mar. 19.—Premier and Mrs. Fleming held a reception at the Barker House tonight and it was very largely attended and proved very enjoyable.

BUDGET SPEECH SHOWS THE EFFECT OF HONEST RULE

Hon. H. F. McLeod

Hon. H. F. McLeod Confounds Opposition Critics by Fine Showing.

EVERY BILL ADMITTED, NOTHING TO CONCEAL.

Deficit Fades Into Utter Insignificance When Compared With Splendid Attention Given to Important Public Services.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, Mar. 19.—The members of the House of Assembly had their busiest day today since House opened.

The Accounts Committee had a short session this morning and disposed of the agricultural expenditures. One item paid to The Standard had been held over for consideration until Mr. Hubbard could be questioned. Information supplied showed that a large portion of the amount paid to The Standard was to cover postage on papers sent out by order of the department. There was no further criticism and the committee adjourned to permit members to attend the Municipalities Committee, which had gone into session in the legislative chambers to consider the St. John Commission Bill. This committee remained in session all morning resuming again at eight o'clock. When the House met at three o'clock routine business was rapidly disposed of and Provincial Secretary McLeod delivered his first budget speech concluding at 5.30. Mr. Sweeney moved the adjournment of the debate and the House went into committee and passed the remaining sections of the St. John Valley Railway Bill rising at 6.30.

With the Gibson-Minto Railway and the Valley Railway bills disposed of and the budget speech delivered the business of the House is well advanced for so early in the session. Up to the present time thirty bills have been presented. The number considered during the session usually exceeds one hundred, but from general indications the number will be less this year. The passage of the Valley Railway through committee gave Mr. Copp an opportunity to make a brief campaign speech in which he claimed that the railway, or its route, was being utilized to the advantage of the large increase in public expenditure to what Mr. Copp had to say, but the Premier, who is in charge of the bill, made no reply and Mr. Copp's remarks were forgotten almost as soon as they were made.

P. E. ISLAND GRANT VERY ACCEPTABLE; FUNDS ARE SHORT

Special to The Standard. Charlottetown, P. E. I., March 19.—Premier Matheson received a despatch today from the Minister of Finance at Ottawa, stating that the Island is to receive one hundred thousand dollars additional subsidy to be granted generally on account of our claim against Canada. This winter claims were pressed by Premier Matheson and two other delegates from the provincial government on a number of grounds, one being for compensation for public domain divided amongst provinces whose boundaries were enlarged, another on account of the large increase in public expenditure for railways, etc., for which we received no benefit and for the disability we suffered through the failure of the Dominion to carry out the terms of confederation which guaranteed continuous communication, winter and summer, for this province. These have been laid before Premier Borden and his cabinet and a strong committee was appointed to look into the question. The increase of subsidy is very welcome at present as the revenue is entirely inadequate for provincial needs.

A SASKATCHEWAN GRAIN ELEVATOR GUTTED BY FIRE

Weyburn, Sask., March 19.—Fire which broke out at three o'clock this morning in the Western Elevator Company's seventy-five thousand bushel elevator here completely gutted that building, and only the effective work of the high pressure plant prevented the destruction of the Canada Pacific depot, the Massey Harris warehouse, and other elevators. A stiff wind was blowing from the north and it was touch and go. Seventy thousand bushels of wheat and flax are a total loss.



Provincial Secretary, Who Presented His First Budget Yesterday

In dealing with the Valley Railway question the opposition has displayed neither competency nor judgment. They have practically accepted the government legislation as their own, and made a feeble protest on the route of railway. It is hard to understand the position of the opposition on this important question. From the day the bill was introduced down to the present time there has been an almost continuous whine from the leader of the opposition down to his humblest follower that there was no intention of constructing that section of the railway between Centreville and Grand Falls, notwithstanding that provisions for this section are quite as clearly defined in the act as those for the construction of any other section.

UNHAPPY MR. COPP

When Mr. Copp was announced as leader of the opposition in the latter part of December the country was informed that he would be an aggressive leader and that the government was in mortal terror of his personality. The House has been in session for nearly two weeks and Mr. Copp has had ample opportunity to display his aggressiveness but up to the present date the House is still waiting for the aggressive Mr. Copp to be converted into a bond issue and added to the permanent debt. Mr. McLeod explained in clear, concise language how the debt had been added to from year to year for public works expenditures which should have been charged to current revenue, and then, turning suddenly to revenues of the provinces, showed by comparison how an honest collection of revenues placed the government in a position to pay the debt.

A FEDERAL SUBSIDY FOR VALLEY ROAD

St. John Valley Railway Included in Dominion Government Subsidies Announced in Ottawa Last Night.

AID TO OTHER ROADS IN THE PROVINCES.

Ottawa, Mar. 19.—The new government's first budget of transportation aid in the form of railway and bridge subsidies was brought down tonight and it amounts to \$23,927,200. Subsidies provided for 3,433 miles of railway, the construction of which at the maximum aid of \$6,400 a mile, will involve government aid amounting to \$21,971,200. The aid of bridges total \$956,000.

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More Money Used, But Every Dollar Was Honestly Expended.

SERVICES PROVIDED FOR BY REVENUES.

Estimates for 1912 Contain Larger Grants for Education and Agriculture — People's Money Applied to Benefit the People.

after the House opened and was not on hand today when the budget speech was delivered. Mr. Robinson is about the only man in the opposition who has an intelligent knowledge of the public accounts of the province and his absence today cannot be taken as anything else but a distinct throw-down for the new leader.

Just what Mr. Sweeney meant when he moved the adjournment of the debate on the address and failed to return to keep his appointment with the House, has not yet been clearly explained but this did not alter the fact that Mr. Copp was placed in a very awkward position by the failure of his colleague to be on hand at the appointed time. That the House had not forgotten the Sweeney episode was evidenced this afternoon when he moved the adjournment of the debate on the budget, one member calling across the house: "Will you be there?" The reply Mr. Sweeney made was not a pleasant one and he stated that he was not in good temper.

AN ABLE SPEECH.

Hon. Mr. McLeod's budget speech was an able exposition of the financial position of the province and the provincial finances are in a bad way because there was an over expenditure last year of \$56,000, a deficit so small as to be unnoticeable in comparison to that of the previous administration which, although always claiming a surplus, had invariably closed each fiscal year with a deficit which was hidden away in a suspense account until it became large enough to be converted into a bond issue and added to the permanent debt. Mr. McLeod explained in clear, concise language how the debt had been added to from year to year for public works expenditures which should have been charged to current revenue, and then, turning suddenly to revenues of the provinces, showed by comparison how an honest collection of revenues placed the government in a position to pay the debt.

SERIOUS FIRE IN RICHIBUCTO; HOTEL BURNED

Special to The Standard. Moncton, Mar. 19.—Fire in Richibucto tonight totally destroyed the Kent Hotel, and outbuildings and barns with most of the contents. Two horses and a cow were burned to death in the barn. The hotel was owned by A. E. O'Leary and occupied by Isaac Richard. The loss is about \$4,000, supposed to be partly covered by insurance, but the amount is not known. A couple of small barns were also destroyed and the Forbes store though slightly damaged, was saved through the exertion of citizens.

HEAVY DAMAGE DONE BY MICHIGAN FLOODS.

Detroit, Mich., March 19.—Floods resulting from the sudden and rapid melting of the heavy snow which fell last week have caused damage estimated at \$75,000 in the eastern part of Detroit. Sewers were inadequate to carry away the excess water.

through Bellefleur to Eastern Harbor, 3 miles. To the Southampton Railway Company from Millville to Pokok Bridge on the St. John River, 13 miles. To the Northern New Brunswick and Seaboard Railway Company, from Drummond Mines, Gloucester county, to the Intercolonial Railway between Aiston Point or Caspion Point, Bathurst harbor, 26 miles. To the North Shore Railway Company, for the following lines: (a) from Adamsville, Kent county to Snowshoe Lake, connecting with the Grand Trunk Pacific, 20 miles; (b) from Beesville, via Rexton, to Richibucto Head, 20 miles. For a line of railway from Albert Mines via Hillsboro to Moncton, 22 miles. To the Quebec Central Railway Co. for the following lines: (a) for an extension from a point 30 miles from St. George in Dorchester county to a point in the parish of St. Sabine, County of Bellefleur, 134 miles; (b) for an extension from St. Sabine to Dionne County of L'Islet, 50 miles.

SLIGHT CHANGES IN COMMISSION BILL

MINIMUM WAGE BILL IN COMMONS

Premier of Great Britain Backs Measure Designed to Bring British Coal Strike to Speedy Conclusion.

WILL LIKELY GO TO LORDS SATURDAY.

London, Mar. 19.—The coal mines minimum wage bill designed to put an end to the coal strike passed its first reading in the House of Commons tonight. The bill is backed by Premier Asquith, Foreign Secretary Grey, Chancellor Lloyd George, and Sydney Duxton, president of the board of trade.

It consists of six clauses and a schedule defining 21 districts, the country being divided for the purposes of the bill. As outlined by the prime minister the bill provides for a reasonable minimum wage for the miners and safeguards for the owners, these to be arranged by district boards. The minimum will be paid from the date of resumption of work. The enactment is for three years.

The bill was introduced by Premier Asquith. He said that it was with great and unfeigned reluctance that he introduced it; but the introduction of such a bill, and the passage by parliament of a measure so completely imperative in the best interests of the country. The government had resorted to legislation only when all hope of settlement or agreement had disappeared, and when the necessity, in the general interest, of putting a speedy end to the stoppage of the coal industry became a matter of paramount urgency. They were driven to legislation, therefore, they held that the only kind of legislation which they were justified in proposing was legislation directed to a particular purpose and not going beyond it. There would be no longer any doubt as to the principle of the minimum wage. No longer any difficulty with good sense and fairness in the settling of the various grades. That was all they could do.

Previous to introducing the bill Premier Asquith announced that on Friday the allocated coal bill and promoters conciliation bill would be taken up and that the debate on women's enfranchisement would be given at an early date. He expressed the hope that the House of Commons would on Saturday, as it was urgent that the bill should be passed early this week. He announced that the budget would be taken on April 2nd.

DEATH OF WELL KNOWN I. C. R. OFFICIAL AT HIS HOME IN MONCTON

George Seaman, for Many Years Trackmaster, Passed Away Last Night After Lengthy Illness.

Special to The Standard. Moncton, March 19.—George Seaman, for many years trackmaster on the I. C. R. between St. John and Moncton, and one of the best known officials in the service, died at his home here shortly before midnight after a lingering illness, aged 69.

The deceased had been in the railway service for over forty years and for a time was located at Sussex. He was a native of Moncton and is survived by a widow, two sons and two daughters, all residents here. The late Mr. Seaman took an active interest in civic affairs and served at the city council board for two years. He retired from the railway service about four years ago owing to illness.

WILL BE BURIED IN PARRBORO.

Special to The Standard. St. Stephen, Mar. 19.—The remains of Mrs. Georgia Upham, relict of Nathaniel Upham of Parrboro, who passed away last evening at the home of her son, J. Aubrey Upham, were taken to Parrboro this evening for interment. Her demise followed a brief illness from pneumonia. She was 64 years of age and a lady of most estimable qualities. She leaves three sons, J. Aubrey of St. Stephen, George M. of Indian Head, Saskatchewan, and Harold of St. John, and one daughter, Beattie G., wife of Rev. H. J. Johnston of Port Dover, Ont.

Municipalities Committee Engaged Until Midnight On New Charter

THE CARLETON FERRY RATES

Section Will Probably be Added to Bill in Compliance With Petition for Return to Old Rate—Other Features Discussed

(See also page 10.)

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, Mar. 19.—The municipalities committee was engaged today in considering the new charter proposed for the city of St. John under the system of government by commission and it was late before they had finished with it. The bill was supported by a number of citizens and sections of it were opposed by as many more. It will probably be reported to the House tomorrow by the committee, but the second reading of the bill will not take place immediately.

The delegation from the Trades and Labor Council which appeared before the committee in the morning in support of their amendments to the legislation, was not present at the evening session, having returned home by the nine o'clock train. The representatives of the citizens' committee remained for the discussion of the different sections of the bill. A few minor amendments were made but the bill has not yet been passed by its material provisions and will go before the House probably as it left the citizens' committee with two or three exceptions. It is unlikely that any change will be made in the public health act regarding the composition of the St. John Board of Health. As the provisions of the bill place the Board of Health entirely under the control of the commission this section will most likely be eliminated. Another section which met with a similar fate is that of fixing the appointment of the chief of police with the commission. This officer is now appointed by the provincial government.

At the evening hearing section 13, vesting the appointment of recorder and chief of police in the common council was taken up. Recorder Baxter opposed the clause and spoke generally on the bill. He said there was no doubt many were strongly in favor of commission simply on the ground of making a clean sweep of all civil officials. He did not think that any change should be made in the case of the chief of police, who had done his work well. If any change were made against the chief the government would investigate but he did not think that such an appointment should be in the hands of the will of the commission. As for his own position it made no difference, for if he gave up the recordership, he was not afraid to go into the open field. Mr. Asar thought the bill had no idea of dismissing the chief of recorders, but the section was framed in order to give the commission power to make any appointment if a vacancy occurred. He thought the Chief was a good officer, and he didn't think he would be removed, but any power should be vested in the council to dismiss if anything went wrong. Mr. Baxter—"Perhaps supporters of the bill would like to have the appointment of the police magistrate placed in the hands of the council. All know that the best of harmony did not prevail between the Magistrate and the Chief, and some thought by giving power to dismiss the Chief that harmony might prevail." Mr. Belyea replied to Mr. Baxter and spoke highly in favor of the recorder and Chief, but the party which paid the man should have the power of appointment. Mr. Schofield supported Mr. Belyea's view and did not think the Recorder or Chief should be placed in a different position from any other employe. Col. Armstrong thought the principal of the section was correct in that it should not apply to present incumbents. The section was allowed to stand.

Heads of Departments. Section 20 conferring power on non-elective heads of departments brought forth a strong protest from Hon. Mr. Maxwell, and he said he had been asked by many of the Citizens' Committee to oppose its adoption. The commission would be greatly handicapped in its work by the action of non-elective head. A non-elective head, he claimed, was given too much power at the expense of the commissioner. This section utilised the commissioner and takes from him control of his department.

Continued on Page 2.