

THE DAILY NEWS

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DAILY EDITION

Thursday, Feb. 6, 1913.

CLOSING DOWN CITY WORK.

It is a matter of sincere regret to every citizen of Prince Rupert that the Mayor and Council recently elected to office have been forced to order a cessation of the local improvement work in Section One through lack of funds to continue the same. No blame, however, for such an unfortunate condition of affairs can be thrown upon the shoulders of the present Council. Civic business should be conducted on principles exactly similar to those adopted by any other large corporation. It is a certainty that no successful manager of a large industrial corporation would dream of conducting its affairs in a hand to mouth fashion such as was done by the Council of 1912. Such methods would inevitably lead to financial ruin. Mayor Pattullo is apparently going to adopt a sane course. He has assured the public that, first of all, he is making it his business to thoroughly straighten out the present financial tangle and ascertain just exactly where the city is at. After this has been done provision will be made for necessary funds to proceed with work and definite plans will be made and followed, plans not merely for the present but covering the future as well. It is such businesslike methods that the citizens want to see displayed by its executive officers and apparently the right men have been elected to carry out a sane policy.

FARMERS' BANK SPECTRE.

Premier Borden has now to face another schism in his ranks, and this time from a totally unexpected quarter. When Hon. W. T. White introduced his bank act it looked like an innocent piece of legislation which would be treated in calm financial terms by both sides of the House. The Liberal members showed their anxiety to work with the Minister of Finance so as to improve the bank act as far as possible.

Then in stalked the spectre of the Farmers' Bank, which has so haunted many followers of Premier Borden since September, 1911, and trouble came with it. During the campaign of 1911 a dozen or more Ontario Tory candidates, headed by Hon. T. W. Crothers—now minister of labor—declared that if they were elected and the Tories returned to

power the new government should reimburse those unfortunate who had lost their money in the Farmers' Bank smash.

This won elections for most of them. But when Parliament met they could not deliver the goods. Mr. Borden could swallow a good deal, but he did not dare swallow such a dose as was proposed. After much patient pursuit he formally repudiated his colleague, Hon. Mr. Crothers, and said that the minister had spoken only for himself.

Naturally this was cold cheer for the group of generous promisers who found that they had won their seats by false pretenses. They had promised reimbursement, and their electors demanded it, with threats that if they broke their promises their path would not be easy when they wanted votes again.

They revolted, led by Major Sam Sharpe of North Ontario, who severely criticized the bill of his financial leader, declaring that it did not go nearly far enough to satisfy the people, especially the Farmers' Bank victims. Major Sharpe, to the applause of his own coterie on the government side, demanded that Mr. White amend his bill so as to include government inspection of banks and a consideration of the bank act by a royal commission of experts instead of a Parliamentary committee.

An even sharper criticism of the bill was made by Mr. W. F. Maclean, the Conservative member for South York, who vigorously traced the fine Italian hand of "the interests" throughout it, showing that where the defects of the old bank act were that it only favored the trusts and mergers, the same defects were being perpetuated by Hon. Mr. White.

It is certain that the rest of the group who owe their elections to the Farmers' Bank failure are backing Mr. Sharpe in his revolt, and it has been stated that lively times have occurred in the cabinet itself, since Mr. Crothers has small appetite for crow. The Minister of Labor is not anxious to go back to St. Thomas and tell his electors that he fooled them, and has been publicly rebuked and repudiated by his leader.

When next elections come on the people of Ontario will probably know more about the difference between Tory promises and Tory performances.

THIN RED LINE IS ABOUT TO PASS

British War Department Plans to Discard Infantrymen's Scarlet Tunics—More Serviceable Khaki to Be Substituted.

London, Feb. 5.—The red coat of the British infantrymen, which for hundreds of years has been one of the most striking features among the uniforms of the armies of the world, is to disappear and soon the world will know no more "the thin red line of heroes." According to well authenticated reports the Secretary of War will disclose, in his annual estimate, as one of the principal measures of economy, a proposal to abolish the famous scarlet full dress uniform of all the infantry of the line. The khaki service dress is to be the uniform of the future. That prospect, particularly for the recruiting sergeant and the nursemaid in the park, is not at all pleasant, but as an economic departure the scheme has much to recommend it. If the proposal finally comes before Parliament it is sure to meet with strenuous opposition from those who regard the bright, attractive tunics as an important stimulus to recruiting and also from those who merely consider the army as something more ornamental than necessary. A wordy parliamentary war between sentimentality and utilitarianism is therefore promised.

The sentimental feeling of English people for the historic uniforms of their soldiers has only been recently displayed in the opposition aroused against discarding the kilts of the Highland troops. When this proposition was put forward there was a general protest, not only from the Highland regiments, but from the whole country. It resulted in the kilt being retained, and it is hardly possible that the red coat will be discarded without a struggle.

For the moment, it is not suggested that the dashing guardsman shall have the beauty of his apparel interfered with. Neither is there any proposal made to strip the cavalry, royal artillery or royal engineers of their resplendent trappings, although this probably would follow as a matter of course.

WOMEN INSPECTORS

To Be Appointed by Labor Department in Four Largest Cities

Ottawa, Feb. 4.—The Minister of Labor is inaugurating a new move for the protection of women and the safeguarding of child labor in Canada by appointing in the four largest cities of the Dominion women correspondents of the Labor Gazette, whose duty it will be to keep in close touch with all the conditions surrounding the employment of the women and children, not only in shops and factories, but in domestic service as well. The first four inspectors will be appointed in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver, and if the plan proves as successful as it is believed female representatives of the department will be appointed in all other cities.

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The city man handles a horse with about the same easy manner that his city cousin exhibits when he encounters the ubiquitous bellhop for the first time.

LORD ALVERSTONE AT DEATH'S DOOR

Lord Chief Justice of England is Very Ill—Sir Rufus Isaacs Likely to Succeed Him

London, Feb. 5.—The facts concerning the illness of Lord Alverstone, Lord Chief Justice of England, still familiarly known as "Dick" Webster, although his peerage is already a dozen years old, are being studiously kept from the knowledge of the public. His condition is much more grave than is supposed. Alverstone is lying surrounded by all the members of his family. The King on Saturday sent a special equerry from Buckingham with a sympathetic message and judges and leading king's counsel have visited him.

He is suffering seriously from heart trouble and a critical attack of internal hemorrhage has rendered his condition so precarious that oxygen has been administered at frequent intervals. It is certain that the Lord Chief Justice will never return to the Royal Courts of Justice again.

Clinging to Office

For many weeks ill-health has prevented Lord Alverstone from properly conducting the business of the courts. On frequent occasions recently he has had dangerous attacks while on the bench, rendering necessary prolonged retirements to his private chambers to recuperate.

His residence resembles a miniature surgery. So grave is the lord chief justice's condition that the doctors are always in readiness for an emergency. But the Websters come of old fighting stock. Richard Everard Webster was a great athlete in the sixties. When at Cambridge he broke all previous records on the running track and until a few years back attended all the big football and sporting matches throughout the country.

No doubt one of the chief reasons for his continuing in office has been his desire that the reversion of the appointment to the chief justiceship should fall to the Tories. In the event of his present retirement, or decrease, Sir Rufus Isaacs, the present Attorney-General, is sure to be given the post.

Sir Rufus Isaacs

Sir Rufus was entitled to the Lord Chancellorship when that office became vacant by the withdrawal of Lord Loreburn from the cabinet, but obviously it was felt that it would be incongruous for a Jew to be exercising the ecclesiastical patronage vested in the crown in the selection of clergymen for the Church of England. Theoretically, too, the Lord Chancellor is the keeper of the royal conscience, a fact which bars Roman Catholics from that office, as was shown when Lord Russell of Killowen, was awarded the second instead of the first prize of the English Judiciary, the salary of Lord Chief Justice being \$35,000 annually as compared with the Lord Chancellor's salary of \$50,000 a year and a pension of \$25,000 a year on leaving the Wool-sack, even if he has held the office only for a day.

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holding high office was that of Sir George Jessel, one of the most distinguished masters of the rolls England has ever seen. Sir Rufus Isaacs' appointment will certainly be most popular among the members of the bar. The vacant attorney-generalship will naturally fall to Sir John Allsebrook Simon, solicitor-general, whose rapid rise at the bar has been one of the most remarkable incidents in recent history. Stanley O. Buckmaster, M. P. for a Yorkshire division, is marked for early promotion.

STANDARD OIL DIVIDEND

Melton Worth Forty Millions Cut by Shareholders.

New York, Feb. 5.—The Standard Oil Company of New Jersey has declared a dividend of \$40 a share. It was stated that this dividend represented money owed to the company by its subsidiaries at the time of the dissolution.

"The companies have payments," a statement said, "from time to time as able to do so, from money raised by the realization of assets or the increase of capital stock."

The dividend is payable February 15th. In round figures the total payment to stockholders will amount to \$40,000,000.

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