

# HON. ANDREW G. BLAIR, STRICKEN WITH HEART FAILURE, DIED VERY SUDDENLY IN FREDERICTON, FRIDAY

### Collapsed While Conversing With His Sister-in-Law and Passed Away Almost Immediately Was Attending to Special Business in the Morning and Had Appointment for the Evening--Was to Attend Telephone Merger Meeting Here Today--Glowing Tributes from Former Political Associates--Notable Career of the Great New Brunswick Leader.

Fredericton, N. B., Jan. 25.—Hon. Andrew G. Blair expired very suddenly at the residence of his sister-in-law, the Misses Thompson, 1007 Grand street, this evening, from heart failure.

He was stricken while reclining on a couch, chatting with Miss Mary Thompson, and immediately lost consciousness. Three physicians were quickly upon the scene in response to a telephone message. They were too late to render assistance. The sad news spread with amazing speed throughout the city and was the sole topic of conversation this evening.

People who had seen Mr. Blair about the streets during the week were at first at a loss to credit the report that he had passed away, but soon found upon inquiry that it was only too true.

Mr. Blair arrived in the city from Ottawa by noon train yesterday, the object of his visit being to transact some business in connection with the merger of the New Brunswick Telephone Company, of which he is president. He was about the streets yesterday afternoon, in company with W. T. Whitehead, M. P., and exchanged greetings with many old friends. His manner was very cheerful and so far as outward appearance went he was in the enjoyment of his usual good health.

**Thought He Had La Grippe.**

When he arose this morning he told his sister-in-law that he had not rested comfortably during the night, and was inclined to think that he had contracted a slight attack of influenza grippe. He came up town to the telephone office at 10 o'clock, and remained there until in company with J. H. Barry, K. C., the company's solicitor. He felt well at that time, as he was not feeling as well as usual, he would not return to the office in the afternoon, but they made an appointment to meet at the home of the deceased at 3 o'clock to finish up the business they had in hand.

**Suddenly Collapsed.**

He was making inquiries in regard to her work when, without a moment's warning, he collapsed. Miss Thompson spoke to him and, receiving no reply, called in Judge Wilson, who came part of the house. Judge Wilson found him breathing heavily and unconscious. He felt his pulse, but could not detect any movement. Dr. Bridges took on the scene a few moments later and on examining the patient found no sign of life. Dr. G. J. McNally and Dr. R. H. McGrath joined Dr. Bridges in a few minutes and after examination of the body they gave it as their opinion that death was due to heart failure.

**Tragic News Spread Fast.**

News of Mr. Blair's death was wired to members of his family at Ottawa and also to his lifelong friend, Senator Thompson, who left Montreal for the city. Mr. Blair's death was a great loss to the community. He was a man of high character and a fine personality.

**His Career.**

Mr. Blair was born in Fredericton in March, 1844, and resided there until five years ago when he removed with his family to St. John. He was easily Fredericton's greatest son and it is rather singular that the dead summons should come while on a visit to his native city. He was a man of high character and a fine personality. He was a man of high character and a fine personality.

**Premier Tweedie's Tribute.**

Montreal, Jan. 25, 1907.

Editor Daily Telegraph, St. John, N. B.

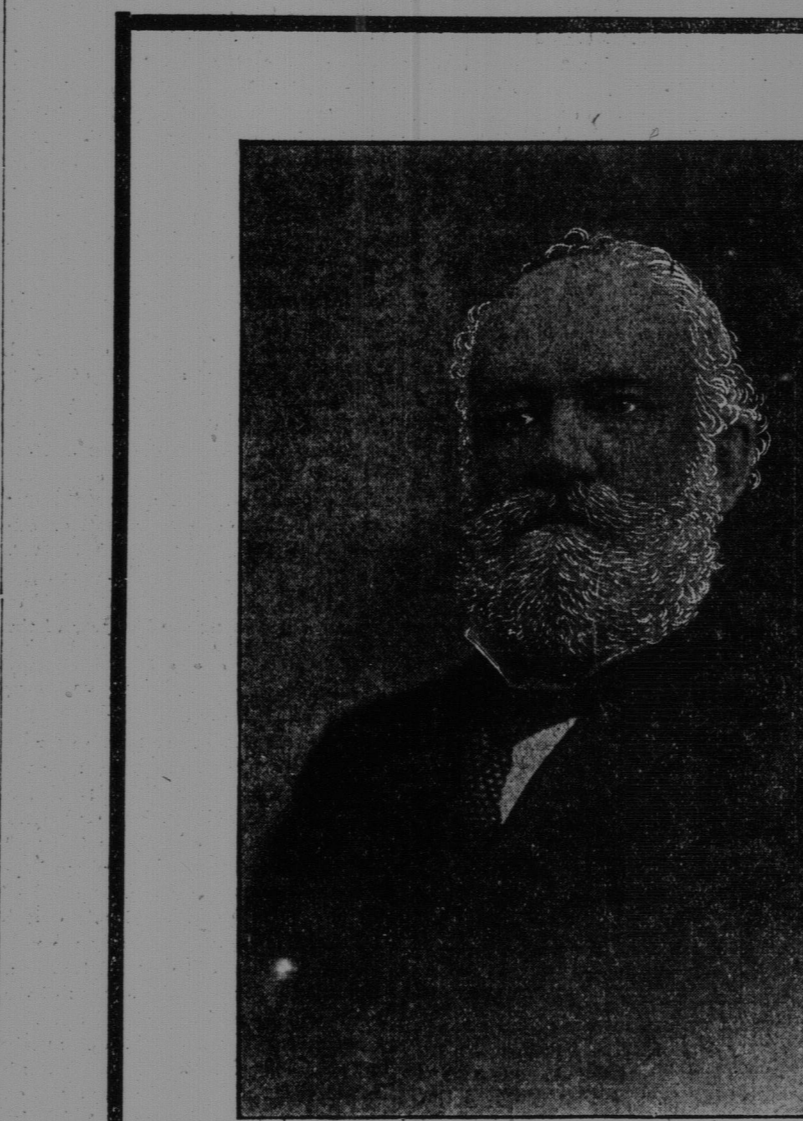
I was greatly shocked to learn of the sudden death of Hon. A. G. Blair. For thirty years we have been intimately connected in professional and political life, and during all these years we have been close personal friends. Mr. Blair was a man of extraordinary ability and untiring energy. I look upon his death as a great loss to the province of New Brunswick, where he has been so long a political force. I know of no man in political life who more constantly endeavored to advance the interests of his native province.

**WILLIAM PUGSLEY.**

I feel his death as a great personal loss. I had known him intimately for upwards of twenty years, and can truly say that he was a noble man in every sense of the word. He had been, for many years, New Brunswick's most honored statesman, and by his death our province suffers an irreparable loss.

**Gloom at Ottawa.**

Ottawa, Jan. 25.—(Special)—The news of the sudden death of Hon. A. G. Blair in Fredericton (N. B.), today, cast a gloom over parliamentary circles tonight. The ex-minister of railways was present at the early part of the week in honor of the visit of United States Secretary Root, and was to all appearances, in excellent health. He went to New Brunswick on a business trip, little knowing that he was never to return.



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**St. John Citizens Pay Tribute of Respect.**

Many Speak of the Late Mr. Blair and His Qualities in Private and Public Life.

The news of Hon. Mr. Blair's death sent a thrill through this city. It was the most striking event that has happened here since the death of Mr. Blair. It was a man of high character and a fine personality. He was a man of high character and a fine personality.

**Dr. J. W. Daniel.**

It is a great personal loss to me. Mr. Blair was a man of great mental power, ready and direct, though not at all times prepared. He did not do himself justice, and was probably a bigger man in every way than he got credit for. His retirement from the railway commission was a public loss. His heart was in that work and he hoped to make his reputation there. In his judicial position as chief of that commission he would have been at his best, and in my judgment a great success.

**Hon. R. J. Ritchie.**

Hon. R. J. Ritchie said: "It is an irreparable loss to me and to the province. Mr. Blair was a man of high character and a fine personality. He was a man of high character and a fine personality. He was a man of high character and a fine personality."

**Hon. J. G. Forbes.**

Hon. J. G. Forbes said: "It is with great regret that I have just heard of the death of Mr. Blair. He was a man of high character and a fine personality. He was a man of high character and a fine personality. He was a man of high character and a fine personality."

**Hon. H. A. McKeown.**

Hon. H. A. McKeown said: "The Hon. Mr. Blair was the strongest man in this province. He was a man of high character and a fine personality. He was a man of high character and a fine personality. He was a man of high character and a fine personality."

**Hon. W. S. Fielding.**

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**George Robertson, M. P.**

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**Walter H. Trueman.**

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**D. J. Purdy, M. P.**

D. J. Purdy, M. P., said he was very sorry to hear of the death of Hon. Mr. Blair. He felt it was a distinct personal loss. He had always been a warm friend and a great admirer of Mr. Blair, who was truly a great man. No other representative ever did as much for St. John. There were few men who had as many fast friends as Mr. Blair, friends who would stand by him in any emergency. He had lived his life for his country and his people. He had done his duty to the end. His death will be a great loss to the province.

**Edward Lantulum, M. P.**

Edward Lantulum, M. P., was disappointed to hear of the death of Hon. Mr. Blair. He had known Mr. Blair since 1880 and had always admired him. He had been a warm friend and a great admirer of Mr. Blair, who was truly a great man. No other representative ever did as much for St. John. There were few men who had as many fast friends as Mr. Blair, friends who would stand by him in any emergency. He had lived his life for his country and his people. He had done his duty to the end. His death will be a great loss to the province.

**Hon. L. P. Farris.**

Hon. L. P. Farris, who is at the Royal, said the news was a great shock to him and he could scarcely bring himself to realize the sad event. He had known Mr. Blair since 1880 and had always admired him. He had been a warm friend and a great admirer of Mr. Blair, who was truly a great man. No other representative ever did as much for St. John. There were few men who had as many fast friends as Mr. Blair, friends who would stand by him in any emergency. He had lived his life for his country and his people. He had done his duty to the end. His death will be a great loss to the province.

**Mayor Sears.**

"I may say," said Mayor Sears, "the death of the Hon. Mr. Blair comes to me with something of a shock. In its way, it is a catastrophe for which everybody was unprepared. In the last conversation I had with Mr. Blair at the time of the Liberal convention, he spoke of his death and how it had affected him; that he felt he was recovering his health and looked forward to taking a vacation trip again in the summer. He had, indeed, looked forward to seeing his magnificent powers once more and regaining a prominent position in the government of this country he loved so well."

**Joseph Allison.**

Joseph Allison expressed himself as extremely grieved and shocked at the news of Mr. Blair's sudden death and expressed his sympathy for the relatives of the deceased. "I think he was one of our most prominent public men and will be very much missed," he said. "I knew Mr. Blair for many years and always had a very high opinion of him. I considered him as one of our most foremost public men. He was very highly thought of and had a great many friends."

**Dr. McAvenny.**

Dr. A. F. McAvenny said that the news had come very suddenly to him and as an old Liberal he was greatly grieved. "It will be a great loss," he continued, "not only to New Brunswick but to the whole of the Dominion. I have been associated with Mr. Blair politically and no one would meet a more pleasant or more genial man. He was liked very much."

**W. M. Jarvis.**

Wm. M. Jarvis was much surprised by the news. He said: "I was president of the board of trade when Mr. Blair was minister of railways and canals and I always found him in the interests of the province. I am sure that Mr. Blair's death will be received with feelings of deep regret throughout the length and breadth of the Dominion. He was one of New Brunswick's ablest sons, a man of the highest sympathy, who had a host of warm personal friends irrespective of political considerations. Speaking personally he was a very warm friend of my own and in many matters which I had the honor of placing before the Dominion cabinet, I could always thoroughly depend upon his earnest and generally effective support."