

Open Letter on Railway Matters.

Mr. Morgan, Esq., C.E.,
in the Dominion of
the Canadian
Railway Company, City.

Sir—I hope I have made my
point to the lands granted the
Newfoundland Company, and to
the Dominion of the Canadian
Railway Company, City.

that you did not obtain your data
from either the Trade, or the ex-
ponents of public opinion, or from any
other reliable source. As a matter of
fact, "Steamer competition" fostered
by Government subsidies became es-
sential, because the Trade and busi-
ness public demanded it, and the
demand was based upon the inade-
quacy, and general unsatisfactory
conditions that existed at the time;

it has been continued to date, because
succeeding Governments have deemed
it essential to the trade and business
of the country. Again, let me pro-
duce proof from official records in
support of my contention. In the year
1903 the Prime Minister of the day
said: "No provision was made in the
1898 Railway Contract to meet the
requirements of the people of the
North East Coast and that important
section of the country between St.
John's and Placentia. This Govern-
ment in order to remedy this condi-
tion of affairs negotiated a Contract
for a Coastal Service, North and
South, to be performed by steamers
"specially built for those services,
"having abundant freight and pas-
senger accommodation, and being
"equipped with all modern appoint-
ments for the comfort of the travel-
ling public. A scale of reasonable
charges for passengers and freight
"traffic was also arranged, thus ad-
justing to the convenience of the travel-
ling public, and facilitating trade."

"While this contract has secured a
"steam service never equalled in this
Colony, it has also been the
"means of reforming, in a great meas-
ure, the steam service conducted by
the Railway Contractors, which,
"heretofore, was a source of con-
tinual annoyance to the public."

I shall quote again from public
records of later date. "We can't send
"freight by the 'Dundee' or the
"Clyde" because it would be worth
"the contents of the packages to pay the
"freight these men are demanding."

The men referred to were the owners
of the steamers, the Reid New-
foundland Company. "I went to Sir
"Wm. Reid (President of the Reid
"Newfoundland Company) and said
"to him for God's sake do not make
"the rates so high, do not raise them
"to the hundred per cent. He ordered
"it to be done regardless of conse-
"quences."

"In relation to the Trinity Bay
"Steam Service and the ridiculous
"freight charges. Why was the Reid
"Newfoundland Company allowed to
"put on such a boat couldn't ac-
"commodate the travelling public
"and what is still worse give them
"the same subsidy paid for the S.S.
"Ethie which for four times the size.
"Look at the inconvenience of the
"public who have been continually
"complaining of the service."

"The hon. member for Trinity Bay
"pointed out the other day that the
"steamer plying on that Bay was
"scarcely fitted for passengers to
"travel by, and there are other
"steamers which are not at all fitted
"for the service which they are ex-
"pected to do. This applies par-
"ticularly to the steamers on the
"Sydney-Port aux Basques route."
(See Hansard reports.) I opine, that
after reading the foregoing extracts
from official records, you will re-
cognize that your stricture of the
Government of this country, in the
matter of steamer subsidies, was both
illadvised, and unwarranted, and
furnished to you. I feel sure, I am
certain, that the facts completely dif-
fer from your statement.

(To be continued.)

"Hazel Kirke"

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL PERFOR-
MANCE.

"Hazel Kirke," the Victorian melo-
dramas now appearing at the Casino
attracted another full house last night.
The acting of Miss Kathleen Fraser
could not have been better improved
upon, and her enunciation was much
louder than on the first night. So
powerful and realistic was the acting
of Miss Fraser, Mrs. Baxter and Mr.
O'Neill that many of the audience
were constrained to weep. Mr. A. E.
Holmes and Mr. Percy Jardine were
again in splendid form and caused
much amusement. It is safe to say
that seldom has a local performance
attracted so much attention and al-
ready the seats for the two extra per-
formances are selling rapidly. While
the play is built around the old and
at one time much favoured plot of the
hard hearted father, the injured
daughter, and the pleasant mannered
and love stricken nobleman, it is full
of wit and dramatic situations and
cannot fail to please the most ex-
acting. For any who are in need of
a pleasant evening's entertainment as
a relief from the stress and worry of
the times, "Hazel Kirke" is better
than a doctor's prescription, to which
might be added the music of the Ma-
jestic Orchestra hath charms.

S. S. Ada is due tomorrow from
Cardiff with a cargo of coal to A.
Harvey and Co.

At the House.

PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES RE-
DUCTION OF QUARTER OF MIL-
LION IN ESTIMATES—OPPO-
SITION ASK FOR DEFINITE POLICY.

The announcement made in the
House yesterday afternoon by the
Prime Minister that with the con-
currence of the individual members, the
Estimates would be decreased by \$250,
000 gives rise to an interesting prob-
lem which may be solved by some ex-
pert mathematician. If it takes the
Government a week to reduce the
Estimates by a quarter of a million
dollars, how long would they require
to make a reduction of two millions
and a half?

(Answers in years please, and to five
places of decimals.)

In attempting to reduce the Es-
timates, it is evident that the Govern-
ment were not governed as they should
by the consideration that the decrease
must be large enough to allow for re-
ductions in the tariff. The Opposition,
and through them, the people, asked
for bread, and while they were not given
a stone, all they received was a crumb,
and a very small one, too. Sal-
ary reductions and a small decrease
in subsidies made up the amount. Not
a word was said about the Department
of Education, or the Department of
Shipping.—The state, it is L. The Prime
Minister's attitude in announcing the
reduction was analogous to that of the
famous French monarch who is stated
to have exclaimed on some occasion,
"L'Etat, c'est moi!" Having made his
announcement, the leader of the Govern-
ment tried to get some of the votes
through. He succeeded in passing the
Interest on the Public Debt, but got
no farther, for Mr. Higgins interrupted
him and for over half an hour told him
what he should have to do before the
public would be satisfied. Mr. Higgins
said that when he suggested an ad-
justment for the purpose of giving
the Government time to consider a re-
duction of the Estimates, he did not
have in mind such small decreases as
the Government had made. He then
proceeded to offer certain suggestions
which are well worth the consideration
of the Executive.

THE MOUNTED POLICE.

He first referred to the mounted
police. They were, he said, an abso-
lute "god." The language might not be
parliamentary, but it was the only
fitting word to apply to that body.
Some of the horses were so clumsy
that their riders had to teach them how
to respond to the reins. If mounted
police are ever necessary, said Mr.
Higgins, the Government could hire
some for the day from Cabmen or from
a livery stable. What was required was
the statement of a general policy by
the Government. No one would deny
that such a policy, if it meant large re-
ductions, would require courage. The
cuts with which the district representa-
tives would concur could not be sub-
stantial. A huge chunk had to be cut
out of the Estimates.

WANTED A POLICY.

No results would be had unless the
Government came down with a definite
policy in connection with big votes
such as the steamers and railways, and
frankly offered to cut out these votes.
The duty devolved on the Executive
Government. The House could not be
expected to vote on major matters until
the Government laid their cards on
the table. Public sentiment showed
that to lower taxation, the Government
had to strip the public services. Paying
salaries amounted to nothing. It was a
mistake to reduce the salaries of Civil
Servants. This would only tend to
make the service inefficient. It would
be far better to conduct the various
services with fewer men on larger sal-
aries. This, and this alone, would give
efficiency. The Civil Servants to-day,
were only able to exist on the salaries
they received.

HELPING TOURIST TRAFFIC.

Mr. Higgins made a strong appeal
for an active campaign to attract tour-
ist traffic. The Province of Quebec had
increased its tourist traffic by means of
new laws in connection with the sale
of intoxicating liquors. Our Govern-
ment would do well to modify and re-
adjust the Prohibition Act. The de-
mands of the moderate prohibitionists
were so sane that he could not under-
stand how they could be ignored. In
concluding an excellent speech, Mr.
Higgins again appealed for a statement
of policy by the Government. It was
idle to talk of reducing the Estimates
until a policy in connection with the
heavier items had been brought down.
The Education Department was a glar-
ing example. He was confident that if
the Government had the courage and
pluck to face the situation, they could
cut out over two million dollars. He
referred to the absence of the Minister
of Marine and Fisheries, and said that
the Shipping Department ought to be
scrapped and a real Minister put in
Mr. Cook's place.

A GOVERNMENT APOLOGIST.

The Minister of Justice again assum-
ed the role of Government apologist,
but warned by past experience, he was
very careful in choice of language. He
said he subscribed to the spirit in
which Mr. Higgins' remarks had been
made. It is said that stage lines
were made in the Estimates for the
public service, he feared it would be
impossible to run the various offices.
He had done his best to discover what
votes could be decreased, but it was a

AT THE 'MAJESTIC' TO-DAY.

Our Local People

HIS DIARY.

APRIL 18th.—A wet blowy day, in
the House about the business of the
Estimates and the Prime Minister an-
nounces a small reduction in expendi-
ture which is mighty ridiculous and
will not be accepted. At night, with
my wife to the Masonic Dance, but
the wretch with a pain of her torn
throat, on I think, by dint of shoes,
and does nothing but nag me the
whole evening. I greatly enjoyed, but
did not greatly enjoy myself, being
that I did require relief from the wor-
ries of living in these distressful
times.

Masonic Dance.

ANOTHER BRILLIANT SUCCESS.

The dance held last night under the
auspices of the Masonic Entertain-
ment Committee served to consider-
ably enhance their reputation as the
organizers of the most successful series
of social functions which have
taken place in recent years. The
ballroom presented a very pretty
scene, and so large was the number
of dancers that the space was barely
sufficient to hold them all. The or-
chestra was in splendid form and un-
doubtedly are in great measure re-
sponsible for the success of these en-
tertainments. They played several
new selections last night, all of which
proved popular and were loudly en-
coured. The elimination dance was
again the source of considerable
amusement. This is one of the most
popular features of the Masonic
dances. It was won last night by Mr.
"Coke" Cahill and Mrs. Bert Hay-
ward. The prizes were presented by
Mrs. (Hon.) Tasker Cook, President
of the Ladies' Auxiliary, amidst loud
cheering. The supper tables were
beautifully decorated with flowers and
Easter emblems. The catering of the
Ladies' Auxiliary was all that could
be desired. The dance came to an
end shortly after 1 a.m. On May 2nd
the Masonic Entertainment Com-
mittee will conclude their season
with a ball which will be held in the
C.C.C. Hall. May novelties will be
included, chief among which will be
a cabaret item between every dance.
Great pains are being taken to make
this a success, and those who are
taking part in the cabaret are prac-
tising hard. This is a novel feature
and there will be other original items
which will help make the ball the
most brilliant event of its kind that
St. John's has known. The decora-
tions will be a special feature and Mr.
Ern Fox has obtained several new and
catchy selections which are bound to
meet with approval.

Emotion Recorder Dead.

Known as the man who a year ago
showed how the human emotions
could be recorded by an instrument,
Dr. Augustus Destré Waller, director
of the Physiological Laboratory,
University of London, died at his
home, Weston Lodge, Grove End-
road, St. John's Wood, S.W., on Sat-
urday morning, March 11th in his 66th
year. He was a member of many for-
eign scientific societies and a writer
on scientific subjects.

Motor Competition Hard On Radials.

The system of motor roads in Cal-
ifornia has developed so far that regu-
lar stage lines running between San
Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco—
a distance of over 600 miles—are
maintained. Schedules on these "bus"
lines are said to be often faster than
the schedule on the railroads. For in-
stance, it takes "The Owl," the fast
train of the Southern Pacific, from
Los Angeles to San Francisco, six
hours to run from Los Angeles to
Bakersfield. It is said that stage lines
cover this distance in less than five
hours.

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Aches and Pains, only 20c. per
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—Entitled—

"THE PALACE OF DARKENED WINDOWS."

The moonlight reflected from "the Palace of Darkened Windows" and it
presented a beautiful picture of barbaric splendour. But as the alligators
lurked beneath the surface of the limpid pool in the palace courtyard,
so did a fate worse than death lurk in the shadows of the Rajah's home.

—EXTRA—

"THE BRANDED 4."

14—EPISODE—14

St. George's Night, April 24th.

(In Aid of the National War Memorial Fund.)

Grand Concert, Methodist College Hall,

By the

ST. JOHN'S OCTETTE.

Time: 8.15.

Tickets can be booked at The Royal Station-
ery, Water Street.

PRICES—50c., 75c. and \$1.00.

april 21

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HEART TABLETS.

I had heart trouble severely for fifteen years and had many
doctors to treat me with no discernible effect. I had become so
low that I could scarcely walk fifty steps. At night I was trou-
bled with fluttering of the heart, and by no means had a night's
rest for that length of time. I had pains most excruciating and
could not lie on my left side even for a moment. I tried five
boxes of your Heart Tablets and can now truthfully say that I
am well. I am a Minister of the Gospel and upon my word as
such, I believe I could not have lived had it not been for your
remedy. I am not, generally speaking, willing to give testimo-
nials, but I fully owe this or more to you as owner of the Heart
Tablets.

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Prime Roasts—Sirloin or
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NATIVE PORK.
Roasts, Loins, Leg, Chops,
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Very Choice.
Legs, Loins, Shoulders,
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Choice Small Pieces.

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