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H. F. McRAE, EDITOR AND MANAGER

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110 ALUM MAGIC READ LABEL BAKING POWDER

FIGHT OVER DR. SHORTT'S REPORT IN CANADIAN HOUSE OF COMMONS

WOUND UP BY MORE FLAG WAVING BY FINANCE MINISTER WHICH WAS ABLY REBUTTED BY GEORGE P. GRAHAM IN GREAT SPEECH.

(By H. F. GADSBY.)

Ottawa—Well, whatever else happens in this dreary waste of words, we had one lively day. It occurred last week but it dwells in the memory yet like an attack of acute indigestion. This Parliament is suffering from large emotions, sternly suppressed. Although it talks some, it says little, because the good stuff will keep until a general election, and also because the public isn't listening anyway, both its ears being in Europe. Consequently when a genuine old blood-and-fire debate, in which plain speaking and hard hitting are the order of the day, takes place it acts as a mustard plaster and greatly eases the pains and aches of the body politic.

cause they proved that the government was "going some." Just as naturally the government resented a text with so much edge on it. They put up a holler that the professor didn't know his multiplication tables.

As a matter of fact, the professor didn't. He was under, rather than over in mark, for, when Sinclair of Guysboro, who is the best little digger not actively engaged in the allies' trenches, got busy with the disjointed returns submitted by the various departments, he figured out that there had been eleven thousand appointments, which makes the spread between dismissals and appointments two thousand more than the Professor's estimate. And at that there are several cabinet ministers to hear from. Subsequently, Dr. Pugsley calculated that eleven thousand civil servants at an average of one thousand dollars each meant eleven million additional dollars a year at a time when Canada should be pinching pennies. Altogether, Professor Shortt seems to have a good margin to come and go on.

Altogether the government has not put all the facts on record yet, because truth is precious and must not be parted with wholesale, the Cabinet ministers answered Prof. Shortt in various ways. One after another they got up and said these hands are clean. Much heat was engendered at the idea that it took five Tories to supply the place of one Grit. The increases had merely kept pace with the general expansion of the country. Also great play was made with "resignations." Professor Shortt had not differentiated between resignations and dismissals. Perhaps he hadn't. Perhaps he didn't for a reason aptly put by Sir Wilfred Laurier, who said that resignation was a virtue and that people often made virtue of a necessity, which might have been the case with some thousands of Liberals, who got out from under before the axé fell. At all events many high-minded Liberals, feeling, doubtless, that they couldn't work under a Conservative government, fired themselves while the firing was good.

Continued on Page Three

AXE BLOWS KILLED BOY, SAYS CORONER

Woman Accused of Tacoma Lad's Death Has Declared Injuries Were Due to a Fall.

Tacoma, March 15.—That an axe or a club probably was used to inflict the two wounds on the head of 3-year-old Clarence Hall that resulted in death, was the testimony of Coroner F. J. Stewart at the trial of Mrs. Bertha Difley, charged with murder in the first degree.

Dr. Stewart expressed the belief that it was not probable that the child received the bruises in falling from a trunk—an explanation attributed to Mrs. Difley, who was employed as a housekeeper in the Hall home. It would have been impossible, he said, for both bruises to have come from one fall.

The only other witness then was the boy's father, Amos Hall. He told of receiving a telegram while in Oregon that his child was dead. Hurrying home, he said he found Mrs. Difley very nervous. He accused her of killing the boy, he said, but later permitted burial without protest. He told of Mrs. Difley's grandchild, Alice Rotchford, 5 years old, saying at dinner:

"If Grandma hadn't hit Clarence so hard he would be here with us."

Through Hall the State was also able to get before the jury the fact that Amos Hall, Jr., 5 years old, brother of the dead boy, had said that Mrs. Difley hit Clarence twice on the head with an axe.

VICTORIA NOMINATIONS.

Conservative and Liberal Leaders Will Run Against Each Other.

Victoria, March 15.—With nomination day looming very near, much speculation is rife here as to the candidates which Victoria Conservatives will choose for the coming election. The general belief is that both H. F. W. Behnsen and F. W. Davey will be permanently dropped, though the nomination of Sir Richard McBride and H. B. Thomson is assured. For the other two nominations there are said to be four candidates: Reginald Hayward, A. C. Sargison, George O'Kell and William Blakemore, with the majority of Conservatives inclining towards the two first named. Some confusion is likely to be introduced by the impending candidature of two representing the Imperial Conservative organization. Leonard Tate and Beaumont Boggs are said to be likely entries.

The four Liberal candidates for the city were chosen in convention over a year ago, and there seems no likelihood of their being changed before nomination day. They are H. C. Brewster, Liberal leader; Alderman Bell, John Hart and H. C. Hall.

EDITORIALS

The mayor and Alderman Morrissey have returned from their extended trip in the interests of the city and everybody expected to have something definite done. It will therefore come as a surprise that all they secured was an advance of \$36,000 and a promise that the bank will do all they can to extend the treasury certificates for another three years. Being that they are to get a fee of \$27,000 for the turn-over, it would appear that it was not necessary to proceed to Montreal to press this. Then, the Bank of Montreal insisted on securing an option on the certificates. In other words, the city guaranteed them an opportunity to make \$27,000 and for this they advance a loan of \$36,000, which must be repaid out of the first taxes received. The trip cost in the neighborhood of \$2,000. Surely, the mayor must feel silly after his criticism of his predecessor.

An amusing part of the report of the mayor was the fact that he apparently never read the letter the bank advanced covering what they proposed doing. There is a statement in that letter that besides the 6 per cent interest there is a 2 per cent "per annum" charge for flotation. The mayor and Alderman Morrissey are confident that this is a clerical error and that the 2 per cent is only for the first year; but as the official letter states otherwise, it would appear that the city is in their power. The important point, however, is that the mayor of Prince Rupert should go to Montreal on business and fail to read the bank's letter of instruction. It looks as if they were as excited as two schoolboys and could not read the letter for very joy.

A speaker at a Conservative meeting in Toronto praised the Asquith government and said that its members, if they lived in Canada, would belong to the Conservative party. The Asquith government upholds free trade, and has increased the proportion of direct over indirect taxation so that now it is 58 per cent direct as against 42 per cent indirect, whereas in 1898 direct was 44 per cent and indirect 56 per cent. It has just doubled the income tax, so that next year it will produce nearly \$500,000,000.

It does not appear to us that the Conservative party in Can-

ada is moving in this direction, either at Ottawa or at Toronto. It has not imposed an income tax. Nor has it given pensions for old age or insurance for sickness or unemployment, as Mr. Asquith and his colleagues have done. Nor has it established a labor exchange to diminish unemployment. Looking over the record of the Asquith government, we are unable to perceive any point of resemblance between it and the governments of Sir Robert Borden or Mr. Hearst.

Moreover, when Mr. Lloyd George was fighting hard for the budget which embodied his democratic ideas, we cannot recall that he was heartily supported by the Conservative journals of Canada. Most of them were on the side of the House of Lords, which rejected the budget. If they loved Lloyd George and his policies, they were wonderfully successful in dissembling their love.

An English Liberal or Radical arriving in Canada is usually told by the local agent of the Conservative party that a Conservative in Canada is very like a Liberal in England. There is not a single point of resemblance, as anyone may discover who will take the trouble to inquire for himself. The only distinctively British thing in the Canadian tariff is the British preference, introduced by the Liberal government in 1897. Penny postage was introduced by the same government. The Borden government is going back to the three-cent rate.—Toronto Star.

McBRIDE'S DAY IS DONE

Advertising vs. Praying. Here is one deserving of notice. The small daughter of a Little Rock family had been praying each evening at bedtime for a baby sister. The other morning her mother, reading the paper, exclaimed: "I see Mrs. Smith had a little daughter." "How do you know that?" asked the child. "I read it in the paper." "Read it to me." The mother read: "Born, on March —, to Mr. and Mrs. — Smith, a daughter." The child thought a moment, then said: "I know what I am going to do. I am going to quit praying and begin advertising."—Little Rock Gazette.

Nothing jolts a liar more than to have another chap beat him at his own game.

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