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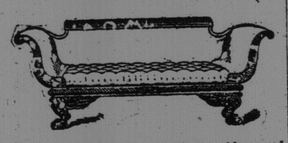

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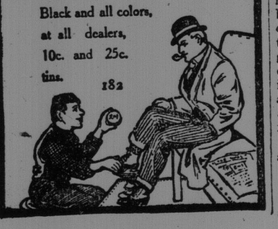

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MUNICIPALITIES UNION MEETING

New Brunswick Delegates Gather in Force at Fredericton

MONCTON RAILWAY

Members Decide to Advocate City Getting Charter for Electric Road Instead of Company Applicants—Pauper Lunatics' Keep—Dr. A. W. McRae Talks on Municipal Ownership.

Fredericton, N. B., May 19.—The annual convention of the New Brunswick Union of Municipalities opened in the city council chamber this afternoon and proved very interesting. There was lengthy discussion on the Moncton Street Railway bill and the meeting decided to send a delegation to the legislature to support the city's application for a charter and the same delegation will oppose the Northern Pulp and Paper Company's bill to dam the Tobique.

President ex-Mayor Sears, of St. John occupied the chair and about forty delegates were in attendance representing the cities of St. John, Moncton, Fredericton; the towns of Woodstock, St. Stephen, Chatham, Shediac, Milltown and Newcastle and the counties of York, Sunbury, Westmoreland and Victoria. Mayor Chestnut in a brief speech cordially welcomed the delegates to the city. Warden McNally welcomed the delegates on behalf of the municipality of York.

Mayor Balmain, of Woodstock, Mayor McLachlan, of Chatham, and ex-Warden McMurray, of Sunbury, returned thanks on behalf of the delegates.

Chairman Sears told of the inauguration of the movement to organize the municipalities union and said that he always felt that such a union would be as powerful in a provincial way as the Canadian Municipalities Union was in Dominion politics. It was necessary, he said, for the municipalities to be on their guard against the lobbyist, who would take away their rights. He spoke of the work done by the union in connection with the New Brunswick Telephone bill and expressed the hope that the time was not far distant when the province would see its way clear to acquire and operate the telephone system.

Secretary-Treasurer Magee's report showed the receipts, since February, 1907, of $246 and expenditures, $90.52, leaving a balance of $155.48.

Pauper Lunatics.

A resolution from Northumberland council protesting against the government charging the county for the support of pauper lunatics created a considerable sensation. Warden Maltby, of Newcastle, complained that a parish in his county had to pay for the support of two pauper lunatics who had only been transient residents. It was finally decided to refer the matter to the committee on resolutions.

City Clerk Magee brought up the Moncton Street Railway question and urged the meeting to support the city's application for a charter to build and operate or lease a street railway. He stated that two private corporations were also after charters.

The matter was discussed by Mayor Purdy, Alds. Riley and Jones, of Moncton and Coun. Teed, of St. Stephen, all coming out strongly in favor of principle of civic control of the proposed street railway. It was agreed that the matter should be referred to the committee on resolutions.

At this evening's session the committee on resolutions submitted a report strongly endorsing Moncton's application for a street railway charter and recommended that a committee of six be appointed to assist in lobbying the measure through the legislature. The report was unanimously adopted.

Another resolution was submitted recommending that the public health act should be amended that in the future checks for bills contracted by boards must be countersigned by wardens of the counties. This was adopted after lengthy discussion.

Secretary Magee was voted $50 for his services last year.

Dr. McNally opposed the Northern Pulp Company's proposal to dam the Tobique and suggested that in view of its great importance some action be taken in regard to it.

Thos. F. Alton, superintendent of Tobique Salmon Club briefly addressed the meeting and called attention to objectionable features of the bill. He declared that its passage would be detrimental to the interests of the province as it would destroy salmon fisheries of St. John River and Bay of Fundy. He intimated that it was simply a kite-flying measure and was not promoted by men of great financial strength.

Dr. MacRae and Mayor Chestnut came out strong against the bill on the ground that it would destroy the salmon fisheries of Tobique.

It was finally decided to have the committee oppose the bill before corporations committee.

Dr. MacRae read an able paper on "Municipal Ownership" and was tendered a hearty vote of thanks.

Dr. A. W. MacRae.

Dr. A. W. McRae's paper on Municipal Ownership was as follows:

There is no subject which has commanded more interest in gatherings such as this and amongst earnest workers for the improvement of municipal affairs than the subject of Muncipal Ownership. Those who profess to be really interested in the welfare of the municipal tax payer, have vigorously contended that all public franchises, created by and of value through the existence of municipalities, should be owned, controlled and managed by the tax payers through their representatives. This contention has been bitterly assailed, both in Europe and America by corporation interests and monopolists. It must be admitted that in some cases (comparatively few) municipal ownership has been a failure, and such failures have been made the most of by the "interests." But it is undoubtedly true that the sentiment in favor of municipal and government management of public franchises has grown everywhere, and I deem it unnecessary to make any apology for asking you to give up some of your valuable time to the consideration of this important question.

The inertness of our people and the apathy of the taxpayers led private corporations which had secured valuable rights from municipalities and legislatures to work these rich mines with the idea of securing, in the hands of a few, enormous and unearned wealth. By charging excessive prices for what was furnished through public utilities, these private corporations were enabled to water their stock and divide amongst their share-holders large blocks of dividend-earning securities which represented no actual value or cost to the original allottees. From the holders of these watered stocks many shares were distributed amongst innocent purchasers, often at inflated values.

Some fifty years ago the enormous and unnecessary burden placed upon the users of these public utilities, led to loud protest from public spirited men. Immediately the cry of "Socialism" was raised by the monopolists and their dependents.

The term "Socialism" was used as a sort of shibboleth to call down contempt upon all those who were striving to secure justice fror the overburdened consumer.

The true meaning of "Socialism"—the ideal system of government by the people, for the people—was obscured and its advocates, confounded with Nihilists, Anarchists and Revolutionists. But the gradual adoption of the principle of control of utilities by the central governments on the continent of Europe and the municipalities of Great Britain, tended to show the absurdity of the cry made against reformers.

I do not think it advisable to load down this article with statistics which may be gathered from the numerous publications of the Fabian Society, Municipal Unions and the like, but I cannot forbear calling your attention to the magnificent results attained in Great Britain by the reclaiming from private corporations of various public utilities. On this continent we are far behind Great Britain. Germany, Switzerland, France and even Italy. The power of great corporations and trusts, fostered by paternal legislation and wielded without regard to the rights of the public, have placed upon the people of the United States and Canada—particularly the former—a burden which they seem to be as hopeless to throw off as Sinbad the Sailor was to get rid of his Old Man of the Sea. The revelations of legislative corruption of wholesale purchase of municipal state and federal bodies, the utter disregard of the laws of the land and the readiness to commit almost any crime to strengthen and protect monopolistic corporations, present a story unparalleled in the history of civilization.

In Great Britain the magnificent work of the Hon. Joseph Chamberlain in Birmingham, the remarkable accomplishments of the city of Glascow, the noteworthy achievements of Manchester and the improvements carried through by the London County Councils—to cite but a few instances familiar to all—have paved the way to the ultimate emancipation of the British tax-payer from corporate control of the great public utilities.

Today, very many of the municipalities of the United Kingdom control their water supply, gas and electric light plants, street railways, abattoirs, wharves, harbors, etc., and in the most of these instances the employes have shorter hours and better wages, the public has better and much cheaper facilities and the conduct of these public works produces large surplus.

The principle that the telegraph and telephone systems should be controlled by governments is generally admitted, and the contention that railways should be owned and controlled by the government (perhaps under commission) is not seriously opposed.

In Canada we are still far behind the age in respect to municipal and government ownership and management of public utilities. Of recent years encouraging advances have been made. Most of our cities own and control the supply of water to the inhabitants. A goodly number of them have their own lighting (electric and gas plants). In a few instances, telephone systems have been installed by municipalities.

It is pleasing to note that since our last meeting the progressive Province of Manitoba has taken control of the telephone system there and that both Alberta and Saskatchewan are preparing to do the same. Why is it that in these Maritime Provinces we lag behind these younger communities in our own land, and are so very far behind the people of Great Britain? We proudly claim to be the descendants of the best and most progressive of the inhabitants of England, Scotland and Ireland. Is it not time to take upon ourselves the campaign of education of our people and secure for the overburdenend taxpayers of this Province the inestimable benefits of controlling our public utilities?

I have a profound conviction that in every municipality men can be secured by the electors, who will carry to a successful issue, the management of our public utilities, when once they have been secured by the public. Let us then take active measures to attain this desirable end.

The Divorce Court.

Divorce cases involving some of the best known people in the province have been entered for trial at the regular term of the divorce court which opens in this city on July 7th, Judge Gregory presiding. On that date judgment will be delivered in three other cases which were tried at the February term of the court.

Among the new cases are: Madeline Douglas Edith Clarke vs Robert Clarke; Beulah Longfellow Harris vs Edward Alfred Harris; Madeline Whitlock vs Julius T. Whitlock.

The plaintiff in the Clarke case was formerly Miss Gault, niece of the late Alexander Gault and resides in Moncton where her husband is agent of the Bank of Montreal. She is asking for a legal separation.

In the Harris case the plaintiff is the daughter of Peter S. Archibald and the defendant is the son of the late Christopher Harris, of Moncton. The couple attained some notoriety over a shooting scrape which occurred in the west some years ago and have not since lived very happily together. An absolute divorce is asked for on the ground of adultery.

The plaintiff in the case of Whitlock vs Whitlock is the daughter of the late Garvin Sisson of this city and her husband is the cashier of the St. Stephen bank and ex-mayor of that town. The defendant is about twenty-five years the senior of his wife. The grounds in the case are said to be somewhat out of the ordinary.

Judge Gregory held an adjourned sitting of the divorce court this morning, but adjourned until July 7th without transacting any business.

He stated that he had intended delivering judgment in the cases of Simonds vs Simonds, Furge vs Furge and Horseman vs Horseman, but owing to the court stenographer having met with an accident at the close of last term, which confined him to the hospital the record had been delayed in transcribing his notes. The record had been handed in, but his honor had not sufficient time to prepare his judgments. He regretted the delay and the disappointment it would cause the parties, but there was no help for it.

Dr. MacRae and W. A. Ewing, who appeared for the parties in the Simonds case, stated that they had agreed on an even division of property for their clients, and his honor promised to bear that in mind in delivering judgment. Dr. MacRae stated that the defendant's income was $800 instead of $900, the figures he had given at the trial.

Rev. Dr. Barclay, of Montreal, is here to-day, the guest of Lieut. Governor Tweedie. Rev. Dr. Barclay arrived with His Honor from St. John this morning in the private car Rosemere, accompanied by Rev. Mr. Lang of St. John, and Lieut. Col. H. H. McLean, A. D. C. The party visited the Provincial Normal School. An address was made by the governor, who introduced Dr. Barclay, and the latter spoke at some length. Later the University of New Brunswick was visited. At noon there was luncheon at Lieut. Governor Tweedie's private dining room at the Queen Hotel. Covers were laid for fourteen, those present being the Lieut. Governor and Mrs. Tweedie, Rev. Dr. Barclay, Rev. Mr. Lang, Premier and Mrs. Hazen, Miss Tweedie, Miss Hazen, Hon. H. A. and Mrs. McKeown, James P. Byrne, M. P. P., and Mrs. Byrne, Lieut. Col. H. H. McLean and R. S. Barker.

W. H. Berry, of St. Stephen, one of the staff of lumber scalers of the province is acting as bookkeeper in the crown land department temporarily.

One of the June weddings already announced is that of Harry M. Blair, of this city, and Miss Grace Brown, of Maryeville. Miss Edith Spurden will be married to Rev. Fred Porter, who has just graduated from Rochester University at Rochester, on Wednesday afternoon. Next week they will leave for Liverpool, N. S., whence Mr. Porter accepted a call.

Fredericton, N. B., May 20.—The second convention of the Union of New Brunswick Municipalities was brought to a close at 6 o'clock this evening. Councillor A. I. Tweed, of St. Stephen is the new president and Moncton will be the next place of meeting.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon the delegates accompanied by Mayor Chestnut, Aldermen Farrel, Walker, Kitchen and Mitchell and City Engineer Grimmer, paid a visit to the waterworks pumping station and inspected the new filtration plant. They afterwards visited a photograph saloon and had a group picture taken. The convention upon re-assembling adopted a motion approving of the action of the president in affiliating with the Canadian Union of Municipalities. Twenty-five per cent. of the fees collected is to be handed over to the parent union.

The matter of choosing delegates to the next annual meeting of the Canadian union, to be held in Montreal, was left to the incoming executive.

City Clerk Magee introduced a resolution requesting the government to cancel a street railway charter granted some years ago to the Moncton Street Railway, Heat & Power Company, but did not press it.

Warden Grimmer heartily congratulated President Sears on the expeditious way the business of the convention had been carried on. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: President, Councillor Teed, St. Stephen, N. B.; vice-president, Warden Maltby, Newcastle; secretary-treasurer, J. S. Magee, Moncton; executive, Warden McNally, York; Mayor Chestnut, Fredericton; Mayor Balmain, Woodstock; Mayor Purdy, Moncton; Mayor MacLachlan, Chatham; Councillor Jensen, Victoria; Ex-Warden Murray, Sunbury; Mayor Bullock, St. John; Warden Fraser, Queens; Counsel, Dr. McRae, St. John. The retiring president and vice-president were elected honorary members.

Next Meeting at Moncton.

On invitation of Mayor Purdy it was decided to meet next year in Moncton.

Ex-Mayor Sears thanked the convention for the honor done him and hoped the union would grow and prosper until it became a force in the life of the province.

On motion of Mayor Balmain, a hearty vote of thanks was tendered Mayor Chestnut and Warden McNally for the hospitality extended to the delegates.

Secretary Magee requested the new officers to forward him their photographs for publication in the Municipal Journal.

President-elect Teed thanked the meeting for the great honors conferred upon him and urged the members to take hold and render him every assistance in their power.

The city engineer gave a brief description of the water filtration plant after which the meeting adjourned.

Automobile Nuisance.

At this morning's session Warden McNally lodged a complaint against automobiles claiming that they were not only injurious to the roads but frightened horses. He thought that they should only be allowed to be run three days out of the week. Council Perley agreed with Warden McNally's views. The matter was referred to the executive.

There was some discussion as to the best method of caring for the poor and the consensus of opinion seemed to be that it could best be done through municipal homes.

A delegation from the municipalities union composed of Messrs. Teed, Macrae, McNally, McLachlan, McDonald, and Munroe waited upon the government at noon today and presented resolutions on municipal franchises, the public health act and the payment of smallpox bills which were adopted at yesterday's session.

They asked that the municipalities be given the preference in all applications for franchises to control public utilities also that the government pay all bills in the future contracted on account of smallpox.

Premier Hazen replied briefly to the delegation expressing approval of the principle that the municipalities should control public utilities. In regard to the government paying smallpox bills he thought that while the principle might be correct it might not be to the advantage of the province to carry it out in some cases. He promised to consider the matter next year when the public health act will be amended.

After lingering illness from hip disease Alderman Egerton Everett passed away at his home here today. He was a native of Kingsclear and was 52 years of age. He taught school for several years but since removing to this city several years ago he has been interested in the insurance business and acted as accountant for Frank L. Cooper. He represented Kingsclear in the county council for several terms and for the last four years has been alderman for St. Anns ward. He was also a deacon in the Baptist church and a staunch advocate of temperance. A widow and family of one son and two daughters survive.

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Spurden was the scene of a pretty wedding, this afternoon at 3.30 o'clock when their only daughter Edith W. became the wife of Rev. Fred S. Porter, youngest son of the late Rev. E. H. Porter. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. H. MacDonald, in the presence of a number of friends and relatives. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in brocaded white silk with bridal veil and orange blossoms and carried a bouquet of white roses. There was no bridesmaid nor groomsman.

At the conclusion of the ceremony luncheon was served. The bridegroom is a graduate of Acadia and had lately completed his theological course at Rochester.

The bride was the recipient of a large number of valuable presents, including a silver tea service from the groom. The happy couple will leave this evening on a tour of provincial points and on June first will take up their residence at Liverpool, N. S., where the groom has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Baptist church.

Burton, May 19.—Mr. and Mrs. M. E. A. Burpee desire to thank their many friends who have shown them so much kindness and sympathy during their recent bereavement.

LAURIER AND ROBLIN AGREE ON COMPROMISE?

Manitoba Premier Left for Home Tuesday Night in in Jubilant Mood

Caucus Tuesday Decided to Force Government to Back Down or Dissolve the House---Timber Limits Scandal Bobs Up Again—H. B. Ames Relates How Sifton's Brother-in-Law Secures Pick of Lumber Lands of Three Provinces for a Mere Song.

Ottawa, May 19.—Premier Roblin of Manitoba left tonight for the west, cutting his Ottawa visit rather short, as it was on the cards that he should remain in the capital for several days and address a couple of meetings in Ontario before taking his departure for Manitoba. Mr. Roblin left, however, in best of good humor.

Questioned by your correspondent as to the result of his conference during the afternoon with Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. Roblin was inclined to be evasive. He admitted, however, that the meeting had resulted most satisfactorily.

"As regards the boundary question?"

"I am not speaking of the Manitoba boundary question at all," he replied. "Moreover I am not at liberty to tell you more than that the winter of my discontent has been made glorious summer, and I am homeward bound in the best of fettle."

As Premier Roblin thus spoke he was surrounded by a bevy of Conservative members from the West, all of whom reflected his signals of satisfaction. The inference drawn from all this is that as a result of the provincial premier's talk with the prime minister a compromise was suggested by the latter which entirely removes Mr. Roblin's objection to the Aylesworth bill, and, as this objection was mainly against the feature of the proposed measure which stigmatizes the provincial lists as unfair and untrustworthy, the conclusion is that the first bill is to be withdrawn. The indications are therefore, that the so-called deadlock is in process of dissolution and that the agony of the hour is about over.

Will Fight to a Finish

The Conservative caucus this morning disposed of the question of compromise or fight in a few minutes. It was resolved to oppose the Aylesworth election bill as far as it provides for the making of new voters lists and the validation of ballots inadvertently marked, till the government is forced to withdraw these objectionable features or is driven to ask for dissolution. There was not a dissenting voice, and the opposition have now settled down for a long seige. The house will not sit Monday and Thursday of next week, the latter being Ascension day.

Mr. Blain read a letter from a constituent strongly urging that a proportion of the rural milita be sent to Quebec for the tercentenary.

Sir Frederick Borden repeated that owing to the difficulty of providing transportation facilities only a proportion of the permanent forces would be taken.

Mr. Foster asked about "my veterans," and Sir Frederick replied that the question had been referred to the commission.

"Were any influences other than lack of transportation brought to bear on the first minister?" asked Sam Hughes.

"Nothing, unless it be the genial smile of my hon. friend," replied Sir Wilfrid.

Timber Scandals Up Again.

On the motion to go into supply, J. G. Turriff anticipated Mr. Ames by reading a report of a speech by Mr. Ames at Halifax which he had characterized as wholly false.

Mr. Foster referred to leasing of some coal lands which had formerly been school lands. There were three applicants for one section, G. H. Gilmour in 1900, J. F. Howard in 1901, and Silas Griffis in 1902. Griffis secured the lease whereupon Gilmour entered suit. Turriff who was commissioner of lands, swore at the trial that he had produced all the correspondence, but Mr. Foster produced two more letters and a telegram that passed between Turriff and Howard in 1902, and which showed that Turriff interested himself in behalf of Howard.

Mr. Turriff, replying, said the facts were exactly as stated by Mr. Foster. He claimed that Gilmour and Howard had withdrawn their application and he believed also that there was collusion between the three. As to how his private letters got into the hands of Mr. Foster he did not know, but some one told him in Winnipeg that Gilmour had a couple of private letters of his (Turriffs'), that were very compromising and that if he did not get a grazing lease he would use them. Turriff replied to this man that he could tell Gilmour to go plumb — —.

Mr. Ames reopened the whole question of alienation of timber resources of the Dominion. Within three years, from 1902 to 1905, more than 3,000 square miles of selected timber, or about one half of entire area under lease in western provinces, fell into the hands, not of operators, but of speculators. One half of this amount comprising 25 per cent of the timber of three provinces, was acquired by a group —the Burrows-Fraser combination, of which the brother-in-law of Mr. Sifton, then minister of the interior, was the central figure, under circumstances so peculiar as to have excited general comment.

Burrows' Leases.

T. A. Burrows acquired 549 square miles; Imperial Pulp Company, 417 square miles; the Big River Lumber Company, 250; A. W. Fraser, alias John McBain, 250; A. W. Fraser, for himself, 120; in all 1586 square miles of selected timber, only 109 square miles of which are being operated, the remainder is held presumably for speculation. Were the selected blocks, nearly 300 in number, placed end to end they would form a continuous strip of thick timber one mile wide, stretching from Montreal to Winnipeg. For the year ended April 30th, 1907, eighty berths, aggregating 1,125 miles, furnished all the sawn lumber necessary to supply all the western provinces. Burrows himself said Mr. Ames was successful in eighteen out of nineteen times. In many instances several cheques were put in to cover successful tender. Then the mysterious Imperial Pulp Company, controlled by Mr. Burrows, entered the field in December, 1902. In two years this company, observing the greatest secrecy, bid upon nine limits. The totals of its bids amounted to $54,975, and the total of the next highest bidders in nine cases amounted to $51,771. This company for less than $55,000 secured in three years 418 square miles that have a value today of $1,000,000.

Inquiry Burked.

Mr. Ames went on to show that an attempt was made in the house to force an inquiry into methods of Mr. Burrows in securing the timber berths, but it failed, and the inquiry was undertaken in the public accounts committee. At crucial points the mouth of a witness was stopped and the investigation brought to an abrupt ending. "Consequently," said Mr. Ames, "we can now do no more than lay the facts as far as disclosed before the house and country and leave upon the government the onus of deciding whether there shall be further inquiry or not."

Mr. Burrows quoted a number of tenders to show that it was not unusual for tenderers to bid close together. His reason for putting in more than one cheque with his tender was to prevent the clerk of the bank, who marked the cheques, knowing the amount of his tender.

Ottawa, May 20.—Peace and harmony reigned in the commons today. The civil government estimates were taken up and the appropriations were put through for the Northwest Mounted Police, militia and post office departments.

That a compromise upon the Aylesworth bill is under way is fairly to be assumed. It is said that Sir Wilfrid Laurier has agreed to abandon the objectionable features of the bill, namely those which asperse the bona fides of the Manitoba and British Columbia local lists and threaten the secrecy of the ballot.

It will doubtless be found that the amended bill will accept the provincial lists, that the allocation of voters in registration districts intersected by federal constituency boundaries will be done by county judges.

That for districts untouched by those boundaries the local districts will be accepted for federal election purposes.

On the motion to go into supply, R. L. Borden brought up the loss of papers of the Stanstead bye-election in 1908. It appeared, he said, that a great many people had access to the room where the boxes were kept. He did not rise to point out what the effect of the disappearance of the ballots would be but in view of what had been discovered in Brockville and West Huron, that fraudulent ballots had been used, it was likely desirable that an enquiry should be made. It was admitted that the late clerk of the crown in chancery was a most careful official and it was difficult to believe that the papers had been sent away by him to be burned three days after they were received by him, as some people were disposed to say.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said, as far as he had been able to ascertain, the ballots disappeared before the late clerk died, on April 8. He welcomed the suggestion of Mr. Borden that there should be an investigation. Nobody believed that the disappearance was anything but an accident.

Mr. Foster said it was possible that a third party had intervened.

Mr. Fielding stated that Mr. Speaker had taken action to prevent such an affair occurring again.

Dr. Sproule declared it was a singular "coincidence" that the papers should have disappeared just when they were needed in an election trial.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier promised that tomorrow he would move for appointment of a special committee.

Mr. Fielding introduced a bill today, respecting the government-guaranteed bonds of the G. T. P. It has three main purposes.

First, to authorize the G. T. P. to pledge bonds, guaranteed by the government, as security for the raising of money. The earlier legislation, said Mr. Fielding, undoubtedly contemplated that the company should have power to pledge bonds as well as to sell them. The machinery, however, was inadequate. If the market were deemed unfavorable to press the sale of bonds, the company might raise money by pledging bonds as collateral security.

The second purpose was due to certain judicial decisions given in England to the effect that when a bond is pledged in the way contemplated by this bill it was deemed to have been issued and the power of the company to sell it ceased. Consequently when bonds, given as collateral security, were restored to the possession of the company, the company would not have the legal right to sell them. To remove all possible doubt, it was declared that the pledging of bonds would not interfere with the right of the company to sell them at a later stage. The same difficulty, he said, would probably come up in connection with other companies and it might be necessary to pass general legislation upon the subject. In the meantime, he asked that the company be given power to pledge bonds as security in order to raise money and that this should not interfere with their right to sell the same bonds when the company again obtained possession of them.

The third purpose was to facilitate the construction of the railway. To enable the company to make prompt payment for work done, it was proposed that the government be enabled to give them a letter of credit, authorizing the company to expend a sum not exceeding at any time $1,000,000, but, before any letter of credit should be issued the Grand Trunk, the parent company, must agree to make good any money which might be expended in an unauthorized way.

Mr. Foster understood the credit was based on money already in funds.

"Quite so," replied Mr. Fielding. "and only on money derived from these bonds. It is not a letter of credit on consolidated fund at all."

Claude McDonald brought up the Quebec tercentenary celebration and the abandonment by the militia department of the programme to mobilize a large number of militia, after having given their pledge to do so. It could have been arranged to have the troops carried to Quebec in advance of the great body of sight-seers and it was a flimsy excuse to say that the programme had to be abandoned, because of the inability of the government to secure adequate transportation facilities. The money voted by the various public bodies and given by individuals was on the basis of a grand military display and it was unfair to withdraw this feature from the programme. The militia had been looking forward to the event and many of the regiments were over strength in consequence.

Sir Frderick Borden replied that there had been no abandonment of anything, although there had been a change of plans. There would be a mobilization of militia at Quebec, but owing to transportation difficulties it had been found impossible to get together such a large number as was anticipated. There was no particular necessity for a demonstration in force. All that was wanted was a fair representation. It had been said militia regiments were over strength in anticipation of this outing. "Has it come to this," asked Sir Frederick, "that in order to have our regiments full we must have a picnic of some sort? I have a higher opinion of the militia than that."

Mr. Cockshutt said in his part of the country the impression prevailed that the reason the regiments were not going was because they would not surrender their pay and they could not afford to go. The military pageant was to have been a big feature of the show.

Mr. Lawlor said a word for the rural militia, suggesting that the Haldimand Indian regiment would be quite an attraction at Quebec.

RICHARD GRAY "NOT GUILTY"

Carleton County Man Acquitted of Serious Charge by Jury

JUDGE INCENSED

Declared the Verdict Was an Outrage on Justice and Entirely Against the Evidence—Hopes None of the Twelve Will Ever Sit on a Case Again.

Woodstock, N. B., May 20.—The most disgraceful verdict ever recorded in a court of this county was recorded this afternoon when a jury found Richard Gray not guilty. There is no truth, however, that the jury intend presenting Gray with a diamond ring and a gold watch this evening.

This morning the crown called Mrs. Gray, Estella Gray and Dr. Field, and the defence called Jas. Gray the fourteen year old brother of Estella.

After dinner addresses were made by Hon. W. P. Jones for the prisoner and Solicitor General McLeod for the crown. These were two of the ablest addresses ever heard in the courthouse. The learned judge charged strongly against the prisoner. The jury then retired and returning at 4.30 p. m., through Henry Post, their foreman, brought in a verdict of "not guilty."

Surprise was expressed on every countenance but that of the jurymen. Here are the names of the jurymen and also the opinion of Judge McLeod in regard to the finding:—Henry Post, Delbert Belyea, J. M. Tomkins, John Harper, George Caldwell, Russell Hatfield, Bert Rockwell, Wm. Kearney, Harley Hannah, Michael Mulherin, Ambers Giberson, Dudley Day.

Judge Scores Jury.

"I cannot compliment you on your finding. This is the most extraordinary verdict I ever heard. Jurymen taking the oath, as you have done, should pay some attention to the evidence. This is a plain, clear case of guilt. I trust none of you will ever again be permitted to have a place as a juryman in this county. It is actions, such as you have done today, that have brought disgrace upon the name of Carleton county. Prisoner (turning to Gray), I am obliged to discharge you, because the jury says you are not guilty which is not in accord with the evidence."

At the opening Judge McLeod announced his ruling as to the point raised by Hon. Mr. Jones that the third count, one for concealment of birth, should not be tried, as it had been in the power of the former jury to bring in a verdict on that charge. The learned judge said he would sustain the objection and accordingly directed that evidence on the third count would not be admissable.

Mrs. Richard Gray, wife of the prisoner, was the first witness. She told of her marriage with Gray in Eau Clair, Wis., on sixth April, 1890, and their subsequent return to this province. She had kept company with Gray only about a fortnight prior to marriage. Estella her first child, was born 3rd Dec., 1890. On cross-examination witness told Hon. Mr. Jones that Gray was not the father of Estella, that Gray knew this fact.

Estella Gray gave evidence practically as at the former trial. Hon. Mr. Jones objected to her going on the stand, but the court ruled otherwise.

Dr. Berton Field was the only other witness for the Crown.

Before opening his case, Hon. Mr. Jones raised objection to count two of the indictment charging improper relations with a female under the age of consent. The court sustained the objection and quashed the count.

Hon. Mr. Jones called as his only witness, Thomas Gray, the sixteen year old brother of Estella, who swore that he would not believe Estella on oath and that she had been in the habit of keeping late hours with a man who lived near their house, which she denied.

RAILWAYS FINDING BUSINESS RATHER POOR

Superintendent Gifkins of the D. A. R. in the City Wednesday--Prince Rupert on Bay Route Monday.

P. Gifkens, of Kentville (N. S.), superintendent of the Dominion Atlantic railway, was in this city Wednesday on his return from Ottawa. Speaking to a Telegraph reporter at the Royal, Mr. Gifkins said that railways in general had experienced very poor business during the last two or three months. The Dominion Atlantic had felt it, though there seemed to be no particular reason unless it was financial stringency affecting the business of the country and indirectly the railroads.

Mr. Gifkins said the steamer Prince Rupert would be put on the St. John-Digby route on Monday and the Yarmouth would be taken off again for repairs.

Have You Nervous Headache?

Ordinary remedies are useless, but owing to the extraordinary pain subduing power of Nerviline it cures absolutely. One application dispels the pain and when the stomach is upset fifteen drops in sweetened water restores at once. Women who are subject to periodical attacks of headache will find Nerviline worth its weight in gold. All dealers sell Polson's Nerviline in 25c large bottles.