

The Standard



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SAINT JOHN, MONDAY MORNING, MAY 2, 1910.

PROVIDENCE A CANADIAN WINTER PORT.

The facts given by C. A. McGrath, member for Medicine Hat, concerning the Grand Trunk projects at Providence, will be interesting reading in this neighborhood. It will be seen that the statements made in Rhode Island had the authority of no less important and responsible persons than the president and first vice-president of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. They say that no other port, from Nova Scotia to Providence, suits their purpose so well. While they mention Montreal and Portland as alternative ports, they do not even suggest that they mean to do business at St. John. These are the persons who undertake to spend many millions of Grand Trunk capital to get access to Providence. They promise to establish lines of winter steamships to connect with this terminus. They point to the Grand Trunk Pacific line in the west as the source of this export traffic.

The Grand Trunk and the Grand Trunk Pacific are the same system. The former company owns all the common stock of the latter. As Mr. Fielding has said the Grand Trunk is not only in the Grand Trunk Pacific "it is the whole thing." Now in the light of these facts, let it be noted that Mr. Hays and Mr. Fitzhugh, of the Grand Trunk and Grand Trunk Pacific Railways, are the first persons mentioned in the bill incorporating the company which is building to Providence. In this light let the statement of Mr. Hays and Mr. Lord be carefully read. Then if Mr. Graham refuses to take the situation seriously, how will it be taken by those more interested than Mr. Graham in this matter?

Mr. Borden points out that the people of the Maritime Provinces alone are contributing \$30,000,000 or \$40,000,000 toward the cost of the Grand Trunk Pacific. There is actually no safeguard in the contract to protect the eastern provinces from the transfer of the western province to the old Grand Trunk at lake ports. There is no undertaking by the old Grand Trunk that goods so transferred will be shipped at Canadian ports. The most that Mr. Graham can say is that the Grand Trunk Pacific Company has bought land in St. John. If it is true that the company has made a safe investment of \$20,000, or \$25,000 at this port, that does not count for much beside the expenditure of \$10,000,000 allotted for the extension to Providence and terminals there.

AN INHARMONIOUS NOTE.

Mr. H. H. Dewar, K. C., is one of the foremost Liberal fighters of the Toronto district. In some recent elections he has been a candidate, and in all recent campaigns he has been among the leaders. When Mr. Dewar makes complaint of the management of the Liberal party, and reflects upon federal ministers, he speaks with some authority. Mr. Dewar has written a long letter to the Toronto Globe.

He says, among other things:—"The Liberal party in Ontario . . . is lamentably weak in organization."

"The responsibility . . . must be laid at the door of those ministers of the crown who have failed to direct the directing power."

"It is a notorious fact that in the campaign of 1908 'there was not a solitary minister in Ontario, west of Brockville, who was of the least value to the Liberal organization as an informing, energizing or directing force.'"

"We have suffered and are suffering as a party because the minister who is supposed to represent this 'district' is not a political force, or even a factor in 'organization.'"

"Every party man has the right to ask why the 'Minister of Justice does not give effective party service.'"

There is much more of this kind, reflecting on the value of Sir Richard Cartwright, Mr. Paterson, and Mr. Aylesworth, the "minister supposed to represent this 'district.'" Mr. Dewar points out that Sir John A. Macdonald made the mistake of retaining weaklings in his cabinet, and warns Sir Wilfrid to avoid this mistake. He says that he has hesitated long before saying these things, "but somebody should speak out even at the risk of incurring hostile criticism."

CONCERNING TESTIMONIALS.

There is likely to be some uneasiness in Liberal circles over Mr. Fielding's acceptance of a gift of \$120,000 from persons whose names are not disclosed, and who are said to be not known to Mr. Fielding himself. It is clear that the Minister of Finance ought to know who contributed this money. On this point we have a declaration of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in reference to a comparatively small gift to the late Sir Hector Langevin in 1891. It had been stated that Sir Hector did not know the names of the friends who contributed toward the silver service presented to him. Respecting this Sir Wilfrid Laurier said:—

"If he did not know it was because he chose to remain ignorant of the names on the list, and IF HE 'CHOSE TO BE IGNORANT OF THE NAMES ON THE LIST,' IS IT NOT BECAUSE HIS MORAL SENSE TOLD HIM THAT HE MIGHT THERE FIND NAMES OF 'PERSONS GIVING CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH SHOULD NOT BE ACCEPTED AT ALL?'"

Sir Wilfrid is Mr. Fielding's leader and colleague, and has marked out his own duty in the present case.

Sir Richard Cartwright is also a colleague of Mr. Fielding. This is what Sir Richard had to say in 1891 of the statement that Sir Hector did not know who paid for his present.

"Such a plea, in my judgment, is a DIRECT AGGRAVATION OF THE OFFENCE. A public minister has 'no right whatever to allow any gift to be made to him

"unless it is done publicly, and unless he knows from what source it proceeds; and, so, I would say this, that if a minister of the Crown tells me that he has accepted a gift, not knowing, and not choosing to know, from whom it proceeded, SO FAR FROM REGARDING SUCH A PLEA AS A MITIGATION, I SAY THAT SUCH A PLEA RAISES A PRESUMPTION OF GUILT. It was 'his duty to know it; it was his duty to find out; it was 'his duty to see that not one penny went INTO HIS POCKETS OR INTO HIS COFFERS UNLESS IT CAME FROM SUCH SOURCES THAT HE 'COULD HONORABLY AND FAIRLY RECEIVE IT.'"

Furthermore Sir Richard strongly and fiercely condemns the acceptance of gifts by a minister, even when he knows the donors have no business relations with the treasury. Note these words:—

"Ministers should not take gifts. Surely if there is any one maxim in political ethics better established than another, if there is any one thing that ought to commend itself to every honest man of every party, it is that under no circumstances should a minister of 'State permit himself to accept gifts, either directly or indirectly, while he continues in office. Least of all should he accept them from public servants or from men employed in carrying out contracts of any kind.'"

"If a man's political supporters do really desire to testify their admiration by making him a gift of money, let them wait till he is out of office, and then subscribe 'to their heart's content.'"

Now what has Sir Wilfrid to say about the acceptance of his colleague of \$120,000? We know that Sir Wilfrid has approved for he was present when the gift was handed in and expressed his satisfaction.

SEARCHING OF HEARTS.

Our Ottawa correspondent says that the Fielding testimonial will probably be discussed in the Commons today. There is a general personal good feeling toward Mr. Fielding, and the principal reason is that he is believed to have made no profit out of his official position, while he is a man of generous and unselfish nature. But it becomes apparent that so large a sum of money would not be raised without contributions from some of the interests dealing with the treasury. Iron, steel, lead and oil interests are now receiving bounties, and will ask for extensions. Railway companies have close relations with the treasury in many ways. Contractors would be only too willing to place the Minister of Finance under obligation to them. The Minister of Finance has transactions with all the banks, all the importers and many of the manufacturers. The government is the largest purchaser of commodities in this country. It is one of the largest transportation agencies. It has the largest official staff, and largest force of employees. In view of Mr. Fielding's relations with all these varied interests, it would be well for his friends to consider the emphatic opinion of Sir Richard Cartwright that it would be time enough to make him a present when he has given up his office. The best test of the genuineness of the friendship behind this offering would be the contribution of the same or a larger amount to Mr. Fielding when he ceases to be a minister.

A SAWDUST SPEECH.

A full report of Mr. Pugsley's Sawdust wharf speech has appeared in the Telegraph following a still longer report of Mr. Carvell's argument, the whole filling a good many pages. When all is read no good reason is found why Mr. Pugsley should pay \$5,000 for a wharf which was in the market at \$700, and which the government had refused to buy even at that price. All these words of the minister conceal the thought and the fact that the wharf was bought, not because the government wanted it, but because it furnished a method of giving a middleman \$4,300 out of the public treasury. The whole deal was a \$4,300 donation of public money at campaign time. Everybody knows it, and the more Mr. Pugsley tries to cover up the essential facts the more certain it is that escape is impossible. It was "important to be blank" that this deal should be put through before the election. It is important to Pugsley that the scandal should be whitewashed. But this is not a thing which can be covered by the vote of a party majority.

Mr. H. H. Dewar, the stalwart Toronto Liberal, after pointing out the weakness and ineffectiveness of Sir Richard Cartwright, Mr. Paterson and Mr. Aylesworth as political forces, offers the following warning:—"The history of Canada ever since Confederation is not without its political lessons. Sir John Macdonald retained weaklings in his cabinet that no party could 'successfully carry after his decease. Even strong men in the province of Ontario made the fatal mistake of failing to introduce much-needed new blood in time to avert a fatal ending. Politics, after all, should be like any other business in life. It is imperative that 'the fittest should survive.'"

The Monitor Transcript says that Mr. Borden is virtually responsible for the opinions expressed by Mr. Monk and Mr. Blondin concerning Canadian assistance in Imperial defence until he repudiates their contentions. Seeing that Mr. Borden has clearly set forth his own views in a speech, and in a motion, and has voted against Mr. Monk's resolution, he would seem to have pretty well cleared himself of responsibility. Sir Wilfrid is more clearly responsible for the views of Senator Choquette, because the senator learned them from Sir Wilfrid.

The selection of the southern end of the St. John peninsula for a dry dock would be something of a surprise, but it would not take the public long to see that the dock constructed there, with adequate protection from the sea, would have a commanding position. The site would be excavated from solid rock ledges, but the passage from deep water would be short and direct. There is a good deal of space for shipbuilding operations in the vicinity.

General Grant and Colonel Roosevelt are the two American ex-presidents who have made spectacular European tours. These statements differ in one particular. General Grant was known as a silent man. It was hard to get him to speak in public, and when he did his address was usually about three sentences long.

Senator Ross of Nova Scotia, now in his eighty-sixth year, made a speech on the navy bill last week. He gave the information that the confederation bill was carried through the Nova Scotia legislature by bribery, and had begun to prove that the Fenian raid was organized by the promoters of union, when some of his colleagues raised the question of relevancy.

A great deal of publicity was given to the trial of Albert Walter in New York for the murder of Ruth Wheeler. It is a pitiful sort of story, but has this redeeming feature that the trial was over and the man convicted and sentenced within a month of the time of the girl's disappearance. This is so different.

One reason given for the \$120,000 donation to Mr. Fielding is that he has held office a good many years without getting rich out of his position. Are we to expect other testimonials to cabinet ministers, or is the list of eligibles exhausted?

THE STANDARD, MONDAY, MAY 2, 1910.

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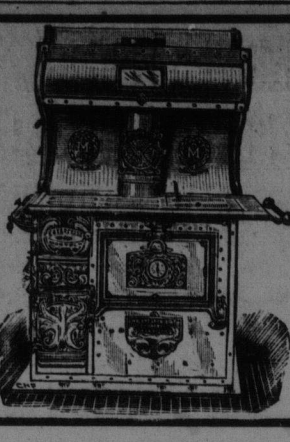
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The beautiful bars of a long-lost hymn,
The delicate notes of a song we sung
When love was merry and life was young;
There comes from the past we have put away
The thoughts and visions of Childhood's day.
And out of the mist of the borderland
There comes the touch of a vanished hand.
Again we gather with laughter and glee
The pearls that glitter by Memory's sea,
And over the breakers and through foam,
Gallantly sailing our ships come home—
Freighted with gems that 'out-shine the spray,
From love's best port in the heart's Cathay;
And thus we dream in life's twilight land
Of argosies fair and a vanished hand.
The world recedes like a shifting scene,
But the old song clings like the ivy green
To the heart it filled with a music low,
In the beautiful, mystical Long Ago;
And ever we see the fingers white
That swept the keys some cherished
When, soothed by their music soft and grand,
We had no thought of a vanished hand.
Into our lives own twilight sweet



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Rankine, Fairfield, N. B.: Mrs. J. H. Duncan, St. John, and Mrs. Annie S. Currie who resides here with her mother. The many friends of this afflicted family deeply sympathize with them, as this is the first death in this family.

Rev. James McCune is expected here next Sunday, May 1st, and will occupy the pulpit of the Reformed Presbyterian church at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. every Sunday for the next year, he having received a call signed by all the members of this congregation.

Mr. William Irvin, student, is expected here in a short time, he having been recently appointed by the Presbyterian board to labor in this place for the summer months.

Mrs. A. Rankin, of Fairfield, spent a few days last week with her mother, Mrs. J. R. Lawson.

WOODSTOCK.

Woodstock, April 29.—There died recently at Love's Hotel, Glassville, Charles Connors, a native of St. John, aged 60 years. Interment in Glassville cemetery.

Lee McLellan, of Oakville, J. E. Long of Long Settlement, and J. A. Good, of Good Corner, were in town today.

Leo A. Miller, of Lineville, Henry McCain and George B. Watson, of Jacksonville, were here yesterday.

H. G. Noble, traveller for the Maritime Provinces for Baird Co., was here yesterday.

Rev. G. D. Ireland, who is in Halifax, is expected home tonight to act as chairman at a public meeting to be held tomorrow afternoon in the council chamber to talk over improving the sanitary conditions, and otherwise improve the appearance of the town.

Colin King, of Burden & King, who is sick at the Montreal hospital, is in town today and has made an arrangement with the town council to place on trial a steam roller and crusher for permanent streets, with a competent man in charge, and if the work is satisfactory a sale will likely be made.

Herb. Tompkins, of South Newbury, who has been ill for some weeks with stomach trouble, was able to visit the town today.

J. A. F. Gordon has returned from a business visit to St. John.

WATERBOROUGH.

Waterborough, Q. Co., April 25.—Service was held in St. Luke's church yesterday morning at 10.30 a. m., by Rev. G. E. Tobin, assisted by the Rev. Canon Smithers.

The high water wharf at Young's Cove is at last completed and it is a very great improvement over the scow which had to be used in former years.

A number of the young men of this place left to go stream driving. They are going up to Quebec.

Mrs. John McCaw and daughter Florence left by this morning's boat for Fredericton.

Mr. George, Gale has gone to St. John for a few days.

Mrs. E. Slocum left for St. John on a business trip.

Miss Sarah Snodgrass of St. John

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MODE

Rev. A. Positivity
—An

At the Baptist Church, B. Cohoe, after the departure of the congregation to him at the knowledge of their homes. In his far gave an eloquent reasons of I. "And when, saying the for He spoke authority and "One of the of the thought "is to criticism. Yet men ticism into and extreme heart is wrung gazes upon seem so im God who co universe, an to fellowship future state, only and di come back child. Some mands a be God and H afflictions of Demand

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KIRK BR OPER

The Boston bring Kirk of St. John car loaded slons arrive working str will comm with a beat the famous lege play of Tomorrow evening Mr one of his noted Robe mates." By vard will be Wednesday, bring the Red Robe, introduce a audience five chant of V evening sele day matinee drama "The day evening

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Main 268-42
Main 1959-21
Main 1715-12
Main 113-21
Main 603-12
Main 659
Main 1823-22
West 42-11
Main 1979
Main 1767-11
West 101-21
Main 727-11
Main 357-21
West 37-21
Main 1731-22
April 30th, 1