POOR DOCUMENT

MC 2035

Fresh Sensations Mark The Close Of Potato Inquiry

Hon. J. B. M. Baxter Testifies That he Gave W. B. Tennant $40,000 When Audit Approached and Only Half Has Been Repaid; Government Counsel, in Summoning up, Charges That Indictable Offences Were Committed

The potato inquiry was brought to a close Saturday afternoon when Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, former attorney-general of the province, was on the stand. The final session was an interesting one as Mr. Baxter's evidence was of a surprising nature. Mr. Hughes, in summing up, accused several witnesses of offences under the criminal code. Mr. Powell spoke in defence of Hon. J. A. Murray, Mr. Baxter, B. F. Smith and the late Premier Clarke.

Hon. Mr. Baxter took the stand when the court was opened.

Examined by Mr. Hughes, Mr. Baxter said that he was not a member of the government at the time of the purchase of the patriotic potatoes.

Q.—Mr. Daggett said that he got $3,000 from you in April, 1915?

A.—That is correct. I think I understood it was to be applied in Cuba. He said there was a loss over the potatoes and that it was necessary it should not become known. I didn't pay much attention. He mentioned about some man who would be ruined. He said he would give the money back. I believed it was the whole of the potato loss. I put it up without expecting much back, and I have received nothing.

Mr. Baxter continued to say that the first and only time he heard potatoes discussed by the cabinet was on the day or the day after he was sworn in as attorney-general, Dec. 17 or 18, 1914. There was difficulty in securing tonnage and it was considered best to send them to Cuba.

Q.—Did you take any security from Mr. Daggett?

A.—No. I did not think he had the resources to meet any heavy loss or assume any liability.

Q.—When did you first learn there was a loss?

A.—I think the first information about a loss came from Premier Clarke.

Q.—Did he tell you what the loss was?

A.—My memory is that he did not know what the amount was, but he thought it was between $30,000 and $40,000.

Q.—Was there any question as to how the loss should be made up?

A.—He explained what a serious thing it was and I told him the proper course to pursue.

Q.—Just what did you tell him?

A.—I said plainly that with all the troubles to which the government had fallen heir, it was the last straw that would break our political back. I told him to put the matter squarely before the public and trust to their judgment. I believe he took my advice then, although he may have changed his mind later.

Q.—Mr. Clarke went to Tennant. For a while, he said, some influence held him back. Do you know who it was?

A.—Only by conjecture which, you know, is not evidence.

Q.—Do you know Tennant?

A.—Yes.

Q.—He was your agent in the county?

A.—He was associated with the party in the county. In a sense he was an agent working for my return.

Q.—Mr. Tennant has said that he put money into the election.

A.—Well, if Tennant has put money into my election he has not asked me to refund it. I believe I put a moderate amount into the contest if there is such a thing as moderation in these days.

Q.—Did Tennant tell you he put up money?

A.—Just what he told here.

Q.—He told you the amount?

A.—He has claimed he put up $61,500.

Q.—Mr. Tennant said he refused to give evidence till the money was returned to his business. Did he ask you for money?

A.—I couldn't have been one of the ones in sight he told that to. But as a matter of fact he got money from me, somewhere about June 17 or 18, 1917.

Q.—How much?

A.—$40,000.

Q.—In cash?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Mr. Tennant said there was only $5,000 in cash.

A.—He got $40,000, of which he has repaid $20,000.

Q.—He said you assisted him in financing $35,000 at the bank.

A.—That's the way all the money was raised. I gave him a check for $5,000 and I raised the rest at the bank by hypothecation. He was not responsible.

Q.—Did you get a note from Tennant?

A.—No. I did get a document from him.

Q.—What did you receive?

A.—Here it is.

Q.—I suppose you want it back?

A.—Yes. It may have some value. It's only a scrap of paper.

There was some discussion as to whether or not the document should be put on the records. Finally the commissioner decided it should.

Mr. Hughes read: "St. John (N. B.) To Caroline M. Tennant, A. P. Barnhill and Eastern Trust Co., my executors. In case of my death this will certify to you that I am indebted to John B. M. Baxter to the extent of $40,000 for which I have agreed to give him as security 380 shares of United States Steel and 100 shares American Car & Foundry Co.—Wm. B. Tennant."

Mr. Baxter explaining, said that Mr. Tennant told him the Stevens' inquiry had put him in a bad way and he needed $40,000 to tide him over for a few days. He told Mr. Tennant that if he intended to go on margin he would not touch it, but the latter assured him he hadn't done that for years and didn't propose to. He continued to say that on Nov. 10 Mr. Tennant paid $20,000 at the bank to reduce the amount and he himself paid off the balance, $15,000 subsequently, leaving Mr. Tennant still indebted to him to the extent of $20,000.

Q.—Had you asked him for it?

A.—He said it was impossible.

Q.—You knew his books were being audited?

A.—Not at the time of the loan.

Q.—Do you think he was trying to cover up?

A.—There is no other conclusion a man could come to.

Q.—Have you asked him for it since?

A.—We have discussed it and he has assured me he'd pay it back.

Q.—Mr. Tennant has said that you and Jones knew better than to ask him for it. Do you know what he meant?

A.—I don't know what he intended to convey. I did not know Mr. Jones had made a loan before I made mine.

Q.—How many times did he come and ask you for it?

A.—Just once.

The Valley Railway.

Q.—Did you know he was interested in the Valley Railway?

A.—He claimed to be interested as a partner.

Q.—Did you know he received $100,000 in advance.

A.—No.

Q.—Did he tell you about the contract?

A.—We discussed the Valley Railway very little. He told me he was bound to get into some of the contracting work. So far as Mr. Tennant's getting the contract is concerned I did not move a hand one way or the other.

Q.—There is a loan of $1,200 to Colby Smith which seems to have been used on the potatoes.

A.—He has been a friend since childhood. It is just the case of a man in trouble coming to his friends to save his neck. I gave it willingly. I have got back $500.

Q.—You seem to have suffered considerably?

A.—I seem to have suffered heavier than the province. I am going to confine my dealings in future to clergymen who have not left the ministry, not those who have given it up.

Q.—Then you hadn't much confidence in Mr. Daggett?

A.—He means all right, I think.

Q.—Do you know who is responsible for the potatoe transaction?

"No Two Stories Alike."

A.—I have tried to find out when I was in the cabinet and since, and I haven't heard two stories alike. The most I can find out is that Daggett gave a carte blanche to extend credit and things went bad.

Q.—Was the trouble only with the carte blanche?

A.—Well, Colby Smith was calling for potatoes in a hurry, so I hear, and they went to B. Frank Smith and he was sending them in a little excessive amounts.

Q.—You think then the trouble was in the credit extended to B. Frank Smith and as a result, that he could send in too many potatoes?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Did you read of the potato transaction in the auditor-general's report?

A.—No. I can't remember that I did. (Reads report)—$32,861.39 receipts. Well that's not correct, of course.

His Own Effort.

To Mr. Powell the witness said he knew nothing as to how Premier Clarke undertook to raise the money. He said that he himself made an effort to make up the loss on the potatoes through friends in private life, but was unsuccessful.

To Mr. Hughes:

Q.—Not the whole amount?

A.—No.

Q.—You didn't intend to have the correct statement in the accounts?

A.—Well, I believe if private people were willing to bear the loss it was nobody's business.

Q.—Then the true statement wouldn't have appeared?

A.—There was no need that it should be false. There would be no occasion for any reference to it. These people could have paid the bills for and against the province.

Bad Business.

To Mr. Powell the witness said he believed it was bad business that caused the loss and he believed the public would be sensitive because it was the case of a patriotic gift.

Mr. Hughes:

Q.—When did you first know Mr. Sumner put up the money?

A.—I don't believe I knew anything about it prior to this investigation.

Q.—They seem to have kept you in the dark?

A.—Well, maybe, I didn't go very diligently seeking for information.

Mr. Hughes' Address.

Mr. Hughes addressed the commissioner first.

Although many days were spent on the inquiry he believed it was justified. As is usual in such inquiries records in some cases are missing, in others falsified. Witnesses are adverse. But despite these things the story in this case was quite complete.

By order-in-council passed on September 2, 1914, it was decided to contribute 100,000 bushels of potatoes to the imperial governments. The carrying out of the order was entrusted to Hon. J. A. Murray, minister of agriculture. This was the first work of any importance that fell to him and it would be expected that he would take pains to do it well, especially in view of the fact that the government was lying under the cloud of the Dugal inquiry.

An order provided $75,000 for the purpose and it would have been sufficient if proper care had been taken. It meant 40,000 barrels only and the market price was much less than $1 per barrel that year. In fact, the government was offered them for less than $1. In some places loyal people wished to give potatoes but the offers were refused and it was agreed to pay $1.10 to Mr. Daggett's friends in Carleton county.

Mr. Daggett gave one car to this man, five to that man and thirty-five cars to "his especial B. F. Smith." About September 10 Guy Porter offered to supply potatoes at cost plus five per cent. commission. The offer was refused and he was told the potatoes were ordered, all but ten cars. He immediately offered to supply these without commission. This was refused and the order went to another. Two days later Mr. Daggett gave Mr. Smith an unlimited order under which he sent in the next fortnight an additional 125 carloads of potatoes, making 160 carloads from Mr. Smith.

The Case Itself.

"In these 125 cars, Mr. Daggett's troubles began. Daggett says he has sweat blood over it since. He has done more than that; he has succeeded in getting his chief, Mr. Murray, guilty of participating in falsifying the public records in order to cover up the transaction, and of handing down lying answers to questions put in the legislative assembly. He has Geo. B. Jones, M. P. P., becoming a party to misapplication of the funds of the Valley Railway to meet the shortage, and of swearing falsely before a royal commission to try to hide the truth; he has his friend, Mr. Baxter putting up $3,000, in order to enable Mr. Daggett to silence complaints coming from Cuba concerning the shipment of potatoes there, and of Mr. Baxter putting up an additional amount to enable Mr. Tennant to prove that no funds coming from the Valley Railway were used for potato purposes, and to enable him to cover up the fraud—and all this because Mr. Daggett, as secretary of agriculture, took upon himself the right to give a letter of credit to B. F. Smith by which he was enabled to buy all the potatoes that were offered and pay for them through the credit of the province."

"Swamped With Potatoes."

After giving Mr. Smith the order to ship potatoes until further notice on September 21, Mr. Daggett went away. On his arrival home on October 9 he found himself swamped with potatoes. Smith had sent 125 carloads. Some of the cars were filled to contain 400 barrels, when one car usually caries 200 to 250 barrels. Smith had been paid as he sent them whether the invoice was right or not. Daggett knew he could not throw this $18,000 worth of potatoes back on Smith's hands, so they became a surplus.

Still a Surplus.

Finally Daggett got the shipment of 40,000 barrels off to England and 14,000 barrels to Belgium but he still had a surplus of 16,700 barrels. The two gifts cost the province $118,087.16, according to the auditor-general's report. The account published in the report says the surplus cost only $1,934.70, but this was only because the auditor-general was deceived into giving credit for $32,861.39 which never came from the sale of them."

Of course, Mr. Daggett should have refused potatoes sent beyond the order, but he did not. Instead, he undertook to sell them. Although 16,700 barrels went into the warehouses, 5,000 barrels less came out. Mr. Daggett says they must have rotted. But there is no proof. No proof that they ever went in.

Then they began selling and shipping—but not one dollar from these sales went into the treasury. It was found through the banks that A. C. Smith & Co. got over $7,500 from sales, but not a word about that was on the public records. There were 4,909 barrels shipped to Cuba by the schooner Irma Bentley, but not a dollar ever came back to the treasury as a result. Mr. Daggett produced a document, purporting to be a statement from Waite, the agent in Cuba, which showed that the expense of handling these potatoes after leaving the shores of New Brunswick, not including purchase price, inland freight, storing, hauling and barreling, was $8,029.70. There is no record on the provincial accounts of this. Mr. Daggett says he had to take $8,000 and go to Cuba to settle up the expense of having sent down the cargo at all. Among the items charged up is $955 for picking over the potatoes in Cuba, although they had been sorted and picked over all winter. There were other charges for hauling 1,300 barrels to the dump and apparently there is no account of 1,000 barrels.

There was another schooner load of 3,075 barrels sent on the Minneola on which it has been impossible to get any report. All that is known is that $806 came back to Hon. J. A. Murray, AND INSTEAD OF PLACING IT TO THE CREDIT OF THE PROVINCE, HE TURNED IT OVER TO A. C. SMITH & CO.

It was also found

that culls were sold in St. John. About $280 was collected from Mr. Donovan for these, about $126 from Mr. Slipp and, in addition, sundry amounts were collected by A. C. Smith & Co. Not a cent of this went through the books of the province.

From the handling of the surplus potatoes, A. C. Smith & Co. had a claim and they made drafts on the department of agriculture covering the balance. "Daggett accepted them and Murray aproved of it. This was entirely against the law. Mr. Murray admits it was irregular and the auditor-general knew nothing of this financing. Finally the matter got so bad that A. C. Smith & Co. had more than $14,000 of paper outstanding and unpaid in connection with the government business on April 30, 1915, and they appealed to Mr. Murray to get them some money as the bank was pressing. Ten thousand nine hundred dollars of that was drafts accepted by the department and allowed to be dishonored. "JUST THINK OF THAT—$10,900 OF DRAFTS OUTSTANDING WHICH THE AUDITOR GENERAL KNEW NOTHING OF."

Mr. Murray borrowed $5,000 and gave it to A. C. Smith & Co. on account. A. C. Smith & Co. then drew on the department for the balance in three drafts which were accepted. Finally they were converted into one draft for $9,201.95. Mr. Smith says this was the amount agreed upon while Mr. Daggett was not sure, but thought it was $9,531.16. A check for this latter amount was asked for by Daggett and Murray and issued by the province July 27, 1915. Daggett switched $5,077 of this, with Murray's approval, to pay a note which had been discounted to make the April advance to Mr. Smith.

Further Manipulation.

With the balance of the check Daggett turned over to A. C. Smith & Co. the Cuban draft for $806, asking that Boyce, who supplied some potatoes, be paid $401. If Daggett is right, that $9,531.16 was the amount due Smith then he paid him $405 more than he agreed to. "On the other hand, if Mr. Murray is right that $9,201.95 is the amount agreed upon, and if the $5,000 was to come out of it, why was the check for $9,531.16 issued and the Cuban draft turned over to Smith? Mr. Murray could not explain."

According to Mr. Smith's version, $9,201.95 was the amount agreed upon. After the payment of the balance of the $9,531.16 check and the Cuban draft, he drew on the department for $4,003 and Mr. Daggett accepted it. "Now either the department owed Smith that money at that time or else it was giving Smith the credit of the province for his accommodation. The result is that either A. C. Smith & Co. was overpaid several hundred dollars or the province owes the company $4,000. Mr. Murray, on the stand, frankly said he did not know which was the true state of affairs. Mr. Daggett could not give a satisfactory explanation."

A Grave Matter.

It was shown that Mr. Murray got $1,500 from Mr. Smith on a personal loan, as he says. 'LET ME SAY THAT THIS $1,500 PAYMENT DISCLOSES A GRAVE MATTER. It is explained that A. C. Smith & Co. were financially embarrassed. On April 30, 1915, Mr. Murray had been appealed to to relieve the pressure of the bank. He raised $5,000. Later he further helped by borrowing $1,500.

"THAT, I TAKE IT, IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE. UNDER SECTION 158, S. S. (G) AND (H), ANY PERSON HAVING A CONTRACT OF ANY KIND WITH A GOVERNMENT, WHO MAKES A LOAN TO AN OFFICIAL, IS GUILTY OF AN INDICTIBLE OFFENCE, AND THE OFFICIAL OBTAINING THE LOAN IS GUILTY OF A LIKE OFFENCE."

Mr. Hughes went on to point out that even in the purchase of 26,000 barrels there was some $436 graft.

$34,000 Short.

"At the end of the transaction the government found itself $34,000 short. They became alarmed and decided to hide all but $2,000 of it. Mr. Daggett was instructed and did prepare a fresh statement for the auditor-general. By this he showed that $32,861.37 had been received from the potatoes. They hadn't a cent of it, so they got an accommodation note from A. C. Smith & Co. for the amount, discounted it at the bank and endorsed it in the name of the government. By this means the auditor-general was deceived. They had a false entry made on the books of the province. And the making of false documents and false entries in the public records for the purpose of deception is a criminal offence."

When the note came due the money was borrowed from F. W. Sumner, chairman of the Valley railway board, to take it up and the note was subsequently paid with money collected from W. B. Tennant "by reason of a corrupt bargain which was made with him concerning the contract for the building of the Valley Railway." It was an agreement with Premier Clarke that he would make up the potato loss if his company got the railway construction contract.

Called Day Check Cashed.

Subsequently his company got the contract and Mr. Tennant received $100,000. The day he cashed the check, George B. Jones called and asked for $61,500. Mr. Tennant says he believed this was the potato loss and he paid it. Out of this Mr. Sumner's loan was retired and the balance was distributed for election purposes and $10,000 to the Gleaner.

"In this way the unfortunate Valley Railway again met the needs of corrupt politicians. When Pleming needed money he got $100,000 from Gould. When his successors wanted money, $61,500 came from Tennant. Of course we didn't know of all the graft; but it is easy to place your finger on a quarter of a million dollars which came out of the Valley Railway."

In the process of deceiving the people, Mr. Hughes declared, the whole government was enmeshed with a single exception of John Morrissey "and he was put out of the government as not being fit company." He held Dr. Landry to blame in that he was a party to manipulating public accounts.

As for B. F. Smith, Mr. Hughes said that not satisfied with swamping the department with potatoes he billed many of the cars as containing more potatoes than they actually did. The department figured he was paid $2,447 more than he should have been paid. Daggett presented a bill for the amount. Later, in the false return to the auditor, he made it appear the amount was repaid. Both Mr. Smith and Mr. Murray publicly stated it was repaid. But on the stand Mr. Smith himself admitted it was not.

Mr. Baxter.

In referring to Mr. Baxter's status in the case, Mr. Hughes pointed out one thing he considered clear, "that he knew the Cuba shipment had produced a loss and that he put up $3,000 to cover it from the public, and that he must have known the statement given to the auditor-general and to the public, was false, and the report of the public accounts committee a sham and a fraud."

But more serious still he considered Mr. Baxter's assistance to Mr. Tennant to cover up matters before the Stevens' inquiry. It was done, Mr. Hughes said, to enable Mr. Tennant to be in a position to say that none of the $100,000 had been paid out, so that the potato loss might not be exposed.

"This, on Tennant's story, seems to me to fall directly within section 177 of the criminal code which makes it an indictable offence, liable to seven years' imprisonment, to fabricate evidence."

Geo. B. Jones.

Referring to George B. Jones, Mr. Hughes said: "When examined before Commissioner Stevens he swore on two occasions that this $20,000 was the only money he had ever got from Tennant. On this inquiry he told of getting both this and $61,500. When I confronted him with his former testimony and asked him if it was true, he refused to answer. Besides being guilty of this perjury, he was one of those who assisted in preparing the stage for the false testimony and his perjury was deliberate and prepared."

Mr. Daggett.

Mr. Daggett, Mr. Hughes considered a dupe in the hands of others. He would have fared better had he come out with the truth in the beginning.

Hon. Mr. Murray.

"Behind them all stood the responsible minister, Hon. J. A. Murray. When on the stand his answer to all the things of which he ought to know and of which Mr. Daggett says he did know, was 'I don't know.' He didn't know, he said, that his department, through Mr. Daggett, had placed at the disposal of Mr. Smith the whole credit of the province." Other things of as serious a nature he did not know.

"If Mr. Murray does not know then every person who has been following the investigation does know that he knowingly permitted his deputy to break the law of the province by accepting drafts and entering into obligations in the name of the province; that he was himself guilty of breaking the same law, of allowing thousands of dollars to be reserved and expended without ever coming into the hands of the reserve general, and without coming to the knowledge of the auditor-general.

"And they further know that he was afraid to tell the people of the mismanagement of his department, and that he went and told the premier, and between them they decided to cover up the loss.

"And when he admitted all these things to me on oath, he had the temerity to say to me that it made no difference to the people so long as the money was there. And whose money was it? Money that Tennant had corruptly agreed to pay if the Nova Scotia Construction Company got the contract with the Valley Railway Company."

In Conclusion, Mr. Hughes expressed the belief that the report of the commissioner would serve a useful purpose in the future.

Mr. Powell's Address.

Mr. Powell, who explained that he appeared for Hon. Mr. Murray in particular, said he did not purpose going into detail and would touch only on the salient features. He referred to political scandals of the last thirty years and contended that the men involved in the present case were no more culpable than the politicians of former years. As to the 'rumors' of wrongdoing in connection with the Valley Railway and purchase of potatoes, all, he thought, would agree that the government did perfectly right in investigating them. He did not purpose to palliate any man in high or low position. In public life he thought right and wrong should be distinctly defined.

He contended that there was no misappropriation of funds for political purposes. Anything that had been further produced, he said, was based on the transaction between Premier Clarke and Mr. Tennant. The province had not lost a cent financially except "money paid by Tennant out of the contract price of the Valley Railway." There were two views, he said, in which the Clarke-Tennant transaction might be viewed. One that he was getting money for political purposes only and the other that Premier Clarke had previously promised the contract to Tennant. In the latter case both were deserving of the severest censure, he said. But if it was the former then it was merely an accomodation on the part of Tennant for the premier. Knowing Premier Clarke as he did, he said, he could not bring himself to believe that the transaction went beyond an accomodation. However, he considered his action imprudent.

In view of the litigation in progress in the supreme court between the province and Mr. Tennant, Mr. Powell did not deem it wise to go into his actions.

The charges before the commission, said Mr. Powell, were surprising in their insignificance and the only palpable thing was censure for the purchase of potatoes. Undoubtedly the shipment turned out badly and a loss of $82,000 resulted. Mr. Murray could have said to the people of the province that it was unfortunate but let the province bear the loss. It was unheard of that public men should be obliged to insure the public against loss. On the other hand the party was panicky and it may have been thought better to pay up because of the government's other troubles. Mr. Clarke may have thought that Tenant could well disgorge. It was bad business, he admitted. All acted in a foolish manner and it would have been better were they above board. Concealment, he believed, was undoubtedly resorted to.

As for his client, Mr. Murray, he considered he had come through unscathed. The payment of $1,500 by A. C. Smith to Mr. Murray was very imprudent, indeed, but it was a personal matter.

As for Mr. Baxter, Mr. Powell considered he came through remarkably well. He considered his position regrettable and that the investigation had left his character unsullied. The potato business, he went on, was badly conducted but the whole matter was due to the business incapacity of Mr. Daggett.

As to the dealings with A. C. Smith & Co., Mr. Powell said he must confer that when a draft was made on the department for $9,200 and it was accepted, the giving of a check for $9,500 by the province should have wiped out all the liability. It was not removed, though, and new drafts were made. Mr. Murray, however, was absolutely exonerated. Everyone knows he had a constitutional responsibility and in this respect he was responsible.

In concluding, Mr. Powell said that the province had not suffered financially one cent from the transaction, that the loss was met by individuals. He furthermore asserted that not one cent of the Tennant money found its way to the pockets of any member of the government.

CROSS, FEVERISH CHILD IS BILIOUS OR CONSTIPATED

Look, Mother! If Tongue is Coated Give "California Syrup of Figs"

Every mother realizes, after giving her children "California Syrup of Figs," that this is their ideal laxative, because they love its pleasant taste and it thoroughly cleanses the tender little stomach, liver and bowels without griping.

When cross, irritable, feverish or breath is bad; stomach sour, look at the tongue, mother! If coated, give a teaspoonful of this harmless "fruit laxative," and in a few hours all the foul, constipated waste, sour bile and undigested food passes out of the bowels, and you have a well, playful child again. When its little system is full of cold, throat sore, has stomach-ache, diarrhoea, indigestion, colic—remember, a good "inside cleansing" should always be the first treatment given.

Millions of mothers keep "California Syrup of Figs" handy; they know a teaspoonful today saves a sick child tomorrow. Ask your druggist for a bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," which has directions for babies, children of all ages and grown-ups printed on the bottle. Beware of counterfeits sold here, so don't be fooled. Get the genuine, made by "California Fig Syrup Company."

BILIOUSNESS

How to Prevent and Cure

Among the earliest symptoms are furred tongue and dull headache.

Then come dizzy spells, bad taste, quick pulse, fever and cold sweats.

Finally, sleeplessness and vomiting make the condition of the sufferer almost intolerable.

The root of biliousness is with the liver which is clogged and can't keep bile from getting into the blood.

Nothing works with the certainty of Dr. Hamilton's Pills; they act directly on the liver, restore the bile to its proper course and prevent it from contaminating the vital fluid.

Of course, the bowels are ordered and relaxed by Dr. Hamilton's Pills, the kidneys receive new tonic, the blood is renovated, and the result is a renewal of good health.

No need for delay, the sooner you use Dr. Hamilton's Pills, the sooner you'll feel the brisk, keen satisfaction of a healthy, well-regulated system. Sold in yellow boxes, 25c.

Every Woman Needs IRON at Times

If women would only take Nuxated Iron when they feel weak, run-down, tired out—when they are pale, nervous and haggard—there are thousands who might readily build up their red corpuscles, become rosy-cheeked, strong and healthy and be much more attractive in every way. When the iron goes from the blood of women, the healthy glow of youth leaves their skin and their charm and vivacity depart. A two weeks course of Nuxated Iron works wonders in many cases. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. At all good druggists.

NUXATED IRON

Constipation, health's worst enemy, can be easily conquered with

"RIGA"

Purgative Water, which acts mildly, yet surely, without causing colic, cramps or weakness.

ON SALE EVERYWHERE TRY IT TODAY

Distributors for the Maritime Provinces.

NATIONAL DRUG & CHEMICAL CO. OF CANADA LIMITED, St. John and Halifax.

Thinks Swearing All Right.

Providing the provocation equals the offence of Jones stepping on Smith's corns. Far better to use Putnam's Corn Extractor;—it does cure corns and warts in one day without pain. Try "Putnam's," free from acids, and painless, price 25c. at all dealers.

MORNING NEWS OVER THE WIRES

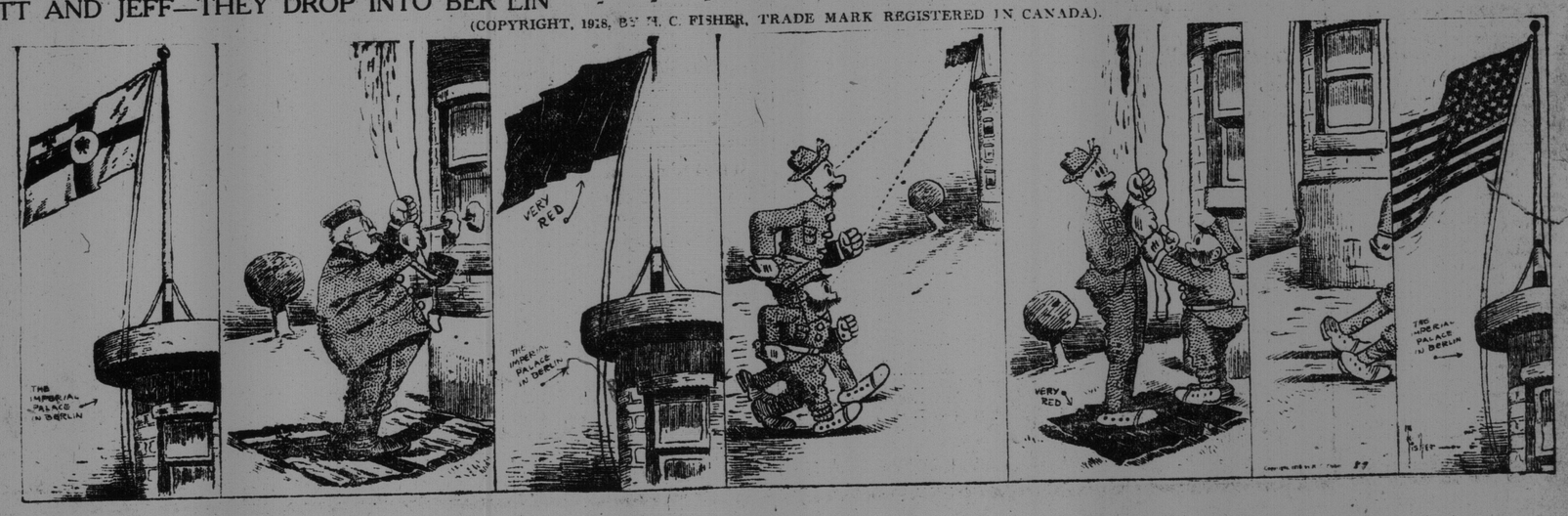
Major-General H. H. McLean, M. P., received word yesterday that his son, Colonel C. W. McLean, D. S. O. with two bars, had been elected to the British house of commons for the constituency of Briggs, Lincolnshire, by a majority of 3,500.

H. H. Melanson, who was recently promoted to be passenger traffic manager of the Canadian Northern Railway system in Toronto, was made the recipient of a portmanteau by members of his staff in Moncton.

Major D. J. MacKinnon, who commanded the 36th Field Artillery battery in France, arrived at his home in Charlottetown, P. E. I., Saturday. He won the D. S. O. and a Croix de Guerre.

The Price of Turkeys.

Fredericton Mail—A Fredericton lady, while on a visit to Digby, N. S., a few days ago, had her attention attracted by some nice turkeys displayed in front of a store. Upon stepping inside she enquired the price and was told that they were worth fifty cents a pound. The price surprised her and she was given a further surprise on being informed that the birds were imported from New Brunswick. Here in Fredericton turkeys sold the day before Christmas for sixty-five cents.

MUTT AND JEFF—THEY DROP INTO BER LIN - By "BUD" FISHE

(COPYRIGHT, 1918, BY H. C. FISHER, TRADE MARK REGISTERED IN CANADA).