

Soon he and Brown got into a deadlock and as a result there was Confederation. This was also caused by the Grand Trunk. It was called this because it was a white elephant. The Maritimes didn't want Confederation because Joseph Howe, who edited a paper called "The Tribune of Nova Scotia", thought they were worth more than the price of a sheep's head. However, the Fenians put on a raid and rather than join Ireland the Maritime agreed to Confederation.

In 1867 Queen Victoria wrote the B.N.A. Act which is our constitution.

After Confederation Macdonald was prime minister. This was lucky because Brown was soon assassinated. In 1872 Macdonald wanted to build a railway to B.C. so he could get out there when he retired. However, he decided to resign instead and Alex. Mackenzie became Prime Minister. He was very honest so was in office for only five years. Macdonald came back to power. He started a high tariff and built the C.P.R. He also tried to people the prairies but Louis Riel didn't want this so started a rebellion. Riel was hung. This was a good thing because since then we haven't had any more rebellions in Canada.

About this time the French Canadians in Manitoba asked a question. Could they send their children to school? This was known as the Manitoba School Question. When the Manitoba Govt. said no, naturally the Govt. at Ottawa was defeated. Wilfrid Laurier became Prime Minister. He was a Liberal and a great man. He built lots of new railways, helped by Mackenzie and Mann. He also peopled the prairies much better than Macdonald had, who was dead by now.

In 1911 Laurier wanted free trade with U.S. However, the Conservatives invented a slogan, "No trucks nor trains of the Yankees" (or words to that effect) and so Laurier was beaten. However he didn't die till about 1918 or 20.

Some Conservative whose name I've forgot was Prime Minister after Laurier and soon there was World War I. Canada fought in this war and in 1917 passed conscription. This was very bad for National Unity.

After the war Wm. Lyon Mackenzie King (son of Wm. Lyon Mackenzie) was Prime Minister. He created the British Commonwealth and lots of other good things for which he is remembered. He believed in National Unity and must have been a very spiritual man since he was a spiritualist. He liked dogs. However he didn't help the League of Nations very much.

In the 1930's there was a depression. Mr. King solved this by setting up a Royal Commission which sent in a long report which everybody didn't agree to so it wasn't put into practice. Then came World War II.

I should have said earlier that in 1905 Saskatchewan and Alberta became provinces. As a result we will celebrate their hundred birthday next year.

You can see from all this why us Canadians have so much reason to believe in Progress.

DR. W. R. GRAHAM