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NUMBER 8 BATTERY meet to night at the Armouries at 8 p.m. H. L. Bethune, Major. 1-2-2

RESERVE THE 18TH of May for Thomas A. Lynch's sale of farm stock and implements, Peakes Station. 1-2-wfm 51

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NUMBER 8 BATTERY P. E. I Heavy Brigade will hold an organization meeting in the Armouries at 8 p.m. tonight. All members of the Battery are requested to be present.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the P. E. I. Provincial Rifle Association will be held in the City Court Room, City Hall Building, next Tuesday evening, 8th May, at 7:30. A large attendance of members is earnestly requested. Charles Leigh Lieut.-Col. R. O., Sec.-treas. 1-2-wfm-3

FERTILIZER—Now arriving sun phosphorus, soda and potash, also Swifts' mixed fertilizer all of which we are selling at lowest prices. Wholesale and retail. Special prices to Farmers, Institutes and Clubs. A. Horne & Co. 116789-5-31

Miss Penelope Howard and Miss Profit are spending the week end in Summerside.

Lively Discussion

(Continued from Page Two.)

the public that the obligation rest upon me. I can now assure my friend that so far as I am concerned my department has nothing whatever to do with the construction or maintenance of support of the jail or security of the prisoners in the jail.

Premier Bell: I have been brought more or less into contact with this matter, and inquiries have been made by the Government in the case of the escape of these people and certain steps have been taken with respect to making the confinement of these people a matter of safety. The Government is not in a position to guarantee the absolute safety of any prisoner; all they can do is use reasonable means to prevent them escaping.

MR. STEWART: Not very much appears. PREMIER BELL: Well, these things can be made up a reasonable security. One of the prisoners got a hack saw, supposedly from the outside. He sawed his way out of his cell, and then sawed his associate out, and then the two of them sawed their way out of the jail.

HON. MR. JOHNSTON: And we never "saw" them since! MR. LEPAGE: We don't want to see them, either! MR. STEWART: You should want to see them if you had any sense of responsibility.

PREMIER BELL: One report was that they were in Newfoundland and another report was that they were in the United States, and it is impossible to discover where they are. I don't think we need the expense of sending detectives after them, but we made inquiries and could not locate them. We took the precaution of transferring the assistant jailer into a night watchman. I think the jail at the present time is about as secure as a jail of that kind can be.

There are defects in the jail itself and these defects cannot very well be remedied. If the jail could be moved back four or five hundred yards and surrounded with a wall dare say it would be more secure.

MR. HIGGS: The question that he people are interested in is that his thing will not occur again. The placing of a night watchman is a right step, but if this building, under the department of Public Works I would like the Commissioner of Public Works to inform me if there have been any improvements made so that prisoners can not saw their way out again.

HON. MR. CROSBY: We have not an outside wire screens. There is no absolute proof that the saw got in through the windows. All that anybody knows is that the bars were sawed and the prisoners got out.

MR. MURDOCK KENNEDY: Let us see what we fit in on this. I remember when the Premier was leader of the Opposition, and the note for Queen's County Jail was \$2,535. He kept the House in howl, water all the time these estimates were going through. Now he asks \$4,630—almost double the amount. Has he any idea of what is going in the Public Works department? Does he know who is getting the craft out of the work? It is just another case of taxing the people to pay for extravagance. They "saw" them down to the jail now, says, and treat them like star boarders when they get them. They stay as long as they like and leave when they get tired. Here we have \$683 for coal bill alone. Take the beef bill! Some of these people are fed like gentlemen. We will have to all go down there! We wouldn't have to worry and worry then, and we would be fed by the taxpayers of the country. Is it any wonder that we have criminals? And look at the drug bill—\$86,000! I see that the hon. gentleman from West River (Hon. Mr. Hughes) who has been preaching purity in this House so often, is mixed up in this. Is it any wonder we have bills?

HON. MR. HUGHES: Our bill is only \$2.50. MR. KENNEDY: It's \$2.90. You are forty cents out. Of course, there is this about it,—you could have somebody else working for you! (Laughter.) But why has the Premier changed his heart about

he jail expenses so much as to double the amount?

MR. KENNEDY: We are the government now. We are the government now. Just exactly,—it is too well we know it.

PREMIER BELL: That makes the difference.

MR. KENNEDY: That's what is making the deficit roll up, anyway. It is no wonder that the country is about a million dollars further in debt than it was when the Conservatives were in power. Here you admit that even on this small town of the Jail you have doubled the expenditure, after bleeding the people white with taxes! I am glad to see the editor of the Patriot here. He denounced our expenditures in big red type.

HON. MR. NASH: It was black type. We have no red type.

MR. KENNEDY: Now, is not that clear? He admits it!

THE CHAIRMAN: Don't wander away from the point.

MR. KENNEDY: That's the Jail. (Laughter.) Very well, Mr. Chairman, let us stick to the Jail. I think the hon. gentleman must be preparing for a nice supper down here. They should be able to put up a pretty good spread at the price. The Premier must be helping us with his friends. Here is one of the greatest Premiers we ever had in this Province; there is no doubt about that. (Loud applause from Liberal benches)—so far as rolling up a debt is concerned! (Loud laughter and applause from visitors.) And then he says that the farmers in the country are not half taxed!

THE CHAIRMAN: You must get to the point.

MR. KENNEDY: The point is that we are voting Supply and we, as a loyal Opposition, have a right to speak from the first turn of the estimates to the tail end of them, and neither you, Mr. Chairman, nor anybody else in this House or out of it has the power to stop our inquiries, or raise any objection to them. I want to tell you that now.

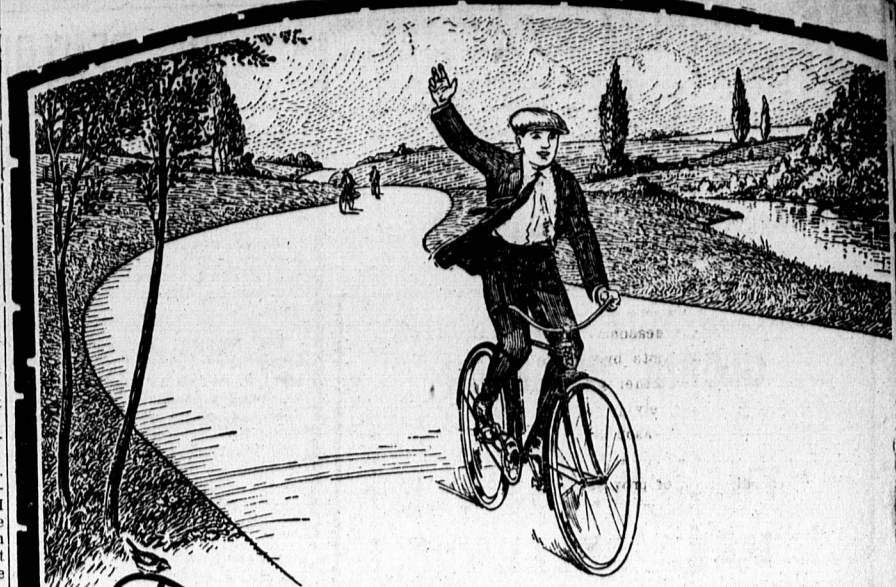
So that you will know how things stand. We have not had the treatment in this House that we as an opposition should have had. Our questions have not been properly answered when we put them on the order paper, but I will not stop to discuss that now. Here we have \$33 of a coal bill for the Jail alone. My dwelling house and store cost \$120 to heat this winter, but I suppose I shouldn't expect to be as comfortable as they are in the Jail. Did you ever hear of such a thing? Here is \$88 for rugs, \$123 for Stanley, Shaw and board for "labor"—I thought they were hardware men—and here is \$442 for George H. Tombs for biscuits. (Laughter.) Simply feeding their friends!

MR. LEPAGE: On biscuits! MR. KENNEDY: Yes. It is a wonder there isn't a boot bill here.

(Laughter.) Now I think the Premier had better come back to the old estimates of 1918, when \$2,500 or \$3,000 was sufficient to cover the Jail expenses. Then we will let this estimate through without any more argument. As a matter of fact there should only be one bill for the Province. We have no right to be burdened with three bills. It looks as if we were encouraging criminals instead of trying to reduce their number. If people are put in jail for a while, they have a right to make them earn their living. The people of this province find it hard enough to make their own living without contributing to the support of criminals. While we continue giving them a fat, easy time we are encouraging them. Put these people to work. Once they begin to understand that they have to work when they go there you will find that there will not be so many in the Jail. There should be a fence around it. Get those fellows breaking stone, making proms or brushes or something; then next year we will not be coming here voting away \$4,000 of the hard earned money of the people of this province.

MR. LEPAGE did not think that the coal bill for the Jail was too much. It cost him about \$300 this winter to run his furnace and kitchen stove. In 1919 the bill was \$678.66.

MR. J. D. STEWART: Just why the increase in this one item of Queen's County Jail should have doubled since 1918 is difficult to understand, and I think it certainly does require a more intelligent explanation than we have so far received. What services are we getting? It would have been better to have closed up altogether than to have set such an example that has been set in allowing five prisoners to escape within a few months. The thing is a farce! The Premier gives a very pretty explanation of it. When was this investigation he talks about made? These escapes have been going on from June until December. Was it only two prisoners who used a saw to get out, or was it the five of them? How did the others escape? Why was this condition allowed to go on for six months? We see just how little that explanation amounts to. He says that every reasonable precaution was taken. What that means is very difficult to say. The fact remains that we have an unprecedented condition. Have any attempts been made to recall those criminals? Are we going to spend large sums of money in convicting criminals of serious crimes, but then in jail for a night and allow them to go free and make no



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"Gee, you make a fellow anxious to get out on those new roads, too."

"Why not get a bicycle and come along with me, Fred? Come and breathe the clover-laden breezes. And see the fields spring into this spring. And the grain ripen golden in the fall. I know some pools where there's a fish or two. And some places where the mushrooms grow. We'll take our bicycles along next vacation, too."

"You've sure got me going, Jim."

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