

WELCOME HOME TO PREMIER SCOTT

Big Rally of Liberals---Much Enthusiasm---Eloquent Speeches---Mr. Scott Pours Oil on Catholic Troubles---Will Appoint One of Them Inspector

One of the largest political gatherings of a representative character ever assembled in the Canadian west gathered in the auditorium rink on Friday evening at a welcome home banquet tendered Premier Scott on his return home from the south where for months he has been battling with the ill of nature which had taken a severe hold on his system, but from which he now has best hopes of a complete recovery. Every constituency in the province was represented at the big banquet and all federal members from Saskatchewan were present, besides the western senators and Hon. W. H. Cushing representing the Alberta government. In all over seven hundred people sat down to the festive board. The most important speech, of course, was that of the premier, but it was followed by the speaker, Duncan Marshall easily won the honors. The chair was occupied by Senator Ross, Mr. Scott's political God-father.

Address of Welcome
An address of welcome was presented by W. M. Martin of Regina as follows:

To the Hon. Walter Scott, M.L.A., Premier of Saskatchewan.

Dear Mr. Scott,

It is with feelings of the deepest gratitude to Divine Providence that we, your colleagues and supporters throughout the province, welcome you home restored in health after a serious and prolonged illness.

Words cannot express the anxiety felt when it became known last December that you had been stricken down and were dangerously ill. Nor can words express the suspense of the anxious days that followed when hope and fear alternated in our breasts.

Likewise tonight mere words are too feeble to express our joy at your return. And it is not only we, members of the Liberal party in Saskatchewan, who believe that your sound judgement, wise guidance and patriotic statesmanship are needed in this young western country in the early days of its provincial development, who rejoice, but our fellow citizens throughout the province and the Dominion join with us in thankfulness that you are again restored to health.

May you be long preserved to us to remain not only our party chieftain but our provincial premier.

Signed on behalf of the Saskatchewan Liberal Association,
J. A. CALDER, President,
B. PRINCE, 1st Vice Pres.
F. MOFFAT, 2nd Vice Pres.
ALEX. ROSS, Sec'y-Treas.
Regina, Sask., June 21, 1907.

Mr. Scott Replies

The premier on rising gave an enthusiastic reception, and in acknowledging it, he took occasion to refer to the good wishes expressed by Mr. Haultain and political opponents of his recovery.

Coming to the political issues of the province he commented at some length on the school question.

"Isn't it a rather striking thing," said he, "that clerical interference—practically Roman Catholic clerical interference—when exerted in behalf of a Liberal government is in the eyes of some people—I think I may designate Mr. Haultain as one of these people—a most terrible menace to the state, but the same interference exerted in behalf of a Conservative government loses all its dangers and terrors? In 1905 in our contest Mr. Haultain had my own solemn declaration joined with the solemn declaration of every one of my colleagues, and in addition he had the public declaration of Archbishop Langevin in denial of the existence of any understanding or compact between his church or himself and the Liberal party of Saskatchewan. Yet a purely imaginative compact between us and His Grace of St. Boniface threw Mr. Haultain into variable panic. What has been seen recently in Manitoba? In the elections there is it denied, or can it be denied that Archbishop Langevin exerted every influence he possessed in favor of the Conservative government? Is it denied, or can it be denied that this was done in return for a compact or understanding by which privileges in the schools are allowed to Roman Catholics in excess of the terms of the law. This state of affairs is denied neither by Mr. Roblin nor by Archbishop Langevin. The proof is too plain to admit of any denial. But it is striking and peculiar that Mr. Haultain and the extremists from one end of Canada to the other who suffered such inflammation of imagination two years ago in our case over an alleged compact that did not exist, should see no danger in the Manitoba case last winter when a compact actually existed and is admitted.

Every day furnishes proof of the superiority of the Saskatchewan Act over the Manitoba act. In point of the sectarian phase of education. The decision that we have is clear cut and fixed. We may have minority schools either Protestant or Catholic but the school itself is absolutely public and non-sectarian from nine o'clock to 3.30. Then the church may take charge and hold religious exercises and lessons if it wishes. Our system recognizes no such thing as a Protestant teacher or a Catholic teacher. The fact that Manitoba has a normal school exclusively for the training of Roman Catholic teachers in their so-called national school system pretty plainly shows the distinction there. Our system is vastly more satisfactory for both Roman Catholics and Protestants.

In 1905 when denying the existence of any compact and when pledging ourselves to permit no departure from the strict public supervision and authority of our school we pledged ourselves just as solemnly to see to it that the constitutional rights of the Roman Catholics should be respected. If we were not absolutely convinced that the High School Act means no invasion of the rights of the minority under the Saskatchewan act, we certainly should never have proposed the bill. Several things serve to convince me. Remember what took place at Ottawa in the spring of 1905. Mr. Sifton's objection against the first education clause was mainly that its effect would carry a sectarian division in education up through high or secondary schools and on through the university. He resigned in protest against that of learning Mr. Sifton's inmost clause. I had abundant opportunity views on the question. If there is a sincere opponent of separation of education in Canada—if there is a sincere champion of national schools in Canada—and beyond this if there is any man in Canada who by actual dealings with the subject has thoroughly mastered it in all its bearings that man is Mr. Sifton, with the remarkable ability which he has shown on every question with which he has grappled. Now I know that with his Manitoba record behind him and strong a national school man as he was, Mr. Sifton had no strong objection to the Territorial school law. He admitted in his speech in the House that in many ways it was more satisfactory than the Manitoba system which he and Mr. Greenway had procured for that province only after an upheaval which threatened the very existence of confederation. But Mr. Sifton resigned in protest against the first clause. The second

clause was his own draft, I am revealing no state secret in this statement. He made the draft with the danger of division in the secondary schools and university as one thing most prominently before his mind. Is it likely that a lawyer of his acknowledged ability on a question in question in which he was so intensely concerned would fail over what he considered the essential point? I am speaking wholly from recollection. I have no time to look at the record but think if you will look up Mr. Sifton's speech it will be found that he and Mr. Borden exchanged remarks across the floor dealing with point and that Mr. Sifton made it perfectly clear that no separation rights would exist beyond the primary schools unless the province of its own motion granted such rights which action would be the measure within the scope of the remedial clause of the B.N.A. act.

Another reason equally strong is the fact that in Ontario with a separate school system which Roman Catholics look on as a model and where in the primary schools the church has the full right to control—even in Ontario such a thing as a separate school does not exist.

I wish now to ask both the Protestants and Roman Catholics of Saskatchewan to consider that I am tonight respecting the pledges we gave in the 1905 campaign. The only promises we gave were given publicly we made no secret compacts. We believed that parliament granted us the fullest freedom in education that moral observance of the lines of the B.N.A. act would permit. We promised on the one hand to safeguard the freedom and on the other hand to respect Roman Catholic rights. We will observe our pledges. We earnestly wish to have every citizen of the province feel content and in harmony with his conditions. We earnestly wish that the Roman Catholics may take their share and part in carrying on our excellent school system. We want them to have their fair proportion of members in the world in the department of education, in the trusteeship of public schools and in all branches of educational work. I may say that just as soon as we can place our hands on a Roman Catholic with the technical qualifications and knowledge of our conditions required we will try and secure him for our staff of inspectors. We have now none but Protestant inspectors and while our system knows no religious distinction we cannot hope to have that good feeling and contentment amongst our people unless they are in a position to feel that they are getting their full and fair share of both the privileges and responsibilities which attend the working out of the system.

There were many other speakers prominent among whom were Mr. Cushing, Mr. Knowles, Ex-Chief Justice McGuire, Mr. McCreary, A. Turgson, Mr. Lamont, and Senator Watson.

MOIR-CHATWIN

As the sun was sinking on Monday evening its parting rays fell upon a pretty wedding scene at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. N. Chatwin, Rose street, where their third daughter, Miss Kate Pearl, was united in marriage to J. D. Moir of Calgary.

The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Alberta Chatwin of Edmonton, George Peacock supporting the groom. The ceremony was performed by Rev. E. A. Henry.

The bride was attired in a wedding gown of white pleated chiffon, made over a petticoat of ivory satin. She wore a handsome pendant, the gift of the groom, and carried a shower bouquet of cream roses.

The bridesmaid was gowned in a cream silk frock and carried a bouquet of pink and white carnations.

The happy couple left on the west-bound train for Banff. After their wedding tour they will take up their residence at Calgary. The bride's going away gown was a dark green tailor-made, and a tussan hat.

RAILWAY COMMISSION

Ottawa, June 24.—The railway commissioners will be in Fort William to further hear the application of the Grand Trunk Pacific for its road into that town. They will also sit in Winnipeg on July 9 to hear the complaints against the general location of the Grand Trunk Pacific into that city, and also the application of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Calgary and Edmonton through Edmonton.

Ottawa, June 24.—There are to be no small berry boxes this year. The fruit inspectors have been after the box manufacturers, and have served notice that anything less than the legal size will mean prosecution. The law declares that a box of berries shall not contain less than four-fifth of a quart.

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REGINA ASKS FOR RATES

Deputation waits on C.P.R. Freight Officials--Report to Council of Board of Trade

The board of trade held a council meeting on Monday evening, when the following report of the committee which waited on the C.P.R. freight officials Messrs. Peters and Lanigan, was presented:

"Following our report of June 4, and in response to the secretary's letter, your committee met Messrs. F. W. Peters and W. B. Lanigan by appointment on Saturday, June 23. The president and all members of your transportation committee were present and also Mr. G. Holden, representing the H. W. Laird Co.

"The question of the extension of the traders' rate, which at present only reaches as far west as Medicine Hat, was first gone into, and Mr. Peters made a promise that this should be extended as far west on the main line as possible without conflicting with Calgary and Lethbridge on the Crow's Nest branch.

"With regard to the question of a rate on the Arcoia branch, Mr. Peters informed your committee that he was not in a position to grant any concession at the present time, but that he had a tariff expert working out a new system of tariff that would apply to all wholesale centres, and if workable would give each wholesale point a tariff that would enable them to control all the territory to which they are entitled geographically.

"Mr. Peters also stated that he expected to be able to show a rough sketch of the new tariff during the present season.

"In reply to enquiries respecting the line connecting with the Kirkland branch, Mr. Peters stated that he understood that this work would be undertaken just as soon as material for construction was available."

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TRAVELLER SOAKED
Carlyle, Sask., June 24.—J. Renick, traveller from Edmonton to Winnipeg, was brought up before D. C. McPhee, J.P., on Saturday, on a charge of selling liquor without a license. He was found guilty and \$100 and costs or three months. The company paid the fine and appealed.

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Thos. Watt, Regina, Sask.

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