

THE HERALD

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THE Parent-Gouin fight in the Quebec Government seems quietest of late. It is now rumored the Gouin wing are caving in. The Legislature is called to meet on March 1st, and we may not hear much more of the internal strife until then.

THE meeting of the Legislature to have taken place yesterday has again been postponed till Friday next. Even the elements seem to mock the Government whose Premier has no seat in the House, and to prevent the convening of a Legislature hampered by such limitations.

A Conservative caucus was held at Ottawa on the 15th, when the following whips were appointed for the session: Ingram and Lancaster for Ontario; Worthington and Leonard for Quebec; Ganong and Lefurgey for the Maritime Provinces and Dr. Roche for Manitoba and the West.

The plebiscite on the question of city ownership of an electric lighting plant, which had been twice postponed on account of the unfavorable weather, was held on Saturday. The vote polled was not large, but was overwhelmingly in favor of city ownership. There was a majority in favor of city ownership in every ward of the city. The total vote polled stood as follows: For 651; against 152

Proceedings at Ottawa.

By reference to our account of proceedings in the Federal House of Commons, it will be seen that while the snow storms have been raging around us here and tying up traffic and communication with the outer world, some lively debating has been going on between the Government and Opposition at Ottawa. Our readers will notice that Mr. Martin, one of the worthy representatives of Queen's County has, with his usual persistence and energy, been plying the Government with enquiries regarding matters pertaining to this Province. Our readers will also notice the manner of answers he received when he succeeded in obtaining any answer at all. Postmaster Mulock would not give Mr. Martin any information relative to the charges against Mr. Lawson, Postmaster at Stanhope, or who preferred the charges. Mr. Lawson was dismissed Mr. Mulock said, because he was a political partizan. He had no trial, or no opportunity to defend himself. That is Mr. Mulock's idea of justice. Another remarkable answer regarding a matter of the most vital interest to this Province was that of Mr. Emmerson, Minister of Railways. We are sometimes told by the Government press that this gentleman is a friend of this Province. He represents Westmorland County, New Brunswick, which borders on Northumberland Straits, and of which Cape Tormentine forms a part. The delays and difficulties of the Capes service in the winter season is as much owing to the snow blockade on the New Brunswick railway running from Cape Tormentine to Sackville in Mr. Emmerson's County, as to the tie up on the Island side. Under these circumstances it would be expected that this pretended friend of Prince Edward Island, the Minister of Railways and representative of the County where the snow-bound railway to Cape Tormentine runs, would manifest some evidence of his desire to assist in facilitating the work of transmitting the mails by the Capes. But all this great friend of our Province had to say on the matter was to turn it into ridicule, and shout from his place in parliament, "Let the Islanders get out and shovel snow." Is this the manner and measure of justice we may expect from the Government of which Emmerson is a member? If all accounts are true, it appears that this gentleman is quite as well equipped for shovelling snow as he is for Minister of Railways. We trust the people of this Province will remember this sneer, and should Mr. Emmerson visit our Island let them not forget to remind him of it.

If the public is not furnished with information regarding the Government's attitude in matters pertaining to the interest and welfare of this Province, it will not be in consequence of any neglect of our Conservative members who are constantly quizzing the

ministry. On the 6th Mr. Lefurgey gave notice of motion for an order of the House for copies of all correspondence, telegrams, reports, estimates, and all other documents or information which passed between any minister or official of the Government and engineers or others, with reference to the investigating or taking of soundings, or any other work for the purpose of ascertaining the best plan and place for the building of a pier or breakwater in the vicinity of Carleton Point, or Cape Traverse, P. E. I., to establish and facilitate communication between Prince Edward Island and the mainland, winter and summer. On the 14th Mr. McLean gave notice of motion asking for copies of all correspondence, telegrams, reports, writings, documents, memorials, orders in council, memoranda, or written or printed information of any kind not already down, which passed between the Government of Canada, or of any minister or official thereof, and the Government of Prince Edward Island, or of any member or official thereof, in anywise relating to the claims of the Province of Prince Edward Island to a share of the Halifax Fishery Award. On the 15th Mr. McLean gave notice of motion for a return showing the quantities of anthracite used in the several departments of the Government of Canada, in the Province of Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, in the years 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903 and 1904. Also of the total expenditure per year for said coal for each of said provinces during said years; and separately, the names of the parties to whom paid, and the price per ton paid to each. From this our readers will see that if the Government fail to give the information due the public it will not be because our Conservative representatives are not doing their duty faithfully and well.

Ottawa Intelligence.

From belated exchanges and Ottawa correspondence we make the following extracts, relative to proceedings in the House of Commons, while we were snow bound and practically cut off from extended communication with the outer world:

February 8.—1. Mr. Martin (Queens)—Has Henry Curtis Lawson been dismissed as Postmaster for Stanhope, Prince Edward Island?

2. If so, why, and on whose recommendation?

3. Were there any complaints? If so, of what nature, and what are the names of those who made them?

4. Were any petitions received for his dismissal? If so, by whom signed?

5. Did the Postmaster or Post Office Inspector in the province ask for Mr. Lawson's dismissal?

6. How long has Mr. Lawson held the position?

7. When were complaints, if any, first made?

8. Did the Postmaster General furnish Mr. Lawson any reasons for his dismissal?

February 8.—Mr. Martin (Queens)—Order of the House—For copies of all correspondence, petitions, resolutions, reports, memoranda, in possession of the Government, or any member thereof, relating to the survey and construction of branch railway lines in the Province of Prince Edward Island. Also the number of surveys made in the province since 1900, the routes surveyed, and the cost of each.

February 8.—Mr. Martin (Queens)—Order of the House—For a statement showing the amount of money expended by the Dominion Government since the first day of July, 1873, for constructing, equipping, and subsidizing railways and canals, separately, in Canada; adding thereto the value of land given as subsidies, on the basis of one dollar value per acre; and adding further thereto the total estimated liability incurred by Canada on account of the building of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. Also a statement showing separately the part of such expenditure made or to be made as above, on railways and canals separately in each province of Canada and the Northwest Territories, deducting any sums that may have been charged any of the provinces or the Northwest Territories in their debt account with the Dominion of Canada.

February 10.—Mr. Martin (Queens)—Order of the House—For copies of all correspondence in reference to the building of a new boat to be employed to maintain winter communication between Prince Edward Island and the mainland of Canada. The Engineer's and Inspector's report

of the present condition of the SS Stanley now on that route; the repairs made; the damage sustained by contact with heavy ice; and any other information in regard to her age, etc., in any of the Government departments.

Ottawa, Feb. 10.—Replying to a violent attack upon Mr. Foster by Sir William Mulock, who in a bitter speech made unfair and unfounded charges against the former minister of finance, in connection with the resignation of that gentleman and six of his colleagues from Sir Mackenzie Bowell's cabinet in 1896, Mr. Haggart and Mr. Foster made their first public explanation of their part in the affair in the house this afternoon. Their explanation brought out facts never before made public in connection with this chapter in Canadian history. Of these facts the most interesting was that Sir Charles Tupper came to Canada from England in 1896 at Sir Mackenzie Bowell's request; that Sir Mackenzie was a party to an agreement by which the government should be reorganized, with Sir Charles as premier, and that his hesitation to make good that agreement was the chief cause of the famous resignation of the seven ministers.

The discussion began over a matter brought before the attention of the government by Mr. Martain of P. E. Island of the inadequate means of communication between the Island and the mainland. He asked again for a special train between the Cape and Sackville to accommodate delayed winter passengers. He also complained that the P. E. Island railway service was being very inadequately carried out. Emmerson shouted "let the islanders get out and shovel snow."

Sir William, while expressing polite sorrow at the state of affairs, said the government could not provide the remedies asked. He attempted to justify this by alleging that the Tories when in power paid still less attention to P. E. Island than the liberals are doing.

Mr. Foster proved that this was untrue, and in chaffing Mr. Mulock about his vivid imagination proceeded to retort to an interpellation of Sir William, to the effect that Mr. Foster was a man with a past, by pointing out some glaring inconsistencies in the postmaster general's own past, notably his recantation of his opposition views on omnibus railway passes and the independence of members of parliament. He said Sir William had made a record for insincerity without an equal in the records of public men of this country.

Sir William Mulock retorted in an angry and intemperate speech, raking up every old slur ever cast upon Mr. Foster. He began with the "moment of weakness," sneer, charging Mr. Foster with the abandonment of all prohibition principles upon which he had first been elected to parliament. Then he went over the grievous version of the 1896 episode, charging Foster with being a traitor and a violator of his oath of loyalty to his leader. No gentleman, he said, would have so conspired against his leader to induce his colleagues to resign and prevent him in the formation of another cabinet. He referred to Mr. Foster's refusal ever since that time to explain the episode and challenged him to enlighten the House. His remarks were loudly applauded by the Government supporters.

Mr. Haggart, who was one of the noted seven, rose, he said, to defend Mr. Foster, who uncomplainingly had borne all this unjust obloquy all these years. If Mr. Mulock knew all the facts, he said, he would be the first to justify Mr. Foster. "The party was in great difficulties at the time over the Manitoba school question. First, the late Hon. Clarke Wallace, said Mr. Haggart, deserted his leader, as Mr. Mulock would say. Afterward Mr. Angers resigned. Then Mr. Oimett and Sir Adolphe Caron all followed suit. They all had a right to do so, as they definitely disagreed with the Government on a matter of policy. Then there was an attempt to reconstruct the Government. Sir Charles Tupper was in the country. He came, I believe, at the request of Sir Mackenzie Bowell and some of his colleagues. It was well known at the time that the party was dying for lack of good management, for want of a federal leader at Ottawa. It was with the consent of Sir Mackenzie Bowell, as well as of the rest of his colleagues, that Sir Charles Tupper was asked to form a government. These are the facts. Not a man but would have been loyal to Sir Mackenzie but for this. But from day to day, like a rich girl hanging on to life, he hung on to office. He did not carry out his resignation as his colleagues expected him to do.

"There was then no other remedy than the remedy we took at the time. We did it not for ourselves. My honorable friend had nothing to gain, he was getting no promotion nor was I. We may have been wrong, we may have made a mistake at the time, but we did it thinking it was in the best interests of the

Liberal-Conservative party and for the purpose of benefitting that party and the country. From that moment to the present day I have never felt sorry for what I did at that time. My honorable friend performed the same act that I did myself, and I am confident that he did it because he thought it was in the interest of his country. There was nothing else left for us to do, and we did it. For those reasons I now rise for the purpose of defending my honorable friend. When the whole history of that transaction is written there will not be a single man from one end of the country to another who can point a finger at any of those gentlemen and charge them with having done wrong."

Mr. Foster said that considering Mulock's remarks, and in view of the fact that that gentleman had followed him for years like a leech, bound with his version of the affair, it would be just as well if he stated what he did at that time. Since 1896 he had had such charges as Mulock had just made thrown in his face every where, but had never once allowed himself one word in explanation or reply, because he deemed that his silence, if injurious to himself, was better for the public life of this country than a full revelation. Besides he considered he had done his duty in giving the explanation only to the governor-general.

First, Mr. Foster referred to the "moment of weakness" charge, and denied that he had ever been elected on a prohibition platform. Personally, he had always been a total abstainer and a prohibitionist, but he did not make this plea for his first election, as had been charged. He still held the same principle, but it was not possible always for one member of a government to force his colleagues to his way of thinking and he was not fool enough to think he could make his opinions law until the majority of the people held the same opinion.

Speaking of Mulock's assertion that he had proven himself not a gentleman and had broken his oath, he said he had sworn no oath of allegiance to any premier. He had a perfect right to leave a government with whose leader he differed on points of policy and principle. It was no proof that a man was not a gentleman because he differed with his colleagues or his leader and publicly said so. Personally he did not leave Sir Mackenzie for preference or in the hope of gain. He left office and salary for reasons which were stated to the governor general, and which proved so satisfactory to his excellency that he made him and his colleagues members of another government without a stain or reproach. Before they resigned Sir Mackenzie knew what their decision and intention was and had the matter in his own hands. Referring to Sir William's charges, he said no reasonable or careful man would have made such assertions without authoritative knowledge of the facts which Sir William did not have.

Mulock claimed that the explanation did not satisfactorily explain the fact that seven ministers left a body and then endeavored to prevent their leader from forming another government. Geo. Taylor, who was chief whip under Sir Mackenzie, indignantly denied that there was any conspiracy to prevent that gentleman from forming another government. He had been the intermediary between Sir Mackenzie and the resigning ministers, he said, and it was at Sir Mackenzie Bowell's request that he went to Sir Charles Tupper and got him to get the ministers together and form a government, with the understanding that Sir Charles was to lead the party during the session, and was to become premier afterward.

This closed the discussion, which, except for Mr. Foster's speech, was heated on both sides. The house then went into committee again on the public works estimates. Ottawa, Feb. 15.—Some correspondence produced in parliament to-day with reference to the delay in the return of the conservative elected in the Yukon indicates that a plot is on foot to keep Dr. Thompson out of parliament this year. Yesterday Mr. Borden asked why, though this man had been elected in December, he had not yet been declared so. To-day Laurier produced the following telegram in answer to a query sent a couple of weeks ago by the government in response to a protest made by the opposition. Pierre Leduc, returning officer, wired from Dawson City under date Feb. 9: "Alfred Thompson was declared elected yesterday by a majority of 618. My report with writ will be sent in a couple of days."

On Monday the following remarkable telegram was received from the same officer: "Was served today with writ of subpoena in a case of conspiracy, ordering me to produce on March 1st the writ of election, the voters' lists, the poll books and all other election papers. Shall I obey the order of the court or not? Dr. Thompson leaving for Ottawa on the 15th."

"PIERRE LEDUC." To this the government returned the following answer: "If there has not been any demand for a recount under section 90, Dominion Elections Act, then your duty is to return the candidate elected and conform to all requirements of section 92 of the act."

Mr. Borden again protested against a law which gave the returning officer such arbitrary powers, and demanded an explanation why Mr. Thompson had not been declared elected until two months after polling day.

In answer to Mr. Martin's question, Mulock said Henry C. Lawson had been dismissed from the postmaster's office at Stanhope, P. E. I., for acting as a political partizan during the recent elections. Mr. Lawson had not been furnished with reasons for his dismissal. Mulock refused to say who made the complaints.

Mr. Roche of Marquette learned that E. A. Leach, who is charged with being the man who tampered with the

Manitoba voters' lists, and for whose arrest a warrant has been issued, is still an employe of the government and is drawing a salary of \$2,000 a year as inspector of dominion lands agencies. Mr. Borden brought up an important question in regard to Canadians living in the States and Americans in Canada by asking for all correspondence in possession of the government with reference to the Anglo-American treaty signed in 1900, referring to the hiding, devolution and transfer of real estate by subjects of one country residing in the other. This treaty was not to apply to any British colony unless notice is given within a year after the signing of the treaty.

Mr. Borden wanted to know if this notice had been given. The treaty provides that when a citizen of one country owning land in another dies his heirs may have reasonable time to sell it and withdraw the proceeds without any more taxes than if they lived in the country where the land was. If such a one dies intestate his nation's consul shall be informed that may be notify persons interested. The house then went into committee again on Mr. Fisher's census bill, over which two hours of wrangling was spent during the afternoon. The principal objection raised was to the section empowering the minister to collect and publish, if he wished, statistics concerning manufacturing and other industries. After great argument Mr. Fisher consented to allow the section to stand.

On Friday night last three engines were stalled at the water tank near Simsbury, Ont. On Saturday morning three others with a snow plow went out to relieve them. Meantime the stalled engines got free and moved forward. Owing to a blinding snow storm the crews could not see one another, and all six engines collided with terrific force. The crews were thrown in all directions and several were severely injured. One of the engineers died after the doctor amputated one leg.

DIED

At Melrose, King's Co., on Feb. 13th after an illness of two years, Janet McKinnon, aged 32 years, and daughter of Francis X. McKinnon. May her soul rest in peace. In this city on 15th inst., Catherine A. beloved wife of Avaril Clarke, aged 74 years. May her soul rest in peace. At the City Hospital on Feb. 16th, Angelina, beloved daughter of Augustine Melonis of Earncliffe in the 22nd year of her age. May her soul rest in peace.

CANADIAN PACIFIC

THROUGH FAST EXPRESS LEAVES HALIFAX 8.40 a. m. LEAVES ST. JOHN 6.00 p. m. Daily except Sunday ARRIVE MONTREAL 8.55 a. m. Daily except Monday OTTAWA SLEEPING CAR SERVICE RESUMED. Leaves Montreal 10.10 p. m. Passengers may remain in Car until 9 a. m. For particulars and tickets call on F. R. PERRY, Acting D. P. A., C. P. R., St. John, N. B.

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Ladies' Underwear. Ribbed cotton fleece undervests long sleeve special 25 cents. White ribbed cotton fleece vests, long sleeve, special price 35 cents. Ribbed union vests with long sleeves, special price 50 cents.

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Men's Underwear. Men's heavy fleece lined underwear, a splendid line marked 60 cents per garment, special to-day per garment 50 cents. Men's all wool unshrinkable underwear per garment 75 cents. Men's black cashmere half hose, spliced heels and toes, seamless feet, special price 25 cents.

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