

THE HERALD

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Superior Business Ability, With a Vengeance.

The Patriot of the 21st contains an editorial under the caption, "Superior Business Ability," in which it purports to compare the financial transactions of the Conservative and Liberal Governments in this Province during twelve years of office respectively. It instances a number of departments of the public service in which, it claims, the Liberal Government spent considerably less than the Conservatives; but stops there, taking good care not to compare the total annual expenditure under each Government or the Provincial debt at the present time as compared with what it was when the Liberals came into power in 1891. Now, in order that our readers may be able to judge of the "superior business ability" of which the Patriot speaks, from actual facts, we will give in brief the figures relative to the annual expenditure, the taxes and the debt of the respective Governments during their twelve years of office. Before setting down the figures it may be well once more to recall the words of Mr. Frederick Peters when he became Leader of the Government in 1891. He declared that revenue and expenditure must meet and that the day of taxation was far off. Now let us see how he and the Grit Premiers who have succeeded him have lived up to these solemn declarations. The average annual expenditure of the Conservatives while in office was \$278,959 and when they went out of power at the end of twelve years, they left a debt against the Province of \$128,000. The average annual expenditure of the Grits for twelve years has been \$314,083, an annual excess of expenditure of \$35,124. The deficits during the twelve years of Grit rule amounted to \$491,117 an average annual deficit of \$48,000. The debt of the Province has been increased under Grit rule from \$128,000 to \$700,000, exclusive of the year 1903 for which we have no accounts yet. Probably last year's deficit has been equal to any of its predecessors, somewhere in the vicinity of \$48,000. During the twelve years of Conservative rule about \$82,000 of taxes were collected; but during twelve years of Grit Government, the taxes collected amount to \$487,828, or an average of \$54,203 for nine years. From these figures, taken from the Government blue books, our readers will see that the Grits in office in this Province have in twelve years spent \$35,000 a year more annually than their Conservative predecessors; they have collected an average of \$54,000 a year in taxes for nine years, and notwithstanding all this, they have added from \$575,000 to 600,000 to the Provincial debt. And this is what the Patriot calls "superior business ability." Now, all we have to say is that if the Government effected such savings in certain public departments as the Patriot claims, the figures above quoted show these savings were not applied to closing the gap between revenue and expenditure; and if they exist anywhere outside of the Patriot's imagination must have been lavished upon the Governments' friends in the form of boudoir. Surely the facts here produced indicate that the Government's method of conducting public business indicate "superior business ability" with a vengeance.

The By-Elections.

THERE are altogether ten vacancies in the membership of the House of Commons; five in the Province of Quebec, two in Ontario, two in New Brunswick and one in Prince Edward Island. It would be most natural to suppose that the Government would bring on all these elections at once. Simultaneous by-elections was the doctrine preached by the Grits while in opposition, and being now in power with a strong Government majority they would surely be expected to practice the doctrine preached by them while in opposition. But our Grit friends are as inconsistent and contradictory in this particular as in everything else they preached in opposition and failed to practice in power. The Government have acted in the most cowardly manner in the by-elections. Not only have they failed to bring on all the elections simultaneously, but

they have ordered the two elections for the new ministers, Messrs. Emmerson in Westmoreland N. B., and Brodeur in Rouville, P. Q., to be brought on February 6th, and ten days later four other elections are to be held. These are for East Lambton and East Bruce in the Province of Ontario, St. John N. B., and West Queens, P. E. I. There is no account of the writs for the four remaining elections in the Province of Quebec. Are we to assume that this manner of bringing on the by-elections indicates the Government's consciousness of their waning prestige?

West Queen's Election.

THE by-election for West Queens, set down for the 16th, February, is to be contested. Mr. Horace Hazard is the Government candidate and Mr. A. A. McLean is the Liberal Conservative standard bearer. Mr. McLean's card will be found in this day's Herald. Mr. McLean stands for the policy of Mr. Borden, our great Leader; he takes the field to condemn the Government for their increase of the ordinary annual expenditure to the enormous amount of \$63,000,000, after promising to reduce the same by several millions of dollars, and for increasing the volume of taxation to \$47,000,000. Above all he asks the electorate for their support in condemnation of the Government's action in saddling upon the people of Canada a liability of \$139,000,000, for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway project. This is an undertaking never asked for by the people of Canada. The contract for this railway was declared by Mr. Blair "a sheer unjustifiable waste of public money." Now is the opportunity for the electors of West Queens to set the seal of their condemnation on this uncalculated and outrageous expenditure of millions upon millions of the people's money. Let them rise in their might and elect Mr. McLean as a protest against the Government's presumption and extravagance. The company have failed to carry out the very first requirement of the contract, the depositing of \$5,000,000 cash or Government securities, and now Parliament is called in order that the contract may be so modified as to be still more favorable to the company and disadvantageous to the tax payers of Canada. Are the electors of West Queens prepared to still further sacrifice the rights and the revenues of the Country to accommodate this ambitious company? If not let them cast their ballots for Mr. McLean.

Our Ottawa Letter.

BLAIR ENDORSED CONSERVATIVE POLICY.

The Liberal press has been deriving a lot of soulless comfort from Hon. A. G. Blair's letter to his St. John constituents, in which he imparted a farewell kick to the Grand Trunk Pacific scheme, and (as the Liberals claim) a hard knock at Mr. Borden's policy. On August 11th, 1898, Mr. Blair, in his famous speech on the G. T. P. deal, and at a time when the Railway Commission Chairmanship was not dangling before his eyes, endorsed the Conservative policy, announced a few days later, in the following strong language: "Now, my own view would be that if we wanted to do something of advantage for the transportation of the country, if we wanted to secure to our Canadian seaports the transportation of western products, we would have extended the Intercolonial to Georgian Bay by acquiring the Canadian Atlantic. Of course, Mr. Speaker, that involves a continuation of the principle to which I know a great many people are hostile. It would involve the government doing something to which many people are not well disposed." Now, Sir, addressing myself to the present theme of the construction of this railway from Quebec to the west, I am not going to say that it is a project that has not very much to recommend it, and perhaps a project which I would gladly see carried out, and which I would hold up both hands to support under proper conditions and in a proper way. If we could be satisfied that the country to be traversed by that railway from Quebec to the prairies is a fertile country which will invite and support a railway from a local point of view, then I should say let us go ahead and build it as rapidly as the settlement of the country will call for it, and as rapidly as we can justify it under a proper administration of affairs. I would not put any obstacle in the way of the rapid construction of it, after you have possessed yourself of all information with regard to it; after you have found out what it is going to cost, what is the limit of the liability you assume, whether or not you can get a suitable route, and generally possessed yourself of that information which any ordinary business man would put himself in possession of before he would embark in any such undertaking. So far as the construction of the Quebec portion is concerned, I would heartily favor its operation by the government, provided they had taken these proper precautionary steps, which, however, they have not taken. My quarrel with the government so far as this portion of the undertaking is concerned, rests al-

most entirely upon the consideration that they are plunging headlong into this thing, in a most unwise, injudicious, and unbusinesslike way, when by a little pause, by a year or two of delay to get information, we might be put in possession of facts which would justify us in proceeding."

RANK POLITICAL BLACKMAIL.

That the Liberal party is rapidly losing all sense of decency is established by a recent article which appeared in the Moncton Transcript, one of the most heavily subsidized organs in the employ of the government. The incident is all the more aggravated because of the fact, that Hon. H. R. Emmerson, the newly installed Minister of Railways, is a shareholder in the paper. The Transcript took upon itself to refute a statement to the effect, that the firm of Rhodes, Curry & Company, of Amherst, were Conservatives. This concern operates one of the largest car works in Canada. Incidentally it has filled large orders for Intercolonial rolling stock. Mr. Emmerson's organ meets the reference to the political opinions of the members of the firm in question, by challenging any Tory newspaper to publish a statement to that effect, with the firm's signature attached thereto. It is a notification to Rhodes, Curry & Company and other firms, that no matter how superior their goods may be, nor how low their prices, they cannot hope to secure Intercolonial contracts, unless they think as Mr. Emmerson thinks. Hon. A. G. Blair always denied that such blackmail was practised on the government railways. Under Mr. Emmerson no time has been lost in restoring the Intercolonial a well oiled political machine. The Liberal party, however, has little to gain by such tactics, which are a disgrace to the country. Already the loss of so good a politician as Mr. Blair and the appointment of such a lightweight as Mr. Emmerson are having their effect. But the worst is yet to come.

SIR WILLIAM'S LATEST APPOINTMENTS.

And still the cabinet changes continue. Hon. M. E. Bernier has resigned and the Inland Revenue department will, in future, be presided over by Honorable L. F. Fournier, member of the House of Commons. The new appointee, it will be remembered, was discarded by Sir Wilfrid Laurier for Hon. Raymond B. Fernald, a year ago, and as the former is one of the weakest men in the cabinet, the throw down administered to Mr. Brodeur would indicate that another piece of dead wood is being used to patch up the sinking Laurier government. Perhaps the most serious feature of the latest cabinet changes is the appointment of Mr. Bernier to the Railway Commission. He is about as important as a member of that important commission, as the Laurier government could select. As a cabinet minister he was a failure, perhaps holding rank with Hon. Sydney Fisher. He is now elevated to a position which should be adorned by a man of high administrative ability and a judicial mind. Mr. Bernier possesses none of these qualities, but by the force of political exigencies which required his retirement from the government, he has been made a member of the House of Commons. Sir Wilfrid is evidently losing his head. Both of his nominations to the Railway Commission are an insult to intelligent Canadians.

NO BODDLE! NO ELECTION!

For months Canada had been awaiting a definite announcement as to whether there would be general elections or a session. Up to January 7th, everything pointed to an election. On that day Messrs. Hays and Wainwright, of Grand Trunk Pacific fame, and Hon. A. G. Blair, who sold his principles for office, Sir Wilfrid is evidently losing his head. Both of his nominations to the Railway Commission are an insult to intelligent Canadians.

LIBERAL PARTY'S RAPID DECADE.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been forced to call to the cabinet Hon. Henry R. Emmerson, whose report in Parliament has been one of disappointment to his most ardent admirers. Mr. Emmerson is intended to fill the shoes of Hon. A. G. Blair, but for whose good offices the new minister would never have been heard of. The election of Mr. Emmerson to cabinet rank is another admission that the "business administration" of which Sir Wilfrid Laurier boasted in 1897, is fast falling to decay. Mr. Emmerson can never bring to the Premier's assistance the master mind of his predecessor. Hon. Raymond B. Fernald has been lately failed in his efforts to supply the grain and industry, which Hon. J. Israel Farris took with him when he resigned. Mr. Fernald, Hon. Sydney Fisher, a few days ago, at a banquet in Montreal, hardly attracted passing attention. Hon. Mr. Bernier goes to the Railway Commission. "Jim" Sutherland, as he is always has been a useful organizer, nothing more. Hon. Clifford Sifton, has become wealthy, but has lost his grip in the west. Sir Richard Cartwright is likely to retire at an early date. Sir William Mulock and Mr. Fielding are fighting for Sir Wilfrid Laurier's position, which is shortly expected to become vacant. Mr. Fitzpatrick is still a member of Fitzpatrick, Fargate, Boy and Cannon, of Gwynor Green and Quebec bridge (\$3,000,000) take off. Sir Wilfrid, himself, is wondering what the country thinks of him, and is afraid to risk an enquiry. Such is the present standing of the great business administration of which Mr. B. H. Emmerson and Mr. L. P. Brodeur are the latest ornaments.

Townships, and there as in the Maritime Provinces, Ontario and the West he has received an enthusiastic reception. At Magog 1,000 workmen from the cotton and print mills cheered the Conservative leader to the echo, as in his forestal style he impressed upon them the necessity of building up Canada, by preserving to her the right to develop her own natural resources, and fish on Canadian soil the products of her forests, mines, and fields.

The Conservative leader does not believe in the Laurier policy which permits Canadian raw materials to be shipped to the United States; there to be manufactured into finished products by expatriated Canadians, and then shipped back to Canada in return for Canadian money. Mr. Borden has good ground for his contention. He has no less an authority than Hon. Wm. Patterson, Minister of Customs, who in his Trade and Navigation returns for 1903, shows that last year, among others the American raw materials were sent to the United States to be made up into marketable merchandise:—Copper, fine, contained in ore, matte, regulite, etc. 27,928,491 lbs. Lead in ore, etc. 16,267,566 lbs. Nickel in ore, etc. 9,032,564 lbs. Iron in the condensed form of pig iron, etc. 3,242,680 cwt. Pulp wood, value, etc. \$1,795,768. Canada then turned round and bought abroad a million of dollars worth of the finished products of these articles. Why not manufacture them in Canada? Why not make this the greatest paper producing country in the world? That is what the Conservative party wants, and Mr. Borden's reception is a very good indication that Canadians are awakening to the fact that their industries are being neglected.

The C. M. B. A. Grand Council.

(Kingston Freeman Jan. 13th.)

The Grand Council of the C. M. B. A. were in session at the head office in Kingston during the past week. It is stated that the business of the past year was the most successful in the history of the Association. The growth in membership has been very satisfactory throughout. Every Province in the Dominion has contributed its quota to the ranks of the C. M. B. A. The jurisdiction of the Association now includes every Province in the Dominion—and its financial affairs were never in such a healthy condition. The members are certainly congratulated on the fact that all death claims are being met and other expenses paid with practically the same rate as existed a quarter of a century ago. Upon the selection of its officers the C. M. B. A. has occasion to rejoice. The ablest men among the Catholics of Canada are guiding its destinies. The head of the Association is the Hon. M. F. Hackett, a gentleman of character, an able lawyer, recognized by all for his public and private rectitude. Hon. Mr. Latchford since he first occupied the above most important position, has brought both strength and security to the C. M. B. A. The Grand Trustees of this Association are in a manner provincial representatives and they are representative in every sense of the word. Ontario has on the Board Mr. George Lynch-Staunton, of Hamilton, and the Rev. Father O'Riannon, of Paris. Mr. Lynch-Staunton is easily one of the greatest of Ontario lawyers, and his presence on the Board is a source of strength in every respect. Father O'Riannon is an earnest and eloquent advocate of the C. M. B. A. and one who is ever ready to make any sacrifice for the cause he has at heart. From down by the sea coast to the Advisory Board of the C. M. B. A., two of the ablest men in the land famous for the talent of her sons, Mr. J. A. Chisholm, of the firm of Borden, Ritchie & Chisholm, of Halifax, has done valiant service for the Association. At the Board meetings his advice is sound and practical while his work as an organizer is evidenced in the rapid growth of the Association since Mr. Chisholm was selected. In proportion to her population Nova Scotia leads the van in new members. New Brunswick gives to the Trustee Board Mr. George V. McInerney, St. John, known throughout the Dominion as an eloquent and forcible speaker, an able barrister and a man of sterling character. Two important officers, those who have to do with the real management of the Association are Mr. John J. Behan being Grand Secretary and Dr. Edward Ryan, Superintending Medical Examiner. Both these gentlemen are so well-known to the membership at large, they need no introduction. Mr. Behan, though only recently appointed, has already given evidence of special tact and ability in the administration of his work. It is not too much to remark that the high standing of the C. M. B. A. at its low rate of assessments, is in a large measure due to the firmness and care with which Dr. Ryan has conducted his work.

Good Old Quebec sends Charles D. Hebert, of Three Rivers, to the Board of Trustees. He is thoroughly devoted to his work and has been of great value to the Society. His services in Quebec are now bearing fruit and 1904 will see the Association flourish in that Province.

With such an able body of men at its head the C. M. B. A. cannot fail of success. Loyal to the interests of the C. M. B. A., devoted to their work, the grand officers have justly earned the love and confidence of the entire Association—and, it should be the aim of every member to emulate the enthusiasm of the grand officers and to make the year just opening a banner one in the history of Canada's greatest and foremost society—the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association.

THE PATRIOT, when stating that Mr. McLean polled 212 votes less in the by-election of 1902 than Mr. Stewart polled in the general election of 1900, should have told its readers that Mr. Farguhar polled 487 votes less in 1902 than Davies did in 1900.

WE can save you money on hardware.—Fennell & Chandler.

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# And Still They Come.

**Crowds to the right of us,  
Crowds to the left of us,  
Crowds all around us,  
For Bargains they clamored.  
Bravely our clerks worked and well,  
Tho' oft'times they wished Bargain Sales were  
in---Well  
What is the use though? they wondered,  
Ours did not start the row,  
Ours hadn't to, nohow  
And w're going to do or die---  
Die, or serve this twice six hundred.**

Every day the crowds attending our Great Bargain Sale are getting larger and larger. Saturday evening the store was thronged with delighted buyers who evidently knew **THEY WERE IN THE RIGHT SHOP.** And no wonder when they secure here stylish new Dress Goods, purchased last autumn, in Tweeds, Chevoits, Fancy Mixtures, Black Fancys, Colored Silks, Colored Silk Velvet and Velveteens, besides fancy Velvets for Cushions and Fancy Work—all at **HALF-PRICE.** Then all our **SILK WAISTS,** including that elegant lot we opened a few days before the sale began are selling at **67 CENTS ON THE DOLLAR.** Besides all our **SKIRTS,** including 75 new ones, in the Spring Styles and no two alike. Ladies say they are the dressiest skirts ever shown here, and a decided Bargain; these also go at 1-3 off; also all

## Ladies' Cloth Jackets

In stock, while a few of the largest sizes we will clear at **HALF-PRICE.** All

## Trimmed Millinery Half Price,

And still a nice lot of those **FURS** in Collars, Muffs, etc., which we will clear at **HALF-PRICE.** Other Furs 1-3 off. These are only a few of the many Bargains we are offering.

## At Half Price.

So here goes for 20, 40 or 60 days, if necessary to hold our trade

## Come Here for Genuine Bargains,

As ancient goods are dear at any price.

- 1500 yds. Dress Goods
- 500 yds. Ulster Cloths
- 450 yds. Silk Velvet
- 265 yds. Fancy Blouses, Silk
- 25 Fur Muffs, 30 Fur Collars
- Lot of Men's Ready-made Clothing Wrappers, Silk Shirtwaists
- Lot of Jackets, Gloves, Ribbons, White wear
- Men's Clothing, Men's Hats and Caps
- Men's Fur Coats, Caps, Mitts
- Ladies' Mitts, Caps, Ruffs
- Sleigh Robes
- Wool Shawls, Rugs, Tams
- Ladies' Skirts, Waterproofs
- Blankets, Bachelors
- Stamped Linens, Cushion Covers
- Men's Winter Shirts
- Prints, Wristbags, Purses.

All goods not mentioned 10 to 20 per cent. off.

Samples given and goods sent on approval as usual.

# SENTNER, TRAINOR & CO.,

The Store That Saves You Money.