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THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN
MORNING DAILY

Morning Daily founded 1891
Weekly (now Evening Daily) 1887

CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA, THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1915

$3.50 Per Year (delivered) in advance
$2.50 per year by mail in advance

PREMIER MATHIESON DELIVERS BUDGET SPEECH AND REVIEWS HISTORY OF FOUR YEARS REGIME

MR. FRANK OLIVER SERIOUSLY IMPLICATED

In Number of Land Deals in which He Personally Profited. A Terrible Arraignment of one who Posed as a Political Purist.

(From Our Own Reporter)

OTTAWA, April 14.—Hon. Frank Oliver stands to-day in Parliament a discredited, if not a disgraced man. Revelations were made in the House of Commons to-night following a day of revelations which disclosed that the ex-minister of the Interior, that sturdy tribune of the people, that man who for a quarter of a century had posed as superhonest man, had an interest in two transactions affecting the disposal of natural resources in the West, lands in one case and mineral rights in the other. He had personally profitted from these transactions. There was no way out for Mr. Oliver. The facts were read from the files of the department. Government members threw them squarely in Mr. Oliver's face.

"He has pocketed money which is not his but the people's," said Hon. Arthur Meighen in closing a masterly speech, and Mr. Oliver gave not a solitary word of denial, he but squirmed uneasily in his seat.

It was a sad day for the Liberal party, and Hon. Mr. Oliver was a pitifully lonely figure as he sat heaped up on his front bench and listened to the castigation of his administration or rather maladministration of the Department of the Interior and as Hon. Dr. Roche, Hon. Arthur Meighen and Mr. R. B. Bennett directly charged Mr. Oliver with being aware of and being responsible for the series of scandalous and corrupt dealings by the Liberal party and its agents as revealed in the Ferguson reports.

He was an even sadder figure when having defended his share of the transactions revealed in these reports in one of the weakest and lamest speeches ever heard in the House from a front bencher, the facts of the cases in which he had directly profitted were exposed.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier who sat through the whole debate had not a word to say in defence of his Western Lieutenant, although challenged time and again to do so.

Fittingly, perhaps, the only Liberal member who attempted to come to the rescue of the member for Edmonton, was Hon. William Pugsley.

The revelations have created a most intense sensation in political circles. Through his strong phrases and brimstone epithets and his apparent sturdy defence of the "rights of the people," Mr. Oliver had come to be regarded as at least personally honest. The exposure made last night was without doubt a direct surprise to the members of Parliament. They were painfully surprised, for no man in the Canadian Parliament has been more violent in the language he has used in denouncing political corruption in public life. It is generally admitted by the Liberals that politically Mr. Oliver is "dead." The story has already been made public that while he was Minister of the Interior, the Grand Trunk Pacific took $15,000 worth of stock in his own paper, the Edmonton Bulletin. Mr. Oliver's defence was almost pain-

(Continued on Page Six.)

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BUSINESS ENVELOPES.—No 8 printed with name and address, either on flap or front, $2 per 1,000; $5.50 for 2,000; $12.00 for $5,000; $20 for 10,000. GUARDIAN OFFICE. 6608-11-21mtf.

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Minard's Liniment Cures Rheumatism.

LOOKING AFTER BRITISH PRISONERS IN GERMANY

(Special to The Guardian)

LONDON, April 14.—Announcing in the Commons that the British Foreign Office has requested American Ambassador at London, Walter H. Page, to telegraph the American Ambassador at Berlin, James W. Gerrard, to find out what truth there was in reported German reprisals, Neil Primrose, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, added:

"If this report be true, we can only hope these prisoners are being treated as well as are the crews of captured submarines in this country."

Premier Asquith announced that the House would only sit for three days' work. He also stated, in reply to a suggestion that members ought to follow the lead of King George and abstain from alcohol, that the suppression of alcoholic liquors at the palace of Westminster was a matter for the House, not the Government, to decide.

Minards Liniment cures garget in cows

THE WEATHER, TEMPERATURE, TIDE, MOON, ETC.

(Special to The Guardian)

TORONTO, April 15.—Maritime: Fine and mild.

THE WEATHER.—Yesterday was beautifully fine and warm, with bright snushine.

The highest temperature recorded yesterday was 42 above zero and the lowest was 31 above. The lowest of the previous night was 32 above. At 9 a. m. yesterday it was 36 above and at 9 p. m. it was 31 above.

The tide will be high this morning at 11.05 and tomorrow at 11.31; it will be high tonight at 12 and tomorrow at 12.43.

The sun sets this evening at 6.47 and tomorrow at 6.49; it rises tomorrow morning at 5.11 and Saturday at 5.10.

The moon sets tonight at 8.38.

There was a new moon on Wednesday, April 14th at 7.36 a. m.

The first quarter of the moon will be on Thursday, April 22nd at 1139 a. m.

The length of today will be thirteen hours and thirty-five minutes.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

A Crowded House Listens With Intense Interest to the Graphic History of the Past Four Years in which the Debt Inherited from the Previous Regime was Reduced by $100,000; Teachers Salaries Increased; More Expenditures on Roads, Public Works and Agriculture Than by Their Predecessors Without a Cent of Increase in Taxation and a Surplus to Boot.

There was a crowded attendance in the Legislative Chamber last night when Premier Mathieson presented his fourth Budget. His Hon. Speaker Wyatt took the chair at 8.35, and after some preliminary business, the Premier moved that the House form itself into Committee on supply—"that supply be granted to His Majesty." Before dealing with the special items on the estimates, the Premier took a retrospective view of what has been done during regime of the present Government. In November 1911 there came to an end twenty years of Liberal administration. Four years ago he had stated that he would make a change in regard to the responsibility for failure to make income and expenditure meet. They said if they were fit to take government they would have to carry the responsibility on their own shoulders without casting blame upon their predecessors. They did not throw the responsibility on their predecessors for failure to make ends meet, because they had put an end to the period of annual deficits. When they started they were faced with liabilities of $1,072,000, and it was on the results obtained, starting with that adverse balance, that their regime must be judged. At the end of the first fifteen months, the Government had reduced it to $1,027,000. At the end of December 31, 1914, the liabilities were further reduced to $983,854.

The total reduction of the debt in the four years was $89,241. These figures could not be controverted. In addition to this reduction there was the claim of Walter Lowe, outstanding for over fifteen years, which had been settled for some $7,343. They had had nothing to do with that claim, but like many other claims, it had fallen on their shoulders to settle. There were other claims amounting to over $3,000, which afterwards turned up, making a total reduction in debt of about $100,000.

Last year he had estimated for a surplus of $5,629. The actual surplus had been $10,572. The contribution to the war funds had been $20,940, including $15,000 paid to the Patriotic Fund. Altogether some $28,000 which were actually paid out this year and which might be properly charged to the current year they had defrayed from the year 1914. If it had not been for that they would have had a surplus of $47,414. That was not all, for although they had fulfilled and more than fulfilled their promise that they would make income and expenditure meet, they had also added to the assets of the province by providing agricultural buildings in Charlottetown and Summerside to the value of $17,000. The Commissioner of Public Works in his Department had added to the assets of the Government public works to the value of $153,000. It was absolutely necessary when they took the offer to put the finances of the province in a sound financial position, and they had done this by increasing the revenue by $160,000—without increasing the taxation of the people of the province one cent. The Land Tax was the same, the income tax was the same, except that the revenues of clergymen and school teachers were exempted. They had the fox tax, it was true, but that was not a new tax, as previously fox owners were liable to a tax of one and a half per cent. instead of one per cent. now charged. The satisfactory position of the finances was not reached by chance. It was all carefully planned and arranged for. If their predecessors had acted upon the advice they had placed at their disposal when in opposition, they might have obtained the increased Dominion subsidy and grants which they had succeeded in securing, but their predecessors refused to avail themselves of the material and assistance they had offered.

How was the increased revenue spent? They had spent $40,000 per annum in permanent public works more than did their predecessors. They had paid $41,000 per annum more in salaries to teachers—an addition of $70 to every teacher's salary in the province. The average deficit of $35,000 per annum had been wiped out;; and they had reduced the public debt by $30,000 per annum—accounting in all for $146,000 per annum. In the Public Works Department alone their predecessors had spent during the whole of their regime some $40,800 on steel bridges, whereas the present Government in three years had spent $116,000. In other permanent works they had spent $37,000—making an expenditure of $153,000 in this Department alone. The roads of the province were never in a better condition than they were to-day, notwithstanding that the Road Act met with such opposition at the outset. He did not believe that one man, were he asked, would go back to the old system. Under the old regime a great deal of the money for roads was spent in buying votes. Under the present Government not a cent had been spent insuch a manner. It could not be truthfully said that one dollar had been spent illegally by this Government, after next election was over, he would be extremely disappointed if he could not stand there and say that not only had not a cent of public money been spent in bribery, but that not one drop of liquor had been distributed at the election. The road officers had also to collect the land tax, and it was a satisfactory statement, he thought, to be able to make, when he said that they had collected over 98 per cent. of the taxes. Proceeding to discuss the roads, he said it should not be difficult to arrive at a solution for permanently improving the roads—but that was still before them. He hoped that after next election the Senate would be no longer in a position to veto the subsidy for roads. If the Senate had not blocked the measure, the province would have had $40,000 spent on the roads. For the future they looked forward with confident hope of obtaining that grant, when the beneficial results that would flow from it would be felt all over this province.

Discussing the education question, the Premier said when they took office they found that during the previous regime the average attendance of children had fallen from 23,000 to 18,000, the number of schools had largely increased, the average salaries of all classes of school teachers had fallen; there was apathy everywhere. All that had passed. The attendance had increased, there was only one vacant school last year, salaries had increased, there was hope, courage and confidence everywhere. Instead of three school inspectors they had now eleven, who visited the schools regularly, and the system and satisfactory results accruing reflected the greatest credit on the Superintendent of Education and his assistant, Mr Bradley. Indeed, it was held up to other provinces as an ideal system of co-ordinating common school and agricultural education. He confidently believed that the outcome of this would result in increasing the population remaining in the Island. He believed the conditions offered here were better than those offered anywhere in Canada or outside Canada. Education was the foundation of success. What enormous possibilities lay before us agriculturally if only we would recognise that no man was too old to learn. Nothing could curse a country more than wealth without foundation; far better for a country to have more of the latter and less of the former. He thought that it was as much the duty of Canada and the provinces of Canada to provide money for better equipping the fishermen of Canada as to provide for the education of any other class, and he would not remain satisfied until an opportunity were given to the fishermen of Canada similar to that now being given to agriculturists. Referring to oyster fisheries, the Premier said that last year they arranged with the Department of Marine and Fisheries to institute a protective service and to sweep the bays of star fish. They also had had the services of Dr Julius Neilson, the greatest authority on oysters in the United States, who investigated the particular conditions under which oysters bred; and also Mr J. W. Robertson, who spent the summer in Richmond Bay studying the oyster spat. The problem was how to catch the spat, and the information obtained had been very valuable indeed. If it had not been for the action of the Government the greatest oyster fisheries of Canada—our own—were in danger of becoming exhausted. It would have been impossible to inaugurate the present system had it not been for the invaluable work of Mr Shaw and his assistance. They had found in him an exceedingly reliable officer, and he had succeeded in smoothing out objections and difficulties until now he did not think there was one outlying claim which had not been satisfied. There was not a man engaged in the oyster industry in any capacity who would not be immensely benefited by the cultivation of the oyster fisheries. It would be a crime were steps not taken to develop and conserve the finest oyster beds in the continent. Growth, if sound and sure may be slow, yet may be satisfactory. Growth in the oyster industry may not be speedy, but his advice from the Department was that it was sound and sure. The fox industry had made phenomenal progress. Until the war had checked its development, but he did not think that check was altogether to be regretted. He thought that in the long run, both the fox industry and the oyster industry would ultimately benefit from the present period of rest.

The Premier referred to the mussel-mud experiments and said they hoped to develop these until the whole province would benefit therefrom.

In conclusion the Premier said their estimated income for the coming year was $517,293, and the expenditure $516,238, leaving a surplus of $1,055. That would mean that they would reduce the public debt by $18,268, and in addition have this surplus of $1,055. The Government had in the past year fulfilled the last of their pre-election promises in establishing the school supply department, whereby the price of school books had been greatly reduced. He thought they would be justified by the people of the province in spending what they considered necessary in carrying through that policy.

The Government had also in view in establishing a laboratory for testing disease such as they had not on this side of Montreal at present. They had been advised that that was an initial step that would bring their relations to the people in the very best that exists in civilization. What they wanted was the best means of safeguarding the health of the people, and that they were determined to attempt. What lay before them immediately, however, was their relation to the Empire, and they were asking the Legislature to provide what was deemed necessary. They did not know how much would be required, but they asked that confidence would be placed in the Government to spend about what was considered necessary. If ever there was a time when strife, malice and uncharitableness should be swept back it was the present. The man who realized his duty in this respect would find that he had no time to waste otherwise. There were some people who, instead of assisting, were prepared to hinder. Instead of giving approval, they had nothing but fault finding, but he hoped that such trivial fault-finding would be now put behind them, and a united front presented in face of the common danger.

MR. JOHN RICHARDS. The leader of the Opposition, in reply said the Premier had furnished them with a lengthy and eloquent speech and had endeavored to show that they had a great many problems to solve as the result of the long regime of the Liberals. If the Premier could succeed in making the people see things as he saw them, it would be all right for the Government, but he thought it would take more than his speech to do that. He thought the Province had benefited largely by the enterprise of the Liberal Governments in introducing improved transportation, cold storage, and agricultural development. He believed that the people had come to believe that the late Governments were very progressive and economical. He though tthat the present Government at Ottawa was the most extravagant in the history of Canada. He thought the term "slash away dashaway" well described the Dominion Government, and might also be applied to the local Government. Since coming into office they had been grossly extravagant as the public accounts showed. It was true there was a surplus last year of 10,000, but in view of the increased subsidy and grants received, he did not think it was much to brag about. They had a revenue of $209,000 more in 1914 than in 1911. If proper economy had been practised there should have been a very substantial surplus. They had not practised economy, on the other hand there had been increased expenditure in every department. It had cost $700 to bring the members of the Executive Council against $400 under the Liberal Government. That was perhaps not a great deal, but it showed how the money was spent. If the debt was decreased how was it that $1,300 more in bank interest was paid last year than in 1911? He criticized the system adopted by Messrs. Rossborough and Dench in preparing the report on the liabilities of the Province, and said that if they had adopted a different system they would have shown that the Province was in a better position under the late Government than almost any other Province in Canada. Discussing the educational question, he doubted whether the Government was justified in making the claim for the improvements that they had done. If the Government had practised the same economy as its predecessor, he thought they should have been able to pay greater increases in salaries to

(Continued from page three)

GERMANY PREPARES FOR EVENTUALITIES

Fortifying Underground Positions on Rhine and Damming River with View to Flooding Country in Event of Invasion.

(Special to The Guardian)

BASEL, April 14.—German authorities, according to advices reaching here, are reconstructing the formidable fortress at Isten, five miles from here on the Rhine. The barracks inside the fortress have been completely pulled down and extensive underground barracks to take their place have been dug and quarried out of the earth. Furthermore the river Rhine is being dammed so that when certain sluice gates are closed wide stretches of the surrounding country can be flooded. Observers in Basel are expressing the opinion that these preparations are in anticipation of the French offensive being successful.

ITALY'S INTERVENTION PROVIDED FOR

(Special to the Guardian.)

ROME, April 14.—The Cabinet Council Tuesday decided several important military measures, the nature of which was withheld, but they are undoubtedly connected with Italian intervention in the war, which any Austro-German effort now is absolutely powerless to avert. "I am informed from an authoritative source," says the correspondent, "that negotiations have been successfully initiated between the Allies and Italy as a prelude to the settlement of various questions which it is necessary to decide before intervention comes.

"The most important of these questions concern a Serbian port on the Adriatic. This has been practically solved; Italy's rights are fully recognised, her aspirations guaranteed and protection of her interests assured.

The time when Italy will join the Allies is not far distant, but it is not likely to be prolonged beyond the beginning of May. It is possible that intervention may be announced when Parliament re-opens on May 12, although, according to the Constitution, the King is empowered to declare war, Parliament's approval not being necessary.

BARON WIMBONE'S BRILLIANT RECEPTION IN DUBLIN CITY

(Special to the Guardian.)

DUBLIN, April 14.—Baron Wimborne, who has succeeded Lord Aberdeen as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, made a state entry into Dublin this afternoon. He was given a great welcome by all classes of the population. The scene in many ways was a brilliant one. The new Lord Lieutenant was escorted by a detachment of cavalry. Lady Wimborne, and their children, one son and two daughters, drove in the procession. Baron Wimborne in recent years has represented the Irish cause in the House of Lords, and in the Boer war was given a medal for distinguished service.

RUSSIANS HOLD MAIN BESKID CREST

(Special to the Guardian.)

LEMBERG, April 14.—In a desperate attack by the Russians' right flank on the Austrian position at Mezolaborcz, Hungarnan side ast of Beskid Mountains, fifty miles south of Przemysl, the Austrians were forced, after a twelve hour battle, to make a precipitate retreat. The whole main crest of this district, which the Austrians considered to be impregnable, is now in Russian hands.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT NOW IN SESSION

(Special to the Guardian.)

LONDON, April 14.—Parliament reassembled to-day, with a fair attendance. The first hour was devoted principally to questions concerning the war.

Lewis Harcourt, Secretary of State for the Colonies, promised that the Dominions would be consutled fully with regard to terms of peace.

Harold J. Tennant, Parliamentary Under Secretary for War, made the announcement that there had been 1,546 promotions and commissions from ranks since the beginning of the war. He also give what was regarded as a possible clue to the intentions of the Government concerning the drink question. He said that beer was the only intoxicant now permitted in canteens, and that it was the intention of the authorities to prohibit it.

Minard's Liniment Cures Neuralgia.

QUARTERLY MEETING BOARD OF TRADE

The regular quarterly meeting of the Charlottetown Board of Tade was held ast evening. The President, Mr. J. O. Hyndman occupied the chair. There were present Messrs. N. Rattenbury, H. V. Buntain, E. T. Higgs, Isaac Carter, H. R. Hillson, C. H. Black, E. Bell, R. L. Cotton, R. H. Jenkins, J. E. B. McCready, Edwin Aitken, Judge Stewart, Messrs. G. S. Inman, R. Aitken and the Secretary, Mr. E. H. Beer.

After minutes and routine a number of questions were discussed, among them, Railway matters steam ship connections,—especially with reference to Montreal and Newfoundland. The fox industry also received some attention and several committees were appointed to handle various matters.

FIVE BISCUITS LEFT WHEN CRUE RESCUED

LIVERPOOL, N. S., April, 13.—When only five crackers remained to feed the crew, the wrecked schooner Herald, of New York, was found last Thursday by the Gloucester schooner Oriole, 128 miles off Seal Island.

The Oriole landed the crew of the Herald here to-day. It consisted of S. R. Cooke, master; Robert Cook, William Phelps and Oscar Olsen, Calais Maine; and Charles Griffen and B. W. Preston, Lubec.

The deck of the schooner was swept away by a heavy east and northeast gale soon after it left La Have on April 1.

The crew was five days on the wreck and were put on an allowance of six crackers a day. This was reduced to three. The men suffered intensely from hunger and cold and had to sleep in a temporary cabin made of lumber and covered with a sail.

The schooner Herald was bound from Bridgewater to New York with four hundred thousand feet of lumber.

ITALIAN STMRS. RECEIVED NO ORDERS.

NEW YORK, April 13.— Agents of the Italian Transtlantic steamship lines here had not received today the orders reported last night to have been issued from Rome directing all Italian steamers in American ports to postpone their sailings until April 20 At the pier of the Llyod Italiano line, it was said that the steamship Stampalia would leave for Italian ports tomorrow unless oredrs to the contrary were received in the meantime. Agents of the Fabre line said their steamer would continue to sail on the published dates.

A despatch from London last night said Italian steamers in American ports had been ordered to postpone all sailings until April 20, according to a Rome dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company.