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NO. 14

HON. C. J. OSMAN SHOWS UP WHOLE MAYES CONSPIRACY AND MAKES PUBLIC MAYES' BLACKMAILING PROPOSALS

OSMAN SUPPORTS THE CHARGE OF BLACKMAIL AGAINST G. S. MAYES

A Letter Which Shows Conclusively the Nature of the Contractor's Plot--Hon. Mr. Pugsley Had Nothing to Fear and Told Mr. Osman Mayes Was Simply a Blackmailer--An Unanswerable Indictment of the Dredge-owner Which Will Sicken All Honest Conservatives.

The letter of Hon. C. J. Osman, printed below, is the final blow to the Mayes conspiracy. In plain language, every sentence of which carries conviction, Mr. Osman, who is known and respected throughout this province, brands Mayes as a man who attempted blackmail and who tried deliberately to create the damnable impression that the money he paid to Hon. Mr. Pugsley for legal services in 1903 was paid two years later when Dr. Pugsley was Minister of Public Works.

ALBERT MANUFACTURING COMPANY, Hillsborough, N. B. October 14th, 1908.

To the Editor of The Daily Telegraph, St. John, N. B.

Dear Sir--

I notice in your issue of today that my name is mentioned as one to whom Mr. Mayes spoke regarding his dredging troubles. Therefore, perhaps you will permit me to confirm the Minister's statement that I had been approached by Mr. Mayes and further to state that on Tuesday morning of last week I met Mr. Mayes (with whom I have been acquainted a number of years) on King Street, and after an exchange of civilities, he poured into my ear the whole story of his dredging troubles, explaining his association with Mr. McAvity and himself, under which Mr. McAvity was to have some share in the contract, and under which he stated that he had already paid to Mr. McAvity upwards of \$30,000.

He also stated that he had paid certain monies to Hon. Wm. Pugsley, and (I think) mentioned the sum of \$2,500, leading me to suppose that this payment to the Minister was in order to secure his influence in Mr. Mayes' favor in connection with dredging matters. I asked him if he could not get more dredging to do if he desired it, and he replied that he did not wish to do any more dredging, but that he wished to sell his dredge to the Government, and would accept \$160,000, and that unless arrangements were made to purchase this dredge before twelve o'clock the next day, he would expose a rat scandal in St. John, which would be a serious thing for the Liberal party and for the Minister himself, and urged me, as a friend of Dr. Pugsley's, to interview the Minister and inform him that this exposure would certainly take place if steps were not taken to satisfy him.

He also intimated that if the dredge was purchased at the price fixed by him (viz., \$160,000.00), he would be willing to make a handsome donation towards the election campaign fund in St. John.

He showed me photographs of some of the cheques made out in Mr. McAvity's favor and a cheque (I believe) for \$2,500.00 representing monies paid to Dr. Pugsley. He made no mention of the date of this payment, but from the nature of his conversation I supposed he intended me to understand that this payment had been made while Dr. Pugsley was Minister of Public Works, as he certainly called my attention to the fact that such payment would appear very much to the discredit of the Minister if made public.

I felt that the matter was of sufficient import to lay before the Minister, and arranged to meet him at the railway station in St. John upon arrival of his train at noon the same day, when I told him substantially what Mr. Mayes had said to me,

PUGSLEY PRODUCES LETTER WHICH HE WROTE MAYES REBUKING CONTRACTOR FOR DISHONEST PROPOSALS

FOWLER FIGHTS SHY OF CARVELL'S OFFER TO MEET HIM IN JOINT DEBATE

Picks Nomination Day, Knowing His Opponent Has to Be in Woodstock That Day

Carleton County Liberal Candidate Repeats Invitation for the Hero of the Foresters' Fund Land Deal to Meet Him at His Meeting in Sussex Tuesday Night--Tories Seeing Certain Defeat in Kings County Try to Interrupt Liberal Meetings--Morrison Lost in Northumberland.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Woodstock, N. B., Oct. 15.--This afternoon the following message was received from George W. Fowler by F. B. Carvell, Roxbury, Oct. 15, 1908. F. B. Carvell, Woodstock, N. B.: Your telegram just received. Will be pleased to meet you at Sussex on either Monday afternoon or Wednesday evening, Answer Sussex. (Signed) GEO. W. FOWLER. To which the following reply has been sent: Geo. W. Fowler, Sussex. Telegram received. You must know every candidate must attend his own nomination proceedings, hence after impossibility of meeting you Monday. You stated in your challenge you would meet any Liberal at any time or place. I have made arrangements to speak in your town Tuesday evening next and will be glad to divide the time with you. Answer. (Signed) F. B. CARVELL.

Tories in Despair in Kings Report to Dirty Tactics. Sussex, Oct. 15.--The reports received from all over Kings County indicate that the Conservatives realize that the tide has turned and the fight is going against them. If strong evidence were needed of this it is furnished by the deliberate attempts to interrupt the meetings of Dr. McAvity.

The paid stumpers of the Tory candidate, George W. Fowler, have shown up at almost every meeting of the Liberal candidate and demanded half the time of the meetings which were called and advertised to be held in his interest.

This organized interruption began at Westfield Monday evening when J. McAvity Price appeared on the scene and asked for a hearing--then knowing that the train's departure limited the duration of the meeting, tried to talk against time. But the audience would have none of this and shouted for Ora P. King, who this only had twenty minutes--ample time, however, to shatter Mr. Price's misstatements.

Elias Ganong, who is sometimes a preacher, but more of the time a horse trader, started to interrupt Green's speech with meeting but only got as far as Greenhill Hill where he talked to half a dozen of the faithful, while a big audience heard McAvity and King at Round Hill.

In Kars when Dr. McAvity and James McQueen were holding a meeting, George B. Jones and Ganong appeared. The audience remembered the old saying which they heard Mr. Ganong's praise of Fowler, "Birds of a feather flock together." They were too well acquainted with the speaker's career to suit him and some of the interruptions were of a spicy character.

Still Dr. McAvity treated both his Conservative visitors with every courtesy and allowed them to have their say. It was a great meeting for Kars, which while naturally Conservative gave the Liberals every indication that York will have out such a rousing reception that they were well pleased.

Most disgraceful of all, however, was the scene at Jeffries' Corner last night when H. D. Price, of Sussex, went to the meeting advertised by the Liberals and that he had exhibited a photograph of a certain cheque for \$2,500 paid to him, and Dr. Pugsley asked me if he told me that it was a payment made about two or three years ago for legal services, and I said "No," and the Minister then said, "All I have to say to you, Mr. Osman, is that Mr. Mayes is a 'blackmailer,' and I am prepared to meet any charges he may make against me."

At the close of Mr. Mayes' conversation with me he said, "This is a very serious matter and situation. Gamey defeated the Ontario Government, and if this thing is not stopped, it might defeat the Government down here." I replied that I could not think it possible that Mr. Mayes would willingly place himself in the same class as the renowned Mr. Gamey, and at this suggestion he "balked" a little. I remain, Yours respectfully, (Signed) C. J. OSMAN.

Minister, at Magnificent Demonstration in Fairville, Completely Wrecks the New Fabric of Scandal.

Second Batch of Conservative "Solemn Declarations" Meet Complete Rebuttal in Ringing Address by Hon. Mr. Pugsley--Plainly Told Mayes in Letter of Impropriety of Proposal Made--Messrs. McKeown, Lowell and W. G. Pugsley Take Part in the Rousing Meeting.

Friday, Oct. 16. The greatest political demonstration ever known in the history of Fairville was accorded to Hon. William Pugsley, who delivered an address in the Orange Hall last evening. Cheering crowds lined the streets to welcome the minister, escorted by the City Cornet band and a torchlight procession, he passed through the village. The hall was filled long before 8 o'clock and Dr. Pugsley's arrival was eagerly awaited. No sooner had he made his appearance at the door than the audience sprang to their feet and, waving their hats, shouted themselves hoarse in a spontaneous greeting.

His further vindication of Dr. Pugsley's honor and integrity as a minister, the crown had been needed it was given in his speech last night. After exposing the tactics of the opposition in juggling with the dates in the now famous "solemn declaration" of G. S. Mayes, the minister led the letter from Hon. C. J. Osman which appears elsewhere in this issue. Mr. Osman's account of the interview with the dredging contractor in King street was listened to in breathless silence and at the close cried out cheer for "Pugsley" rent the air.

But Dr. Pugsley had not finished. He went on to deal with the alleged "hold-up" which figured so prominently in the letter in Mayes' second "declaration." And Mr. Pugsley read his reply, sent to Mayes two days later, in which the impropriety of the contractor's proposals was pointed out. The content of the reply for the man he was addressing was expressed clearly.

Dr. Pugsley went on to handle Dr. Daniel and his sneers at Courtenay Bay in a masterly manner and exposed the Standard's misrepresentations of the finances of the Central Railway. He was cheered to the echo at the close.

James Lowell in Stirling Speech. James Lowell was the first speaker. He received a most enthusiastic reception. He dealt briefly with the record of the Hazen government since coming into power. He instanced the highway act which it had been confidently prophesied would be productive of so much good in rural communities, and which, instead of being an improvement on the old act, had been proven infinitely worse. The rate of wages to be paid for work on the roads was fixed under it. A laboring man in the summer could receive no more than \$1 for a day of eight hours. This rate was cut in half for the winter. And yet, Mr. Lowell said, these men got into power largely on the pretence of being friends of the working man.

Of course they had passed what they called a compensation act, but having done so not so favorable to the working man as it appeared on the surface. Compare the rates provided to be paid under the highway act with those fixed by the Liberal party, he said. When that party was in power they inserted in every contract a clause which required that laboring men should receive not less than 45 a day. For a man with one horse the rate was \$2.40 and for a man with two horses \$5. Let the working men contrast these rates and they would have no difficulty in coming to a conclusion as to which party they ought to support. He asked those present to go to the polling booths and poll up the largest majority for the government ever given in the parish of Lancaster (applause).

Rousing Welcome for the Minister. The minister, on rising, was greeted with a great burst of applause and it was some minutes before he could speak. He said: "I have only half as popular in the parish of Lancaster as my friends Mr. Lowell and Mr. McKeown I would feel happy to co-operate with a great majority."

A voice: "And, you can feel happy." (Laughter and applause.) Mr. Lowell has referred to the fact that when he spoke to me, having a public building erected in Fairville in which provision should be made for a post office and savings bank. I had made no reply. I do not like to promise things that I am not sure I can provide. When I made a promise I want to feel sure that I can make good so what I told Mr. Lowell was that I recognized the importance of having a public building here and I said I would take the matter up with my colleagues. When the estimates came up I saw that a very handsome amount was put in for the town of Fairville. (Applause.) At this point Doris Maloney, of Pleasant Point, a little girl, entered the hall, was carried through the densely packed crowd at the doorway and in the aisles and presented to the minister a very handsome bouquet of red roses tied with red ribbon, on behalf of the Young Liberals of Fairville.

The act was recognized by a great outburst of applause. The minister, resuming, said:--I have been at many meetings in Fairville. I was here one time with the late Hon. Mr. Blair when he was minister, but I never saw such a magnificent meeting as there is on this occasion. It shows that on election day the parish of Lancaster is going to roll up a magnificent majority for the government (applause).

As I was saying when this pleasant interruption occurred, it gave me very great pleasure indeed to provide for the erection of a large public building for Fairville, and the land is now being acquired by the crown and tenders for erecting the structure will be called for very soon.

Breakwater for Lorneville. Another matter of a good deal of importance that Mr. Lowell called my attention to was the necessity of a breakwater at Lorneville. It was pointed out that it was desirable to have a place of refuge for fishermen in case of a storm, and as I found the request a reasonable one I have arranged for the building of a breakwater and have called for tenders. The cost will be about \$20,000 and it will be of great value to the people of that district (applause).

The government has been criticized by our opposition friends for erecting public buildings in small towns and of building wharves and breakwaters in small harbors, but we take the ground that the people in the smaller towns and harbors are as much entitled to receive a share of the public monies as the people in the larger cities like Montreal and others (applause).

Some of the larger cities think that the smaller places should not be considered, but it is encouraging the development, the progress and the prosperity of the small places that contributes to the prosperity of the larger places, and we will continue that policy. We are doing what we can to advance the interests of communities generally. Before going to the larger questions at issue it might be expected that I should explain some of the charges that have recently been brought against me. For several weeks past rumors have been circulated that, unless certain things were done, a bombshell would be exploded by certain gentlemen, that would drive me out of politics.

Back of the Mayes Slander Proven. Mr. Gershon S. Mayes, I don't know whether you know him or not. (Voice: "Oh, we know him.") was said to have a secret in his possession that, if it were known, would damn me forever and drive me from public life. Several gentlemen, Mr. John E. Moore and Hon. C. J. Osman, of Albert county, for some time speaker in the local legislature and manager of the Albert Manufacturing Company, a man against whom nothing dishonorable can be said and whose word would be taken before the oath of many people. I am aware of (applause), were told by Mr. Mayes that if I did not settle certain claims and buy his dredge at \$150,000 or \$160,000--varying amounts were mentioned--these dreadful disclosures would be made.

Some few days ago I was met in the station by Hon. Mr. Osman, who told me Mr. Mayes had photographs of certain papers and unless I purchased his dredge before 12 o'clock next day, he would make these disclosures. He told Mr. Osman he had a photograph of a check he had given me for \$2,500. Mr. Osman thinks the amount was, and he led Mr. Osman to believe I gave it after I became minister. Mr. Osman felt that he should tell about the matter so that I should know what to do. I asked Mr. Osman if Mr. Mayes told him the check was given, not when I was minister in the government, but two years before, while I was acting as Mr. Mayes' counsel and adviser. Mr. Osman replied that he had been led to believe that the check was given to me since I became a member of the government. I said: "It is clearly a case of blackmail and Mr. Mayes can go ahead with it as fast as he likes."

Reiterates Campaign Fund Statement.

I have said before and I repeat it, Mr. Mayes to the contrary, that Mr. Mayes told me the dredge might be purchased through an agent and it might be so arranged that there could be \$20,000 of a campaign fund in this constituency. I told Mr. Mayes that my superintendent of dredging would advise me as to what was a fair and reasonable price and I would not pay one dollar beyond that. I further told Mr. Mayes that it was an improper proposal and invited him to leave my office. Mr. Mayes told Mr. Holt that if his price was paid he would burn the photographs and nothing more would be heard of the matter. The position which I took was that as your representative and as a minister of the crown, I could not be a party to such a transaction. My superintendent of

dredging said the dredge was worth \$101,000 and I would not pay one dollar more than that.

The Threat in the Baxter Telegram. I see by the newspapers that Mr. Baxter denies making the statement that a \$20,000 rebate would be allowed for political purposes, but Mr. Baxter cannot deny that he sent me a telegram in which he said: "My client impatient at not receiving word from you or inspector-Advise act immediately and wire definite as client insists on prompt decision."

For what did he want a prompt decision? It was my client I didn't accept Mr. Mayes' proposal he would carry out his threats. Reading between the lines you can read the positive threat.

Mr. Baxter says he is not interested, but he doesn't say that none of his relatives are interested (applause).

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