

### HON. MR. BAXTER CHOSEN LEADER OF OPPOSITION

#### Mr. Murray's Resignation as Head of Party is Accepted by Convention.

#### GOVERNMENT VERY EXTRAVAGANT CHARGE

#### Course of the Liberals is Reviewed in Eloquent Speech by the New Leader.

(Continued from page one.)

R. B. Hanson, Fredericton, said he expressed not only his own regret, but also the regret of every person present at learning Mr. Murray's decision to retire. All who had followed Mr. Murray's career in the House would recognize how much he had done for the party and for the good of the province at large. As he had expressed the wish to retire there was nothing left but to accept his resignation, and he therefore moved that it be accepted with the deepest regret. The motion was duly accepted and carried.

The chairman then announced that Mr. Murray's resignation had been accepted. The meeting was now opened for the nomination of his successor. E. Y. Messersmith, of Chatham, said he had much pleasure in putting forward the name of a gentleman on whom every person in the room had the utmost confidence. He was a gentleman who had already rendered distinguished service to the party, and who would, he felt sure, make a most acceptable leader. He proposed the Hon. J. B. M. Baxter for leadership of the Opposition. Major Smith seconded the motion.

See Other Leaders.

Patrick McMurray said that while he personally was in favor of Mr. Baxter, he thought opportunity should be given anyone else who might have a name to bring forward before nominations were closed.

R. M. Rive, of Moncton, moved that Col. E. B. Black, of Sackville, be the new leader.

E. R. Richard said that before the name of anyone was put up for nomination it should be ascertained if the person would be willing to accept the position. Inquiries were made of Col. Black, who was in the room, and when it was found that he was not a messenger went out to find him, and the business of the convention was suspended for the time.

Dr. Baxter said that the period of waiting might be usefully employed by calling on a gentleman whom they did not often hear to speak, and he moved that Commodore Stewart, of Chatham, be asked to address the meeting.

Commodore Stewart.

Mr. Stewart then took the platform and in response said that he could not truthfully say that he thanked Mr. Baxter for the publicity given him because he came to hear and not to speak. Personally he was out of the political game, but he still felt a keen interest in his party's welfare, and he was always ready to do all he could to advance its interests and get a better government. Personally he felt that no set of men could ever deserve more opposition than did the present government. Their extravagance had been such as to pass all the limits of imagination. They had piled on an enormous increase in the public debt and had displayed such a lack of business intelligence as rendered them utterly unfit for their position. The election has been called somewhat hurriedly and nothing very much has been done in his own county of Northumberland. There were lots of good men to be found, but they all appear to be holding back. Northumberland men were notorious for their political modesty.

North Shore Critical.

As far as he had been able to find out the general feeling on the North Shore was that things were not as they should be at Fredericton, and that a new administration was sadly needed. He was very glad to see so many of the party present and to note the enthusiasm which prevailed, as it showed the great amount of interest taken in the situation. He hoped the

meeting would be productive of good results and that when polling day was over it would be found that the new leader of the Opposition had returned to power with a good majority behind him.

Mr. A. D. Hogeke here announced that he had just met Colonel Black and he had not sought it or made any attempt, either directly or indirectly to get it. He might be permitted to say that it was with feelings of considerable sadness that he accepted the leadership because it involved the retirement of a warm personal friend for whom he had always had the highest esteem and regard.

The remarks which Mr. Murray had made ought to weigh heavily in the minds of all those present, and of all those who had taken interest in the affairs of the country. He felt that it was a sad thing when a man is unable to devote his time to public duties because of necessity which exists for earning his livings, and that some way could be found by which public men can be relieved of the burden of earning for earthly necessities it would not be possible to eat the best men.

Election Changes Needed.

Before taking up consideration of the present situation he would like to say that there were some things which needed revising in connection with elections. For instance, there was the list of voters of which not a single copy was available for the use of the Opposition or the public generally. Every copy in existence had been secured by the government, which through the facilities at their command were able to do this. The present government party called itself the Liberal party, and this practice was a part of the machinery which the so-called Liberal party employed in the hope of getting ahead of their opponents. Such tactics, however, were not in the long run. A free ballot list should be provided so that every one could obtain copies. It was one of the fundamental principles of a constitutional government that all parties should be equally represented, and there should be equal rights for all.

In the course of the campaign the Government's record would be fully dealt with and he would not enter into it in any detail. There were, however, just a few things which would touch, which would form the basis for further remarks in the course of the campaign. Government Extravagance. First of all there was the Government's extravagance. He might himself be thought a little old-fashioned, perhaps, but he had been brought up in a somewhat narrow school, and the same, however, he felt that the teachings of that school were not out of date by any means. No Government, any more than any individual, could exceed their income. It is all right to spend money as long as you had it, but the man or Government who spends money they haven't got must sooner or later find themselves in trouble. The party to which he belonged were not opposed to good roads as some of their opponents present had made out. Before the late Government went out of office it had embarked upon a new road policy which was also a very sound one. They saw the need for good roads, and they felt that they should have roads that would last at least for the lifetime of the bonds which would have to be issued to provide the money to pay for them. It is not a question of how much you can spend but how much can be spent wisely and it is quite correct to borrow money to buy permanent things, but for ordinary services the ordinary revenue should bear a much greater portion of the expense than was the case at the present time, before the people were asked to burden themselves with additional bonds.

How To Increase Revenue.

The question must be considered how far was it possible to increase the public revenue without unduly pressing upon the people. There were many cases in which the revenue

might have been increased but the Government was so scared of offending some of its friends that they had preferred to let the revenues go and issue bonds to provide the necessary funds. Moreover the money that they had expended had not been spent with a reasonable regard to economy. Money had been easily obtained and it had been thrown about in all quarters and nothing substantial or lasting had been obtained in return.

Another thing with regard to the present Government was that it was top heavy. There were too many members and several of the departments might possibly be amalgamated. If the present Opposition should be returned to power that would be their policy and he thought it was a policy which would be approved of by the electors. As to the present Government's general administration of affairs, he had often heard it said across the floors of the House that the gentlemen occupying the Government benches were Liberals who held Liberal principles.

Opposition Favored Women

If Liberal meant the same as lavish he was inclined to agree, for lavish they certainly were, both in their expenditures and in their promises. They were Liberals and he showed their liberalism they point to the fact that it was under their auspices the franchise was extended to women. He might point out that the proposal to extend the franchise to women came from the Opposition side of the House. Mr. Murray having moved a resolution that it was desirable in view of the great part women had taken in war services that they should have a vote. When however a bill was brought in to give effect to the resolution, before even the Bill had been read, the Liberal Premier jumped to his feet and said he would not allow the Governor to give his sanction to it. Then later on when the Government found the pressure of public opinion too much for them they tardily recognized the right of the women and brought in their bill. It seemed as though the Government were afraid of the women's vote and well they might be.

Not Real Liberals

Then again, they contend that constitutional government has been developed by the Liberal party. In England that was probably true. One of the great principles of constitutional government is that all people have a right to be represented. In the time of the late Government it was no longer true that several vacancies in the House were allowed to exist for a longer period than perhaps was necessary. At that time the war was demanding all the attention of the people and it was no time to worry with political elections. Besides, at the time the Government majority was such that even had all the vacancies been filled by Opposition members it would have made no difference whatever to the balance of power. But how different was the case of the present Government. Before the House met in its first session after the last election one of the members for Carleton, Mr. White, died, and notwithstanding the Government's boast of its Liberal principles and great regard for constitutional authority, Carleton had been left for four sessions with only two-thirds of its proper representation. Was the Government so afraid of what the electors of Carleton would do to them that they deprived them for so many years of their constitutional rights? The Government's fear of Liberalism was so afraid of what the electors of Carleton would do to them that they deprived them for so many years of their constitutional rights? The Government's fear of Liberalism was so afraid of what the electors of Carleton would do to them that they deprived them for so many years of their constitutional rights?

Department of Health

Then there is the matter of the Department of Health. No reasonable man or woman is going to deny that the preservation of the public health is the most important matter of the day. Good health is an asset but there was no necessity whatever to create a top heavy department to satisfy the vanity of one particular member of the Government. Should the Opposition be returned to power they certainly would not abolish the Act, but would make such changes in it as would put some common sense into its administration, and run it for the public good and not for the glory of one individual.

The people have been taxed for patriotic purposes and the tax has been a pretty heavy one. However, so long as it was for patriotic purposes the people did not mind, but so great was the necessity of the present government that they had taken a good slice off the amount collected and used it to pay their ordinary debt. This was no imagination. It was the actual admitted record of the government.

Still Inexperienced.

In the time of the late government it was urged that time should be given to properly consider measures

brought down to the House, and when the present government came into power it was widely heralded that they were going to have a business-man's administration. In the first year the Opposition had not unduly criticized because they recognized that the government members were new to their jobs, as well as inexperienced. But that was not the case in the last session of the House by which time they should have gained experience enough to learn to conduct their business properly. In the last session the greater number of the important measures that were brought down were brought down at the eleventh hour and fifty-ninth minute previous to the end of the session. Bill after bill was brought in and hurried through without any intelligent or proper consideration of the merits of the proposals. There was no time, and among these bills was the famous water power bill. So outrageous did the practice become that he (Baxter) had stated from his place that they had better pass these bills as they stood without reading them. And stood without reading them, a business government.

Always a Commission.

They seem to be able to do nothing without first appointing a commission to consider what they should do. The first thing they did after coming into power was to appoint a commission into the public accounts of the province under the late government. They employed a firm of chartered accountants who after exhaustive investigation failed to find one single mistake in the whole accounts. When they proceeded to adopt a new system of bookkeeping for themselves and the result has been that under the new system there are no single items can be found to their credit, and the balance sheet, as put out by them, and the accounts from which the balance sheet is made up, the old government was reprobated for having one deficit. This present government has been in power three years and has three deficits, and the time comes when they will have to own up to a fourth.

The Premier's Manifesto.

Premier Foster's manifesto refers to the many wonderful things his government has accomplished for the province. Among these is the Workmen's Compensation Act. The whole question of workmen's compensation had been under consideration by the late government for years. At the time Mr. Hazen came into office the law on the subject was very unsatisfactory and he put through a bill making many improvements. This bill was further improved from time to time as occasion required during the last year of the late government the whole question was gone into and a commission appointed to study it and bring recommendations to the government. The workmen of this province might thank the Clarke administration, not the Foster administration, for the Compensation Act which is now on the statute books. The Act was administered by the government's friends who needed easy jobs found for them. The Act could be administered and if the Opposition were returned to power would be administered for half, or at least a third of the amount it did, and any saving that might be made would be given to the men and their dependents who needed the money.

Prohibition Measure.

Then there was the matter of Prohibition. For years the prohibitory law had been talked about and asked for by a certain section of the people. Members on both sides of politics were in favor of it, but each side preferred that it should be brought in by the other. He (Mr. Baxter) as Attorney-General was asked to bring the bill in, and he did so, and so scared were some of those in favor of it that he would put some joker in the deal that he had submitted to Mr. W. P. Jones, K.C. Such a thing was a bitter test for him (Baxter) but the bill stood the test and showed that only a man who was honest in his convictions could have carried it through. But how did the government stand on the Prohibition Bill last session. When they were asked to pass a resolution against the importation of liquor into the province they shirked it.

Some Things Promised.

If elected the Opposition would carry through a hydro-electric scheme, but it would not be done through the instrumentality of a commission. There would be no making soft jobs for the government's friends and ad-

### FIND MORE OF PONZI'S MONEY

Boston, Sept. 23.—The receivers of Charles Ponzi today announced to the federal court the location of \$33,999 of alleged hidden assets of his defunct Securities Exchange Company, and Judge Morton issued an order to John S. Dondero, H. L. Mahoney, and H. F. N. Nielson to show cause why the money, deposited to their joint credit at the Hanover Trust Company should not be used to meet the claims of Ponzi's creditors. Mahoney and Nielson were agents for Ponzi's supposed international postal scheme, and some of the creditors are trying to prove that Dondero was a partner.

Montreal, Sept. 23.—Mrs. Helver, 30 years old, of Six Bulger avenue, Point St. Charles, was found lying dead across her bed yesterday afternoon. Her pet dog and cat were also found dead. Death in each case was due to asphyxiation, the gas escaping from an open jet in the kitchen stove.

Executive is Appointed.

The following were then appointed as the executive committee representing the different constituencies: St. John City—Lt. Col. W. H. Harrison.

St. John County—G. Earl Logan. Restigouche—W. S. Montgomery. Gloucester—J. E. deGrace. Northumberland—J. L. Stewart. Westmorland—E. R. Richard. Kent—Hon. T. J. Bourque. Moncton—W. K. Gross. Albert—Carl S. Duffy. Kings—R. St. J. Freeze. Queens—L. J. Flowers. Sunbury—Frank Taylor. York—J. D. Palmer.

Charlotte—Jos. Flessell. Carleton—W. S. Sutton. Victoria—M. J. Wootton. Madawaska—Charles Cyr. Some little discussion ensued as to getting more publicity to campaign doings and arrangements will be made to institute a bureau of intelligence which will supply the Opposition press with information as to what is taking place in the various constituencies.

### "A Popular Alliance"

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#### - And Your Tea-Pot -

The Membership to this Alliance is Counted by Millions

### POLES ASK WRANGEL AND UKRAINIANS FOR PEACE CONFERENCE

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Warsaw, Sept. 23.—The Polish Government still is trying to carry on with General Petura and Wrangel and secure the admission of both to the Riga peace party. Two suggestions are being considered, one to use the Polish army in a rapid advance into Ukrainian lands, turning the same back to the Ukrainians so they would have an administrative republic for which to ask recognition; two, to bring about an agreement between Wrangel and the Ukrainians, securing Wrangel's permission to have the Ukrainians take Olesna. There is a feeling that if such action is effected and the Poles back it, refusal of seats to Wrangel and Petura at Riga would be made impossible.

Sees No Peace Sign.

The military authorities, in combination with Socialist groups, are scoffing at the possibility of a real peace being made at Riga, advocating war and extermination of the Soviets on the basis that if they are not put out now they will attack Poland next spring. The civilian groups and conservatives are for peace along the advice of the Entente. An intense political party struggle is raging as a result, centering now on the question of calling the Diet.

The conservatives and non-militarists believe they have a majority in the Diet, and with the help in session will be able to enforce their views. The militarists and Socialists, who control the council of defense, now the ruling body in Poland, oppose the calling of the Diet, which means the extension of their council.

The sixth century of the signing of independence of Scotland will be celebrated this summer at the Abbey of Arbroath, where the treaty was signed. Recent figures show that 50 per cent of the immigration into the United States is composed of women and girls.

### RATION COAL AT BOSTON IS ORDER

Boston, Sept. 23.—Rationing of hard coal for domestic use was ordered today as a means of relieving the scarcity which exists in all parts of the state. Eugene C. Hultman, chairman of the state commission on the necessities of life, after a conference with a committee of five coal dealers appointed by Governor Coolidge, announced that until further notice householders would be allowed only three tons of coal.

### NOVA SCOTIA APPLES GOING TO ENGLAND

Halifax, N. S., Sept. 21.—A total of 15,000 barrels of Nova Scotia apples are being shipped through this port this week to the English market. One steamer has already sailed and three are now loading. The sailings are to Liverpool, London and Glasgow.



THE HANDY LITTLE SPOUT LETS THE SALT RUN OUT

## REGAL

FREE RUNNING Table Salt

THE CANADIAN SALT CO. LIM.

# Opposition Convention

A Convention of the Supporters of the

## PROVINCIAL OPPOSITION PARTY

(Male and Female)

### IN THE COUNTY OF KINGS

## Will Be Held in the Court House at Hampton on Friday, September 24th at 2 o'clock, p. m.

The Convention is called for the purpose of selecting candidates for the County in the Opposition interests at the approaching election.

(Signed) J. A. MURRAY, GEO. B. JONES, H. V. DICKSON.



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