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THE HERALD.

FREDERICTON, APRIL 28, 1894.

VOICED PUBLIC SENTIMENT.

The members of the Fredericton board of school trustees, or a number of them at least, are represented as being quite on their dignity because Inspector Bridges in his report, which is published in the education report, bestowed some well merited criticism and condemnation on them for their parsimony in cutting down the teachers' salaries just after they had completed a very expensive school building on York street, but as the inspector only voiced public feeling in the matter as represented by THE HERALD at the time, he can afford to ignore the indignation of the trustees. Here is the extract from Inspector Bridges' report, which has thrown some of the trustees into a perturbed and indignant state of mind:

"The new building in appearance and appliances for school work is certainly a credit to the city, and is fully the equal of any in the maritime provinces, but if it has been erected at such an expense as to compel the board of trustees to lower the salaries of some of their most efficient teachers, as well as increase their work, it would seem to have been promoted [illegible] in a spirit of show th[illegible] wisdom. The board have this satisfaction, however, of knowing that their action in this regard has been universally condemned both on the streets and in the press, and it is the more to be regretted as it will furnish a pretext for parsimonious district boards, and unfortunately there are such, to lower salaries that are already too small."

No unprejudiced person who reads the Inspector's remarks, but will feel that he was quite justified in his observations; indeed it was his duty to officially place on record the feeling of the people on this subject. No doubt a similar feeling influenced the city council to decline the increased demand made on them for the annual grant to the schools. The trustees displayed poor business judgment in erecting such an expensive school building if its large cost entailed a reduction in the teaching staff and in the salaries of some of its most efficient members. This is the most important point at issue, and the one which strikes the trustees so forcibly, that they feel called upon to censure somebody, to call attention from their own mistaken policy. If the trustees want to pass indignant resolutions, and talk of memorials to the board of education, apologies, and that sort of thing, they had better formally condemn their own want of foresight in spending so much money on an expensive building to the prejudice of the schools' efficiency. THE HERALD is with the Inspector, who in his observations, was simply in the line of his duty, which he evidently understands quiet as well if not better than those who seek to censure him. What else is he there for but to call attention to any and everything which might impair the efficiency of the schools.

AN EMBARRASSING PROGRAM.

The British government, under Lord Roseberry's leadership, have on hand an extensive and difficult program during the present session of parliament, and it will be surprising if they carry it all through, considering the narrow majority they have in the house of commons, and the various conflicting elements comprising their party. The registration bill, the evicted tenants bill and the budget proposals, says a recent writer, each contain a sufficient number of objectionable provisions to excite the determined and prolonged opposition, not only of the conservatives, but of a considerable part of the Irish membership and many radicals and unionists. The conservatives will resort to every possible form of obstruction in resisting the raid made upon landed property under the proposed new estate duty, and in these tactics they can confidently count on the undivided support of the unionists. The liquor interests are exerting a powerful influence on the Irish and Scotch supporters of the governmennt in their insistance upon the modification of the projected duties on spirits and beer. Their efforts in this direction have not been in vain either, for the clamor they have raised has already compelled Sir William Harcourt to limit the imposition of the proposed tax on spirits to one year, and it is not unlikely that he will find it desirable to make still further concessions to the increasing demands of different sections of the kingdom. Even under the limitation of the proposed tax on spirits to one year, Ireland, which is already paying a conspicuously unfair proportion of the domestic revenues into the imperial treasury, will be mustered to the tune of £200,000 additional taxation, and with the proposed increase under the estate duty, it is estimated that the excess of Irish taxation over the current year will be over £500,000. Confronted by this condition of things, it is not surprising that the Irish parliamentary party are fretting over the delay of the government in bringing forward home rule, a delay that is tantamount to the shelving of that measure for the session. Neither is it any wonder that the Irish party are chafing at the obstructions placed in the way of a settlement of the question of the financial relations between Great Britain and Ireland.

The most bitter fight of the session will undoubtedly be made on the registration bill. The opposition have already given intimation of their intention to contest to the last gasp, the clauses providing for the abolition of plural voting, the holding of simultaneous elections and the three months' residence qualifications. These clauses comprise about all there is of the bill, and the conservatives will not be alone in fighting the measure.

ALBERT T. DUNN, one of the popular M. P. P.'s for St. John county, has been sworn in a member of the local government in place of Mr. Connell of Woodstock, and sat in the executive council yesterday for the first time. Hon. Mr. Dunn is a well-known business man, and since his election to the legislature has won the esteem of everybody who has been brought into contact with him. St. John has not been represented in the government since Hon. D. McLellan's retirement, but in Mr. Dunn that constituency has now a worthy spokesman.

HON. D. C. Fraser gives notice in parliament of an enquiry as to whether the government knows that John C. Bourinot, customs collector at Port Hawkesbury, is the proprietor and editor of a conservative newspaper. Mr. Fraser might extend his enquiry to New Brunswick and include Editor Robidoux of the Moniteur Acadian and W. C. Milner of the Sackville Post. Both these gentleman are collectors of customs, the one at Shediac, and the other at Sackville.

A MANY SIDED POLITICIAN.

Not so many years ago, George V. Macinerney, the now full fledged conservative M. P. for Kent, was a leading New Brunswick liberal, and one of the vice-presidents of the provincial association formed by that party. In the meantime, however, Mr. Macinerney has experienced so many changes of heart that it has been difficult to keep track of him. A Kent correspondent of the Transcript who has been looking back over Mr. Macinerney's political record, finds that he has contested Kent seven times for the house of commons, running his first three elections as a straight liberal. Then he ran against the now Judge Landry as an independent liberal, and he ran against Dr. Legere as a conservative at the election that Jardine ran; and at the next election when Oliver J. LeBlanc ran as a liberal against Dr. Legere, he was a supporter of the liberal, O. J. LeBlanc; and at the last election he ran as an independent conservative. In local politics Mr. Macinerney's career has been as varied. He ran with O. J. LeBlanc as an out and out supporter of the Blair government. Again we have him supporting Auguste Leger, a supporter of Mr. Blair, against Goguen, and in one year after we have him supporting Goguen and Phinney against the Blair government.

Where Mr. Macinerney will next turn up, this deponent sayeth not, but to preserve his record as the champion political acrobat of New Brunswick, he ought next to become a liberal, and in local politics, give the Blair government a turn.

ALARMING CONDITIONS.

While the people of Canada are continually emigrating in large numbers to the United States, the news comes from London that emigration from Great Britain to this country which declined sixty-four per cent during March, as compared with the corresponding period last year, continues to decrease, though the St. Lawrence route is now open. So far this month the departures from Liverpool have only been one quarter the number as compared with April last year. The emigration experts here say that the bottom has been completely knocked out of Canadian immigration. This they claim, is partly due to increased and excessive steamship rates, and also to the revival of British rural life owing to extensions of local government, the bad reports of things generally which are received from Canada and the low prices of wheat. If the Dominion government can do nothing to prevent the exodus of Canada's population to the United States, they should not give up all possible efforts to bring emigrants into the country. No doubt it is well known in England, even among the farmers and other probable emigrants, that the agriculturiste of Canada are taxed to death under Mr. Foster's tariff, and possibly only the removal of the bugbear will induce people to settle in this country. Canada has been burdened with expenditure to develop the great northwest, but fertile prairies, and expensive railway communication are of very little use without settlers.

THE liberals in parlirment, after much resistance on the part of the government, have had conceded to the public accounts committee the right to examine witnesses under oath. It was only after the most determined fight, however, that the point was won, for the tory party have much to cover up which will now be revealed. There is believed to be enough scandal yet unearthed at Ottawa to drive more than one cabinet minister from office, and produce very unpleasant convictions of how the public business is conducted at the capital.

THE Nova Scotia liberals are setting the party in New Brunswick a good example in already organizing for the dominion election which is sure to come in the next few months. Mr. Fielding is taking the lead. At Truro the other night he addressed a large meeting and assisted in the organization of a liberal association for Colchester. Other counties are to follow in the same line.

BYE-ELECTIONS will be held during the recess in Carleton and Gloucester counties to fill the seats vacated by Messrs. Connell and Blanchard, and the prospect is for a government success in both constituencies.

W. D. BALLOCH, the new sheriff of Carleton county, is one of the most popular gentlemen in that constituency, and his appointment will give very general satisfaction to the people of Carleton.

THE liberals of York would have more confidence in the coming electoral revision if it was to be conducted by some other person than a partizan tory lawyer.

D. O'CONNOR, an Ottawa tory lawyer, has scooped $122,449 out of the government since 1884 for legal services.

GOVERNOR FRASER withheld his assent from Dr. Stockton's tobacco bill.

CANADA'S LATE GOV.-GENERAL.

Creates a Sensation in the House of Lords.

Each house of parliament was startled the other night by a scene quite unparralleled in their respective histories. The house of lords was suddenly amazed by the spectacle of a noble peer standing with a pistol levelled at the head of Lord Salisbury. This dramatic situation was the climax of a queer speech by Lord Stanley, Canada's ex-governor general, who was advocating the bill to restrict the sale of firearms. No dealer was to sell a pistol except to the holder of a game license, and married women were to be debarred from having the license under any conditions, husbands being outside definition of fair game within the meaning of the bill.

As Lord Stanley gravely explained this provision, the house roared with laughter and there was not a dry eye either on the ministerial or the opposition side. The beauty of the situation was that the noble lord was in dead earnest throughout. He produced two small boys as dreadful examples of the present laxity. One had recently shot the other seriously.

Then Lord Stanley produced deadly weapons from various pockets, and finally a murmur of surprise caused Lord Salisbury to look up from the letter he was reading and found himself confronting the barrel of a pistol with a finger on the trigger. The leader of the opposition shrank back and exclaimed hurriedly to the excited speaker, "keep the point downward." Lord Stanley obligingly lowered the weapon and handed it to the prime minister.

Lightning Thursday afternoon struck the Mrs. Daniel Viall funeral procession while it was moving to the cemetry at Schagticoke. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Munn of Stillwater were rendered insensible by the shock. Their carriage was ruined and their horses fell to the ground. The lightning bolt also shattered four telegraph poles by the side of the road. Almost every person in the procession was affected more or less.

IMPORTANT AMENDMENTS

To Last Year's Lunatic Asylum Bill.

In the legislature the day before prorogation, Hon. Mr. Blair committed a bill amending the law relating to the provincial lunatic asylum.

Dr. Stockton moved an amendment that sections 11, 13 and 14 of last year's act providing for sending of pauper lunatics to the asylum at the expense of municipalities, be repealed.

Hon. Mr. Blair said the question of admission was surrounded with difficulties. He had given much thought to it and had invited suggestions on the subject. It had been suggested that the medical superintendent be given discretionary power as to who should be admitted, and he (Blair) was not unwilling to accept that suggestion. If that were done, however, the municipalties would still have to pay the cost of having the person taken to the institution whether such person was admitted or not. Another suggestion was that the superintendent or assistant should go to the locality where the person reported to be insane lived, and examine him there. It not unfrequently happened that there was an epidemic of lunacy, and it would be impossible for the superintendent or his assistant to be in two or three different places at the same time. To carry out anything like that idea it would be necessary to increase the medical staff of the asylum by the appointment of one or two or perhaps a greater number of doctors, and that was not desirable. Whatever might be said as to what the municipalities could or should not pay, no no one put forward seriously the proposition that the province should incur the expense of sending officers from the asylum to different parts of the province to make examinations. The present bill should be acceptable to all reasonable persons. It proposed that when it was found that any person was in the asylum who should be in the alms house of the county from which he came, it shall be the duty of the superintendent to notify the secretary of such municipality and the latter shall notify the overseers of the poor or almshouse commissioners and they shall have twenty days in which to remove such pauper lunatic from the asylum; and in case of such withdrawal, the municipality shall not be chargeable with any expense for the maintainance of such lunatic under the said act, prior to such withdrawal. Nothing could be fairer than this. If the parishes did not want to have the pauper insane in the asylum they could have every opportunity to withdraw. If they wanted them in the asylum they could have them there at an expense of about one-half what it would cost to keep them at home.

Mr. Howe said he was much impressed with the remarks of Mr. Blair regarding the difficulties of the case. He thought, however, all the insane of the province should be in the asylum and should be supported by the province.

Mr. Hill said he would vote in favor of the amendment. He thought the number of paupers unloaded on the asylum by the municipalties was much over rated. If the amendment failed to pass he would support the bill, as it was an improvement on existing legislation.

Hon. Mr. Blair said some relief was absolutely necessary owing to the increasing cost of maintaining the asylum. It was the cheapest claptrap to say that the province should continue to bear these increasing burdens for all time. It was not possible for the goveanment to spend $2 when the income was only $1. The interest charges of the province had increased from $40,000 to nearly $120,000. The great increase was almost altogether the results of the railway legislation of 1882. The people of the country who demanded all these railways must be considered to have counted the cost. In Nova Scotia the government only pay 15 per cent. of the cost of maintaining the insane. The opposition, in the interests of the province, ought to be willing to strengthen the hands of the government in their efforts to restore the equilibrium between income and expenditure.

The first section of the present bill simply provided that assessment of last year in the various counties should not be illegal. That was an absolutely necessary measure. The next section was not an objectionable one. It merely provided that the overseer of the poor or alms house commissioners should be notified in case a patient was sent to the asylum who would be a charge under the existing law so that they may remove them within twenty days if they wish. The hon. member (Stockton) was trying to make political capital. He (Blair) did not say that the financial position of the province was desperate, but he did say that the province was not in a position to bear the expense of maintaing a class of dependents wuo ought to be maintained at home. It would be supposed by the hon. gentleman's suggestion that the municipalties should if necessary assess themselves and disburse the money themselves; that such legislation as the government proposed was unheard of. How was the county school money obtained, and how was it distributed? In Nova Scotia the counties are called upon to pay just as it is now proposed by this government to call on them in a minor degree.

Dr. Stockton said the rule adopted in Nova Scotia was not necessarily to be followed here. He wished the committee to understand that the government had made no change in the law of last year by which all patients who were not of a suicidal or homicidal tendencies became a charge on the municipalties. The effect of this was that four-fifths of the entire inmates would be unloaded on the counties.

Hon. Mr. Blair said the hon. member had made a very inaccurate statement. It was not the intention of the government to make unreasonable demands upon the municipalties. The law could at any time be repealed if it was found to work injustice.

The amendment was lost on the following division:

Yeas—Powell, Stockton, Phinney, Shaw, Smith (St. John), Alward, Pitt, Gogain, Howe, Pinder, Russell, Perley, Smith (Westmorland), Hill—14.

Nays—Blair, Tweedie, Mitchell, White, Emmerson, Labillois, Lewis, Harrison, Theriault, Sivewright, Mott, Flewelling, Scovil, O'Brien (Northumberland) Dunn, Dibblee, Robinson, McLeod, Wells, Ferris, O'Brien (Charlotte)—21.

(Mr. Allen and Mr. Baird were paired). The bill was agreed to.

William Herod, a tuckpointer, fell from the tower of the new armory at Toronto, Thursday, and was dashed to death on the stone pavement, eighty-five feet below. Herod was standing on the two-foot scaffold tuckpointing the stone cornice, when his foot caught in the slack end of the scaffold rope. His companion, named William Bond, was unable to reach him before he had disappeared over the edge of the scaffold. Herod fell headlong, but as his body went hurling through the air it turned sideways and struck the stone flagging lengthwise. The body rebounded to the horror of the spectators. He was instantly killed, his body being frightfully disfigured.

Four Halifax policemen have been dismissed for drunkeness.

CANADA'S MILITIA.

What Major-General Herbert Thinks of The Force.

The annual report of the Dominion militia department to June 30, 1893, shows that the expenditure for the year was $1,419,745. This is exclusive of $7224 on account of the northwest rebellion. The revenue only reached $43.210. Among the principal items of expenditure appears the following:

Drill pay and camp purposes, $380,212; drill sheds, construction and repairs, $103,057; permanent corps, $467,850; drill instruction, $34,407. Veterans of the war of 1812 only drew $300. Other items are: Upper Canadian militia, $2,480; Fenian raids, $3040; Northwest rebellion pensions, $20,382.

The issues from district and headquarter stores, irrespective of other articles of military equipment, during the year were as follows: Tunics cloth and serge, 9719; trousers and riding breeches, 10,816; forage caps, 6404; great coats, 3315.

The ammunition for the militia has been furnished as usual by the government cartridge factory; and the small arm ammunition and the 64 pr. and 9 pr. common and shrapnel shell that were issued to the force have been proved to be of very good quality. The purchase recently made by the department, from the imperial government, of a number of Martini-Metford rifles, for a change in the armament of the force, will necessitate a change in the ammunition.

The cartridge factory at Quebec supplied all demands for small arm ammunition, ball and blank, during the year, and has added largely to the reserve in magazine charge. Martini-Henry cartridges are now being manufactured at the government factory.

Condemned clothing, consisting of part worn great coats, tunics, trousers, etc., are being sold to the Indian department for the use of the Indians in the Northwest.

Major-General Herbert in his report says: Both the cavalry and infantry of the permanent force are far below the standard of efficiency which has been attained by the artillery. This is due entirely to the fact that the officers appointed to raise, and organize those forces, unlike the imperial officers who laid the foundations of the Royal Canadian Artillery, had not the accurate knowledge, and practical experience of military administration, which is indespensaale to those intrusted with command, but is only acquired by a thorough military training received early in life. Neither had they the assistance of carefully trained and selected non-commissioned officers.

Attention is called to the lack of professional attainments in the officers of the permanent force. This defect, he says, can only be remedied by setting before their eyes a correct standard of excellence, and by affording them the means for professional study.

The organization of the district camps of instruction has been improved, the work to be done in them has been systematized, and as a consequence more definite results obtained from the training of the rural militia. In each district a site has been selected which will be the permanent point of concentration for the militia of the district. By this measure there will be a saving of expense, the camps will gradually be improved, and they will be adapted for use in the event of mobilization. The medical service in these camps has been organized on a military basis. A hospital camp equipment, and medical and surgical appliances, have been provided in each military district. The Canadian militia system has hitherto failed to recognize that the most valuable elements of a national defensive force are those in which the everyday avocations of the citizen are applied, by military organization, to a given task in connection with the scheme of defence. The spirit of emulation aroused by the competitions in military efficiency, established in connection with the inspection of the active militia, has had a good effect on the training both of the rural and city battalions.

Last year 367 officers and men obtained certificates at the various schools of military instruction. The camps last year trained 850 officers and 9706 men with 1494 horses. The muster at local headqulrters comprised 614 officers and 7387 men.

AROUND THE WORLD.

The News of the World in Brief—The Cream of Our Exchanges.

Michael Keefe was re-elected mayor of Halifax Monday by acclamation.

Jesse Seligman, a well known banker of London and New York, is dead. He leaves $15,000,000.

Fred A. Jones, formerly proprietor of the Hotel Dufferin, St. John, is to manage a summer hotel at Darlington, New Jersey.

Home secretary Asquith, moved in the imperial house of commons, Thursday evening, the disestablishment of the church in Wales.

At Pictou, N. S., last week, Rev. Mr. Faulkner, pastor of Prince street presbyterian church, sixty years old, was married to widow Copeland.

The electric lights in the main body of Grace church, Brantford, went out Sunday night, and, curiously enough, the next hymn was "Lead, Kindly Light, Amid the Encircling Gloom."

Pine Hill Presbyterian theological college was closed for the session Monday evening. The number of students in attendance was the largest in the history of the institution, over forty.

At Port Mouton, N. S., Thursday, on board the S. S. Aid, by the premature discharge of dynamite, the diver, Edward Gabriel was instantly killed, and Capt. Brooks, sr., seriously injured.

Mrs. Gleiser, an old resident of Waterloo, Ontario, while sitting in her pew in the Lutheran church during a funeral service, on Saturday, was stricken with apoplexy and died, aged seventy-nine.

The Duke of Teck and the Baroness Burdett-Coutts have been presented in London to James Corbett, the gentleman who pounded the faces of J. L. Sullivan and Charles Mitchell in the southern prize rings.

At Oklahama, U. S., Thursday, Judge Scott sent J. J. Burke and E. E. Brown, publishers of the Daily Times Journal to the county jail for ten days and to pay a fine of $200 each for contempt in commenting upon his judicial character.

The twentieth annual session of the general assembly of the Presbyterian church of Canada, will be held in St. John opening in St David's church on Wednesday June 13th, and over three hundred commissioners will be present.

The governor of Soudan has telegraphed that the French forces at Timbuctoo have completely destroyed the troublesome Tuareg tribe after a series of engagements and have captured nearly all their flocks and herds. In one conflict the Tuaregs left 120 dead on the field.

Paris advices positively deny the formation of a French syndicate to complete the Panama Canal. All faith in the continuance of the work has been lost, and more of the canal employes are leaving. There is also a great exodus of merchants and other citizens of Colon to Port Limon, Greytown and other places.

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