

Minister's Collapse.

Warning Illness of the Minister of Customs.

Weariness Character of the Ex-Posures Breaks Down Mackenzie Bowell.

Humiliating Exposures of Boordling.

As Retortious Teta Reported a Forger and a Thief.

(Special to the ADVERTISER.)

Ottawa, Aug. 28.—The committee instructed with investigating the charges against Mr. Edward Cochrane, M. P. for East Northumberland, organized this morning by electing Mr. Tisdale chairman. Mr. Cochrane appeared to play the "Oster" role in this investigation and aid the committee in getting at the bottom of things and read a long list of witnesses he wanted summoned: Mr. Hargrett, of West Northumberland, was present to assist him. Mr. Cochrane looked in for a minute, but declined their cordial invitation to testify. The committee will meet on Wednesday and try by dint of sitting all Wednesday and Thursday to finish the case next week.

Another old Minister has broken under the terrific strain of this session. Hon. Mackenzie Bowell fainted while at breakfast this morning and had to be carried to his room. "Heart failure" the doctors call it, and trace its origin to indigestion. Rumor, however, says that it is paralysis. He has been ill for several days.

THE PRINTING BUREAU SCANDAL.

When Mr. Lester undertook to prove that the Printing Bureau was saturated with corruption he was not exaggerating. He has been as good as his word. It has already been proved that several of the bureau's receipts were forged. The following were: R. L. Patterson, Toronto, \$5,000; J. M. J. Johnston, Toronto typofoundry, between \$1,000 and \$1,500; from Mr. Forster, vice-president, Barber & Ellis Co., Tor., from Mr. Polson, of the Polson Iron Works, about \$300; from Arthur W. Croil, otherwise known as the National Electrotyping Company, Toronto, \$150. But it is said that his total illegitimate receipts were more than \$21,000, or about \$5,000 a year over and above his regular salary. Nobody seems to have offered him money. He got it by hard and persistent begging.

CHARGES AGAINST THE U.

J. B. Lynch, who was sent to Manitoba to investigate the charges against Tetu, presented his report to the Public Accounts Committee. He found that the charges Mr. McMullen made were true; that Mr. Tetu's accumulations by forgery, wrong accounts and other methods amounted to between \$4,000 and \$5,000. The proof of these charges was systematically set aside upon the neglect of the Government. The attention of the Minister of Agriculture was called to the irregularities in May, 1890, but nothing was done and Mr. Tetu was transferred from the immigration agency at Emerson to Winnipeg. When Mr. McMullen made a motion in the House in May last with regard to the matter, the Government dispatched Mr. Lynch hurriedly to carry out the investigation, and it is now believed that neither in this case nor that of the Montreal customs officer has the Government taken positive measures.

REVELATION OF CUSTOMS VICES.

Mr. Jas. Johnston, commissioner of customs, was examined with regard to the "Oster" case. There are said to be abuses in the refund system which the Liberals will investigate.

Mr. Johnston and the Minister of Customs, who were also present, were questioned about the procedure with regard to the "Oster" case.

Mr. McMullen turned to the appropriation made by John Campbell, M. P. for the Montreal customs house in 1873, who during the past two or three years has appropriated between \$500 and \$5,000. He has recently been dismissed, but no proceedings have been taken to punish him for the stealing which today Mr. Bowell said had been proved against him. The reason which is heard in Montreal for the suppression on the part of the Government is that Campbell threatened retaliatory disclosures which would reveal irregularities on the part of the collector at that port. It was brought out today that the system of inspection of ports is so weak that Campbell's appropriation of warehouse fees was completely covered over several years without detection, and that although, as Mr. Bowell says, there was no attempt to cover them up, the books, it was after Mr. McMullen had raised the point by his questions early in this session that Messrs. McMichael and O'Meara were sent to investigate the irregularities at Montreal. Mr. Bowell said that \$1,800 of Campbell's appropriations were the repayments from officials of advances of salary which the collector had been in the habit of making before the monthly pay day came around. Another \$1,800 was made up of warehouse fees. For the former \$1,800 the collector had deposited an amount to cover, but the latter \$1,800 Mr. Bowell said he believed the Government would lose.

In the case of Chalmers inquiry, Geo. A. Taylor, of Brockville, denied that his affidavit implied that the original company had stolen \$118,000 from a section contract. He would never have sworn to the paper if he had known it was to be put in evidence.

Mr. Tisdale and Elections Committee met today, but only at fifteen minutes, as the members of the committee said they wished to read the evidence before proceeding to deliberate. Adjourned till Tuesday.

CLOSING OF THE SENATE.

A scene occurred in the Senate Committee on the Bill for the Chalmers Railway while Senator Pelletier was under examination. Senator Power and Senator McInnes (B. C.) held that Mr. Barwick having withdrawn from the case had no right to cross-examine.

Mr. McInnes advised the witness not to answer any of Mr. Barwick's questions, but wanted it clearly understood that he did not otherwise wish Mr. Pelletier's examination to close. Mr. McInnes indeed had himself summoned Mr. Pelletier to give evidence.

The committee got into an uproar and some remarks were shouted in a loud tone as follows:

Mr. Power—I do not object to the examination of the witness, but we should know who Mr. Barwick again appears for. It's just as well we should know what we are doing.

Mr. Ogilvie—We all understand but you. Mr. Miller (angrily)—Are we going to stop our proceedings in order to satisfy you?

Mr. Power—Allow me, sir. Do not interrupt me.

Mr. McInnes (B. C.)—If the witness takes my advice—

The chairman—I have ruled that Mr. Barwick is in order.

Mr. McInnes—Yes, but—

Mr. Ogilvie—You had better sit down.

Mr. McInnes—I will take my seat when—

Mr. Ogilvie (in stentorian tones)—Chair! Chair!

Mr. McInnes—You may bellow as much as you please.

Mr. Kaulbach—This is insulting to the committee.

The chairman—You must appeal against the chair.

The incident then ended and Mr. Barwick proceeded.

Suppressing the Evidence.

Trying to Screen a Minister by Hiding Damaging Testimony.

Northwest Land Grants and Railway Monopolies.

Ottawa, Aug. 28.—When the House met this afternoon Mr. Barron called attention to the fact that the evidence of Mr. McDougall, the Auditor-General, given before the Public Accounts Committee on Tuesday last, had not been printed as the evidence of all the other witnesses taken on that day had been. The member for North Victoria asked if Mr. Clarke Wallace, the chairman of the committee, could give any explanation of the fact. Mr. Wallace stated that he could not, but promised to make inquiry. It will be remembered that Mr. McDougall was called before the committee at the instance of Mr. Mills (Annapolis) with a view to proving that such irregularities as exist in the Post-office Department, so far as Miss Craig was concerned, existed in other departments, and even in the audit office itself. Mr. McDougall, however, did not prove anything of the kind. He stated that some female clerks had been absent for a certain number of days in a period of years, but not reasonably long, and in each case a medical certificate had been produced to show that they were ill. He stated that some female clerks had been absent for a certain number of days in a period of years, but not reasonably long, and in each case a medical certificate had been produced to show that they were ill. He stated that some female clerks had been absent for a certain number of days in a period of years, but not reasonably long, and in each case a medical certificate had been produced to show that they were ill.

Mr. Foster said it would be remembered that the other day there was some discussion with reference to the recent arrangement between the United States and Spain with regard to the trade with the Spanish Antilles. In regard to that trade he had expressed the opinion that Canada would have been the beneficiary of the trade.

Mr. Dowd said that he was not in a position to inform the House that to-day he had received through the Hon. General Information that such was the case.

Mr. Laurier—And what after that date?

"Oh, that remains to be seen," replied the Minister.

Mr. Dowd's bill to further amend the act authorizing the granting of subsidies in land to certain companies was read the second time and considered in committee.

The bill consists of one clause providing that in lieu of the making of grants authorized by act to be granted to the Red Deer Valley Railway and Coal Company, the Governor in Council may grant Dominion lands to the company.

Mr. Trow regarded the proposal of the member for York as perfectly reasonable.

Mr. Dowd replied that the company calculated on being granted the land in the country there consisted of coal mines.

Sir John Thompson argued that there were more complete provision in the Railway Act for the protection of the public than could be inserted here.

Sir Richard Cartwright answered on the extreme, reckless and mischievous prodigality with which the Government had been dealing with the land in the Northwest. We had, he said, turned over 24,000,000 acres in the Northwest to a variety of companies—a great number of which were speculative companies—nearly 4,000,000 acres more than the whole occupied area of the Province of Ontario. When such bills as this were before the House he did not intend to let an opportunity pass without calling attention to the scandalous waste of land in the Northwest. The colonization of the country showed most deplorable results, and he thought the time had come when they should call a halt. And he thought there had been no greater source of corruption than in the granting of railway subsidies during the last twelve years. They had had innumerable instances of corruption practiced by members of the former House, and by members of the other House in connection with subsidies to these companies.

Mr. Dowd vouched for the respectability and bona fides of the company.

Sir Richard Cartwright regarded the promise as nothing unless there was a substantial deposit in hard cash. That was satisfactory and nothing else. He protested against the locking up of the land for the benefit of companies. The system was prejudicial to settlement.

Mr. Mills (Bothwell) also condemned in severe terms the grants to railway companies and the waste of the resources of the country in the Northwest. It was of the utmost importance that these lands should not pass into the hands of speculative companies. One of the first things that ought to be done was to see that the land was cheap and how were they to provide for the people? He thought the time had come when they should cease to look after the interests of monopolies and give attention to the interests of the people at large.

Mr. Watson moved that a provision be added to the bill that the railway company should not charge more than 1 cent per ton per mile for coal carried over the road in cars. He thought this was a reasonable provision, inasmuch as coal could be carried at a profit at 1 cent a mile on the Government railways.

Col. Tisdale asked if any such legislation could be found in Manitoba.

Mr. Watson replied that legislation could be found in Ontario limiting the railway rate to be charged on wood or fuel.

Col. Tisdale said the only cases where the Ontario Legislature had imposed such conditions were where there were municipalities and at the company's request. He opposed the imposition of the proposed condition. It would prevent the construction of the road.

Mr. Daly said to impose his condition upon a road 55 miles long was absurd, because it would not lessen the rates of the

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Married People Implicated in the Horror.

The Woman Was a Friend of Sir Charles Dilke, and Brought About His Meeting With Mrs. Crawford.

DENVER, Aug. 28.—Madame Astle, the chiropractor, who has been arrested here, charged with being an abortionist, has a remarkable history. Her exploits in London, Eng., kept the police busy. Sir Charles Dilke was her personal friend when she was known as Georgie Shorthouse, and it was she who invited Mrs. Crawford to her resort, where Sir Charles met her at frequent intervals.

The disclosures in this intrigue were of a sensational character, and the scandal provoked by the relations of the pair startled England. Madame Astle knew too much. She was spirited away and was heard from no more. Mr. Casey, who was supposed to be the skill of Scotland Yard, however, failed to locate her, and she sailed for America, remaining a short time in New York and then bobbed up in Denver, where she has been known as Mme. Astle, chiropractor and masseuse.

The police say they have an affidavit of a man who lived in the same house with Mme. Astle to the effect that he has seen her kitchen stove turn after time. The police have arrested a Mrs. Howard, who lives in a cottage back of the Astle house. She is supposed to know something about the doings of the abortionist and is held as a witness.

The police have searched the Astle premises, but will not tell what they have discovered. It is thought that some horrible developments will be made.

Warrants have been issued for three married couples, whose names have been withheld for obvious reasons, and they will be arrested. The charges are that they were patrons of Mme. Astle, and that the women were operated on by Mme. Astle, who disposed of the bodies of babies by burning them. The police say that one of the bodies of babies was found in a box in the kitchen of the Astle house, and that the children were taken from her alive, and that she had seen them being put into the fire while still alive.

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