

THE HERALD

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Subscriptions for 1902 and previous years are now overdue; and subscriptions for 1903, are now payable. Our friends will please bear these facts in mind

The Representation Question.

The Supreme Court of Canada on Wednesday last gave judgment in the case submitted to it, and argued in behalf of the Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, in the matter of representation in the House of Commons. By the census of 1901 each of these Provinces loses a part of its representation in the Federal Parliament, and the case argued was as to the interpretation of the clauses of the British North America Act, governing the matter.

The Opposition Leader

Shortly before the prorogation of the Legislature on Thursday last, Hon. Daniel Gordon; the old and respected Leader of the Opposition announced that he had resigned the leadership of the Opposition in the Legislature and that Mr. John A. Mathieson had been chosen as his successor. He referred to the good feeling that had always existed between himself and his followers in the House and the pleasure he had experienced in working with such men. He was proud to say also that he had always got along admirably with the members on the Government side of the House.

from his friends opposite he constantly kept one end in view, the good of the Province. Mr. Mathieson thanked all who had referred to him in such complimentary terms; he hoped he would in some measure meet the expectations his friends had formed of him. He paid a high tribute to the life and work of Hon. Mr. Gordon. In every walk of life he had been an exemplary man and now he retired from his responsible position as Leader wearing the white flower of a blameless life. There is something pathetic in this change of leadership. The veteran who lays down the burden, with unswerving honor, has stood in the breach and with an army of faithful followers frequently a good deal smaller than it is now, manfully battled for right and in opposition to what he believed to be wrong, rejoices, we feel sure, at the thought that the work will be vigorously continued by his youthful successor. The new Leader has a noble work before him, and we feel sure he is in every way equal to the task. He has in a marked degree the qualities that are required for successful leadership. Let us then give him all the support we can in the work of wresting the Government of this Province from the hands of those who have mismanaged our public business. We tender Mr. Mathieson our congratulations and wish him every success.

Last Days of the Session

The Provincial Government's utter disregard of the people's rights, their disposition to deprive the people's representatives of information on public questions to which they are entitled by constitutional usages; and their evident desire to shut off freedom of speech and trample under foot the principles of representative government were well exemplified during the last few days of the recent Legislative session. The opposition had persistently asked for information regarding an amount of \$3,736 on account of expenditures in connection with the Supreme Court; regarding interest on loans' account; regarding the particulars of the Government's bargain with the Dominion Packing Company; regarding the importation and disposing of stock; The information was not supplied, and the Leader of the Opposition gave notice of intention to move a resolution setting forth that a humble address be presented to his Honor the Lieutenant Governor asking for this information. This resolution was voted down by the Government majority; but they evidently felt that they were treading on dangerous ground and supplied some information about the loans' account and the stock transactions. In the matter of the \$3,736 item in connection with the Supreme Court, however, not the slightest scintilla of information was given. This was the condition of affairs when the House resumed committee of supply on Monday evening, April 27th. The Opposition continued the debate on the different items of supply and pointed out to the Government the constitutional wrong in thus withholding information to which the people had a just right. Regarding the partial information tabled in connection with the loans' account, Mr. Mathieson pointed out that interest to the amount of \$1,225 was due for the past year, and the accumulated unpaid interest on the same account for former years could be no less than \$2,500. This much additional interest should have appeared in the public accounts under the item of "interest." Instead of that the accounts, while acknowledging an increase of \$12,000 in the Provincial debt contained the anomalous statement of a decrease in the interest charge from that of the previous year. The interest paid last year could scarcely be less than \$28,000, within \$2,000 of the whole of the increased Federal subsidy. This addition to the item of interest and amounts due supervisors, and carried over to 1903 with other little discrepancies in the public accounts brought the deficit of last year, according to the Government's own statements, up to \$16,000. The fight for information and the criticism of the Government's methods were kept up by the members of the Opposition till after two o'clock Tuesday morning, but no response or justification came from the Government benches.

When the House again went into committee of supply on Tuesday evening, any one in touch with the trend of events in the Legislature might easily have guessed that something out of the ordinary was about to happen; that some bold, barefaced attack on the people's liberties was in

contemplation; that free speech was to be choked off and an arbitrary application of gag law was to be attempted. Mr. Hughes, who had been chairman of the committee of supply was not in his place, and in his stead the burly Captain Read was put in the chair. Evidently Mr. Hughes had intimated that he was not going to act the bully, and that if the Government had some extremely dirty work to do they must get someone else to do it. Who better adapted for such an emergency than one whose notions of constitutional usages and the rights and privileges of free born people were imbibed on the quarter-deck, where men have no rights the skipper feels himself obliged to respect, and where the ropes' end takes the place of argument or reasoning. Those in attendance had not long to wait till they witnessed the perpetration of one of the most arbitrary breaches of constitutional liberty and the precipitation of one of the most scandalous scenes that ever disgraced a British Legislature. While Mr. Mathieson was addressing the committee and discussing the items of expenditure under consideration, the Leader of the Government rose and moved the adoption of the resolution. The chairman put the motion, while Mr. Mathieson was still speaking, and then pandemonium ensued. A half dozen members of the opposition were on their feet protesting against such arbitrary and scandalous conduct. The Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Mr. Gordon, characterized it as the most disgraceful witnessed in a British Legislature. Mr. McLean, Mr. Mathieson and Mr. Morson were equally emphatic in their condemnation. But the party whip was cracked and all were expected to obey. They did obey, but with evident reluctance; for as each one slowly took his seat he seemed to be conscious of guilt, and appeared more like a criminal rising in his box at the call of the judge than like a free representative of the people. The Speaker was then called to the chair and he justified the conduct of the chairman. The incident did not end there. It remained for Mr. McLeod, the smooth, slick member for Summerside, to add insult to injury. He flung across the floor of the House the insinuation that members of the opposition were "not in a condition to do business." This was most vehemently resented by the opposition members. Mr. McLean said it was "one of the most cowardly and contemptible and lying libels ever uttered in a legislature," and "nothing but a retraction pure and simple would satisfy the opposition members." After some further discussion the House adjourned.

When the House went into committee of supply on Wednesday evening, the galleries were crowded. The accounts of the scenes of the previous evening had roused interest and whetted curiosity as to what was coming. Hon. Mr. Gordon, Mr. Mathieson, Mr. McLean and Mr. Morson took the Government severely to task for the arbitrary and unconstitutional manner in which they had acted in withholding from the House information to which the people were entitled. It is suspected that the \$3,736 in the expenditure of the Supreme Court has been paid to Mr. Wheat and Mr. Palmer contrary to the independence of Parliament Act. If this is so they have not only forfeited their seats in the Legislature, but have left themselves liable to heavy fines. It is also said that Mr. Rogers is guilty in this respect, as supplies for the Government have been purchased from the firm of which he is the head. The Opposition stated that if any two of their members would be allowed to inspect the books containing the entries of the Supreme Court item they would be satisfied. But this was refused by the Government. Being refused the information due them in the Legislature, the Opposition said they would only have to take action in the Supreme Court and endeavor by legal action to gain the rights denied them by the Government. While the Opposition poured all this hot shot into the Government ranks, the members on the Government side sat like dumb dogs and made no attempt at justification of their conduct. Mr. Cumiskey, indeed, attempted to justify the arbitrary conduct of the chairman on the previous evening, but he made a sorry job of it.

King Edward Abroad.

King Edward the VII is visiting the capitals of several European countries and is everywhere received with unbounded enthusiasm. On the 29th, he visited Pope Leo XIII at the

apostolic palace. The King, who had in the morning reviewed 25,000 of the troops of King Victor Emmanuel, after luncheon at Quirinal, drove from the British embassy to the Vatican, accompanied by Col. Lamb, the British military attaché. Behind him followed the members of his suite. The King rode in a private carriage, as no equipage of the King of Italy could enter the precincts of the apostolic palace. The King, who wore a field marshal's uniform, had no escort, except some police-men in plain clothes, and no troops lined the streets, as when Emperor William visited the Pope. The Pope gathered on the street and looked on with curiosity, but they abstained from any demonstration. The Vatican is undoubtedly one of the most picturesque courts of Europe, and all costumes worn there are of mediæval times. As King Edward's carriage, at twenty minutes past four entered the court of San Damaso, surrounded by the Loggia of Raphael, and which has been trodden by the feet of every sovereign who visited Rome, with the exception of the present Shah of Persia, the English ruler was saluted by a battalion of the palatine guards in full uniform. When the royal party reached the grand staircase leading to the papal apartment, King Edward was greeted by the Marquis Sacchetti, who acted for Prince Raspoli, the introducer of sovereigns, who is ill; Monsignor Merry Dal Val and Prince Antici-Mattei. At the upper landing there was grouped in imposing array a number of other ecclesiastics, who formed a characteristic and magnificent assembly. King Edward addressed a few words of kindly thanks in return for the hearty greetings offered him. The royal party then proceeded between ranks of Swiss Guards. At the conclusion of this ceremony the door of the Pope's apartment was immediately opened and the aged Pontiff was revealed standing at the threshold with his hand extended, awaiting his guest. He was dressed in robes of white and a red velvet cap bordered with ermine. Even King Edward paused a moment upon seeing the Pontiff in his white garments. The Pope's face was the color of ivory, but he moved without aid and with no apparent difficulty. The King and the head of the church clasped hands, and exchanging a few words in French, King Edward passed within the papal apartment, the door was closed and the Pope and his guest were left alone. King Edward remained with the Pontiff for twenty minutes. A bell was then rung and the King's suite was admitted and presented. The little ceremony seemed to please the Pope immensely. At its conclusion King Edward took his leave, the Pope crossing the room at his side, and saying his last words at the door. From the Vatican King Edward passed through the Piazza of St. Peter, where he was warmly greeted in English by a number of Scotch pilgrims now in Rome, who shouted, "Hurrah for the King." Had King Edward looked up at this moment he would have seen a figure in the window of the second story of the palace; it was Pope Leo.

The King visited Paris on May 1st, and his arrival is thus described:—A vast crowd filled the boulevards from the early hours people straggling to gain the vantage points along the route to be followed by the royal procession. On the square fronting the railroad station was a surging mass of humanity. A detachment of the First Cuirassiers, in showy costumes with glittering breastplates and helmets and waving plumes, held back the crowds. The front of the station was elaborately draped with crimson and gold hangings and the interior was transformed into a superb reception room hung with goblin tapestry, having crimson and gold furnishings and decorated with flowers and plants. On the balcony was stationed the band of the Republican Guard, in stunning blue and white uniforms. President Loubet, surrounded by the cabinet, the presidents of the senate and the chamber of deputies, the grand commander of the Legion of Honor, the military and naval dignitaries and the diplomatic corps, presented an imposing appearance. As the train entered the station the trumpets sounded a royal salute and the band played "God Save the King." King Edward descended from his car and advanced slowly and alone, smiling and saluting. He wore the scarlet uniform of a British field marshal, his chapeau topped by waving plumes and his plumes and his breast adorned with various insignias, including the cross of the Legion of Honor. President Loubet stepped forward and grasped the King's hands. The meeting between the sovereign and the president was cordial, almost demonstrative. M. Loubet welcomed the King to France, and his Majesty, smiling, responded in French, expressing his thanks for the splendid manifestation in his honor. Traversing the station, King Edward and the members of his party entered state carriages, with gorgeously clad postillions and outriders, and, escorted by a regiment of Cuirassiers, drove to the British Embassy. The route of the procession was through the beautiful Avenue de Bois de Boulogne and the Avenue des Champs Elysees, arched with chestnut trees in full bloom. The lowering clouds which marked the earlier part of the day had broken up, and the sun came forth to add to the splendor of the spectacle. The avenues were lined with solid ranks of dragoons, cuirassiers, heavy artillery, field batteries and infantry, guns, helmets and other trappings gleaming in the sunlight. Behind these martial walls the people were banded in solid masses, and all the trees, windows and house-tops were crowded with spectators. It was allowed that a million people gathered along the line. At the Arc de Triomphe the scene was majestic. Along shimmering lines of soldiery, a forest of waving banners, blaring bugles and rolling drums and succeeding bands taking up God Save the King.

Notice of Application.

Notice is hereby given that an application will be made to the Parliament of Canada now in session for an Act empowering the applicants to construct and operate telephone and telegraph lines throughout the Dominion of Canada. Dated at Ottawa, 27th of March, 1903. KIDD & THOMSON, Solicitors for the applicants. April 15, 1903—91

TENDERS.

Sealed tenders will be received by the undersigned up to the 9th day of May next for the painting of the exterior of St. Andrew's Church; also for shingling roof of same building—Tenders to be marked "Tenders for St. Andrew's Church." The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. A. P. McLELLAN, P. P. St. Andrews, April 23, 1903—31.

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Mortgage Sale.

To be sold by public Auction, on Friday, the twenty-ninth day of May, A. D. 1903, at the hour of one o'clock, noon, in front of the Law Courts Building in Charlottetown, in Queen's County, under and by virtue of power of sale contained in an indenture of Mortgage bearing date the seventh day of May, A. D. 1891, and made between Patrick Rice, of Charlottetown, in the Province of Prince Edward Island, Farmer, and Catherine Rice, his wife, of the one part, and Lolla Malinda Mackleson, of Charlottetown, in Queen's County, in the said Island, of the other part.

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