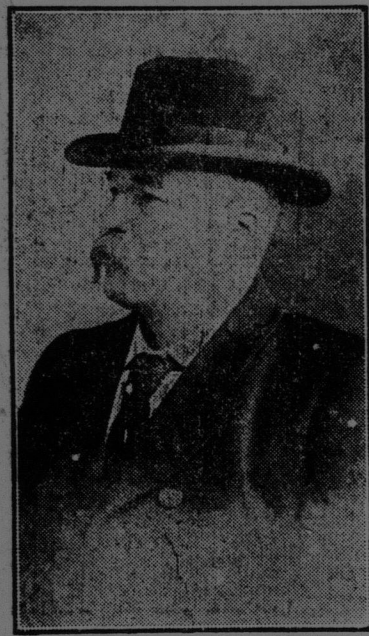


THE STAR, ST. JOHN N. B., SATURDAY, AUGUST 31 1907.

VETERAN RAILROAD MEN RETIRING FROM SERVICE

About Forty of the Oldest I. C. R. Employees Have Taken Advantage of the Superannuation Scheme—Sketches of Conductors Millican and Rainnie and Drivers Prince and Tait, Four of the Most Popular and Widely Known of the Old Guard.

On or about the first of next month, as a result of the superannuation system recently introduced into the Intercolonial Railway, many of the older railway men, whose faces have been familiar to the travelling public for many years, will pass out of the service.



CONDUCTOR MILLICAN.

Conductor James Millican was born in St. Martin's parish, county of St. John, on August 14th, 1844. In 1863, when still in his teens, he entered the service of the European and North American Railway, now the Intercolonial Railway of Canada. The scene of Mr. Millican's first labors as a railroad man was the old roundhouse which stood just outside the eastern limits of the city and which was torn down a few years since.

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CONDUCTOR RAINNIE.

being made conductor in 1871. From the year 1874 on, Mr. Millican ran on right trains between this city and Halifax. This duty fitted him for the charges of the C. P. R. trains, on which he ran from almost the time of their inception until 1903. Since that time he has been conductor of Nos. 1 and 2, which run between Moncton and St. John. The reason for the change from the C. P. R. to easier trains was the severe shock that his nervous system had received in the numerous accidents that he had met with during his career on the rails. Conductor Millican brought his train into St. John for the last time last evening.

In railway organizations Mr. Millican has occupied a very prominent position. He is a charter member of New Brunswick Division, No. 210, O. R. C., and as chairman of the O. R. C. board of adjustment helped some years ago to obtain better pay for the conductors. He was also instrumental in the formation of the Provident Fund scheme.

As far as accidents and strange railroad experiences are concerned, Mr. Millican perhaps has surpassed his brethren of the ticket-punch. As he stated, the effect of numerous accidents has been rather distressing to Mr. Millican's nerves. The first fatality connected with his railroad career was many years ago on the Sussex train, when Driver Salmon was killed. Until the time of the Palmer's Pond accident, some ten years ago, Mr.

Millican escaped any serious disasters. That at Palmer's Pond, however, was one of the worst in the Intercolonial's history. Two persons lost their lives and many were injured, while the damage to rolling stock was enormous. About four or five years ago there was the Belmont accident, in which Mr. Millican was concerned. At Belmont eight persons were killed and many maimed and injured.

More recently Mr. Millican's train ran into an open switch at Oxford Junction and smashed up a freight train. Perhaps the most dramatic incident in Mr. Millican's long life was the "Rafferty shooting affray," which took place some years ago on a train between Sussex and St. John. Patrick J. Rafferty got into a quarrel with a commercial traveller named Young, and pulling out a revolver, cried, "I'm going to shoot." On this occasion Conductor Millican struck up the revolver, thus saving Young's life. He afterwards eluded with Rafferty and had him handcuffed.

Mr. Millican is the father of five sons and four daughters. He has twelve or thirteen grandchildren. One of his sons is located at Medicine Hat and is a conductor on the "Imperial Limited" on the C. P. R.

Conductor A. Rainnie

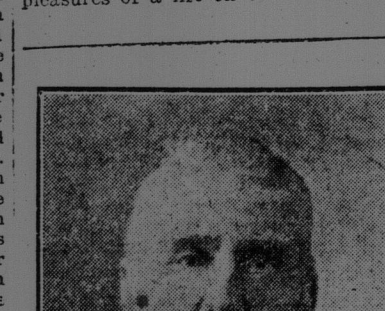
Conductor Andrew Rainnie is the veteran of the group of old railroaders soon to go into retirement. He has completed over forty-seven years of railroad work, born at Miramichi, now called Chatham, in May, 1844. Mr. Rainnie began his life at the age of nineteen, when he commenced



CONDUCTOR KELLY.

work on the construction of the European and North American Railway, then building between this city and Point du Chêne. Shortly afterward he became a brakeman on one of the construction trains. When the line was opened for traffic he was made brakeman and afterwards baggage-master on a train running from St. John to Sussex, then the terminus of the road. In 1867, during the superintendency of Louis Carvell, Mr. Rainnie received his final promotion to the position of conductor. For many years Conductor Rainnie ran between St. John and Point du Chêne. Of late years he has been in charge of the C. P. R. train between this city and Halifax.

The last run that Mr. Rainnie made in the capacity of conductor was that on the C. P. R. from Halifax to St. John, a week Wednesday. On this occasion the veteran railroad man bade farewell to all the old friends along the line, some of whom were acquaintances of a life time. At present Mr. Rainnie is enjoying a well-earned vacation in a unique manner. As a boy the old conductor worked in a shipyard and about ships and became imbued with a life for the sea, ships and its sailors. This affection for the ocean lasted all through life and now Mr. Rainnie is tasting the pleasures of a life on the ocean waves.



DRIVER PRINCE.

Driver Hugh Tait, now of Providence, began his railroad life as fireman for Mr. Prince. The latter was born on October 26th, 1844. He has no children living.

HAPPILY ANSWERED. One of the hardest things for a player to bear is when an audience laughs during a serious scene. Many a performer by his wit has been able to save a scene. An incident of this kind was experienced by the late Thomas Keene while playing Richard III. He had just exclaimed, "A horse! A horse! My kingdom for a horse!" when a young man in the audience called out, "Won't a donkey do?" and Mr. Keene quietly responded, "Yes, come up."

The Furs of Quality

THE DUNLAP-COOKE FURS

Halifax, N. S. St. John, N. B. Amherst, N. S.
Boston, Mass. 54 King St. Winnipeg, Man.

NEW MINISTERS TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE

Mr. Pugsley Sworn in Yesterday as Minister of Public Works and Mr. Graham as Minister of Railways—Mr. Pugsley Talks of the Appointments.

Your correspondent had an interview this afternoon with Hon. Mr. Pugsley shortly after he had been sworn in as Minister of Public Works. Questions regarding the portfolio of Railways and Canals to which it had been pretty generally stated in the press he would be likely to assign, Mr. Pugsley said that he felt sure that neither the people of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Quebec who are more especially interested in the Intercolonial Railway by reason of its traversing those provinces, nor the people of the rest of Canada, who are also deeply concerned in the progressive movement of Canada's national railway, will have reason to regret the selection of Hon. Geo. P. Graham as Minister. From his short acquaintance of Mr. Graham and from what he had learned of his great ability and business capacity he felt sure that the new minister's management of the department of Railways and Canals would amply justify Sir Wilfrid's choice. It was not at all inappropriate that the minister should be chosen from Ontario, that province being not only interested in the enlargement, improvement and extension of the canal system, which constitutes a most important feature in the great problem of cheap transportation, but also in the successful management of the Intercolonial, which has become such an important factor in the development of trade between the Maritime Provinces and the West.

He was confident that the eminently satisfactory management of the Intercolonial which had marked the regime of Mr. Blair and Mr. Emmerson would be continued by the new minister. With regard to the portfolio of Public Works, Mr. Pugsley said that he appreciated the great honor which had been conferred upon himself, and he thought he might, without impropriety, also say upon the duty and country of Saint John, and the province of New Brunswick, by placing him in charge of this great department. The minister of Public Works having in charge so many important undertakings in all portions of this vast Dominion, if he performs his duty faithfully and with good judgment, he said, must promote the welfare and prosperity of the people. Now that the question of providing adequate transportation was assuming such large proportions the work of the department in connection with the dredging of harbors and the building of wharves and breakwaters had become of great national importance. Dr. Pugsley said that he recognized to the fullest extent the arduous duties of his position, but he trusted by close application to the work of the department and a proper recognition of the claims of the different sections of the Dominion to reasonably satisfy public expectation.

TRENT CANAL CONTRACT

PETERBORO, Aug. 20.—This morning J. A. Aymer of Brown and Aymer, contractors, received notice that his firm had been awarded the first contract since the appropriation was voted for the construction of the Trent canal. The contract is for section No. 5, from Campbellford to Widder Falls, three miles, all rock, with two dams and two locks. The price is \$600,000.



Cardinal Emilio Netto, who leaves his exalted place to become a monk.

SHOULD THE SHETLANDS BE GIVEN TO NORWAY?

Liberal Member Asks Question to Start Public Discussion.

The Islands are Still Populated by Norsemen—Great Times When Heir to the Earl of Bute Was Born.

GLASGOW, Aug. 21.—Should the Shetland be handed back to Norway? This was the question put to the Premier recently by Mr. Cathcart Watson, the Liberal M. P. for Orkney and Shetland. Mr. Watson, however, disclaimed any desire to break up the British Isles. He admitted that he had phrased his question in such a manner to attract public attention. It is not generally known that the Orkney and Shetland islands were formerly the property of Norway, and were formerly given up by that country, James III, Scotland married Margaret, the daughter of King Christian of Norway, in 1468, and when the marriage treaty was made it was agreed that her dowry should be 60,000 florins. When the time to pay came King Christian found that his treasury was empty, and he gave the islands in pledge, agreeing to redeem them when he could raise the money. The debt has never been paid, and the islands have thus remained a Scottish possession.

The people of the islands are almost pure Norse in blood, and until the end of the eighteenth century they spoke the Norse language. Many Norse words are still retained in their dialect, and they have little in common with the Scots of the mainland, whom they regard as foreigners. Mr. Watson declared that the grievances of the Shetlanders are serious and distressing. "The herring fishery," he said, "the mainstay of the islanders, has already been ruined on one side, and is getting worse on the other side. All the whales are being destroyed, and it is the whales which drive the herring inshore. Norwegian and Scotch companies have station on the islands, and carry on the work of whale-killing. These enormous animals, 70 feet or 80 feet in length, and comparatively valueless, are dragged ashore, skinned for the blubber, and then the carcass is left to rot. The mussels-beds are polluted, so that the bait of the fishermen is destroyed, and masses of the putrefying flesh float about the 'voes.' Dead whales make life almost intolerable. The only solution is for the Secretary for Scotland to suppress the whaling stations. Fishing is being prosecuted now four times as far from the coast as formerly, and almost wholly by steam-drifters, while the native sailing-boats have seldom reached the shoals."

Mr. Watson declares that the Shetlanders have often complained of the grievous wrongs they have suffered at the hands of the Scot, and he is determined to have them redressed. The birth of an heir to the Marquis and Marchioness of Bute was made the occasion of much rejoicing in Rothesay and the Island of Bute. The town was gaily decorated, and at twelve o'clock a peal was rung by the town and church bells. The magistrates met and a message was telegraphed to Lord Bute in the following terms: "To the Marquis of Bute, Mount Stuart.—On behalf of the town council and the whole community, we offer hearty congratulations to Lady Bute and your Lordship on the birth of an heir and heir-apparent. The Marquis of Bute was made the occasion of much rejoicing in Rothesay and the Island of Bute. The town was gaily decorated, and at twelve o'clock a peal was rung by the town and church bells. 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