

The Future of Ottawa



Parliament of Canada. What will the capital be fifty years hence?

No other city in the world, perhaps, is so much a creation of government, and no other city depends so much upon the fact that it is a legislative centre. Paris is the commercial as well as the parliamentary capital of France. London bears the same relation to Great Britain. Ottawa has little of the commercial in its basis. Its lumber-mills are dwindling in importance; its shipping is small; it has the head offices of only one bank and none of a great railway; it is not a wholesale centre, and the amount of manufacturing within its borders is small. It has not, like Edinburgh, an ancient glory, nor has it a national university. It is simply and solely the Washington of the North.

Nevertheless, as the years go by, it will have many attractions similar to those which make London the Mecca of the British race. It may never have a Westminster Abbey with historic monuments and collections of famous graves. It may never have a St. Paul's. It will certainly never have a Tower and a Tower Hill, but it will have on Parliament Hill that monumental Gothic pile known as the Parliament Buildings. It will have buildings that will correspond to the National Gallery and the British Museum. It may even have a national Portrait Gallery. National monuments are growing in number and the grounds of Parliament Hill may yet rival Trafalgar Square. About its larger residences are already gathering stories and associations of the past—now the near past, but soon to become the distant past. Already, but one or two great men of Confederation Days linger on the scene, and only a few can recall when the present Buildings were begun.

In time it will have associations and memories for both races. The French Canadians have long looked upon Quebec as the tangible centre of their patriotic and national feeling, but the ten years rule of Sir Wilfrid Laurier as Premier have modified that attitude. Nor is Sir Wilfrid likely to be the only representative to draw the hearts of that race toward the rocky eminence beside the eternal voice of the Falls of the Chaudiere. To all divisions of the English-speaking people, from the Bluenoses by the Atlantic to the British-Columbians by the Pacific, Ottawa has already ties which bind and draw.

A Winnipeg Critic

DENIES OUR STORY OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN.

IN The Canadian Courier of April 27th, there was a story of how some land pirates planned to steal the Yukon some years ago and to make it a part of the United States. The story was not wholly new, but it was worth retelling.

Now comes the editor of the Winnipeg "Telegram," a clever and well-informed journalist, who says that "a great deal of amusement has been aroused in Winnipeg and through the West generally" by this particular article. In the course of a fair-sized editorial he gives what, on its face, seems to be a complete denial of the whole story as published in the Canadian Courier. It makes the writer of the story and the editor of this journal look rather cheap. It brings upon both of them the disgrace of not knowing nearly so much as the editor of the "Winnipeg

Telegram." It indicates that readers of the national weekly have been buncoed with a trumped-up story.

The editor of the "Telegram" went so far as to have an associated press despatch sent out to all the daily papers in Canada. This was as follows:

PLOT TO SEIZE THE YUKON

LAUGHED AT BY PEOPLE OF THE WEST
AS A STUPID STORY.

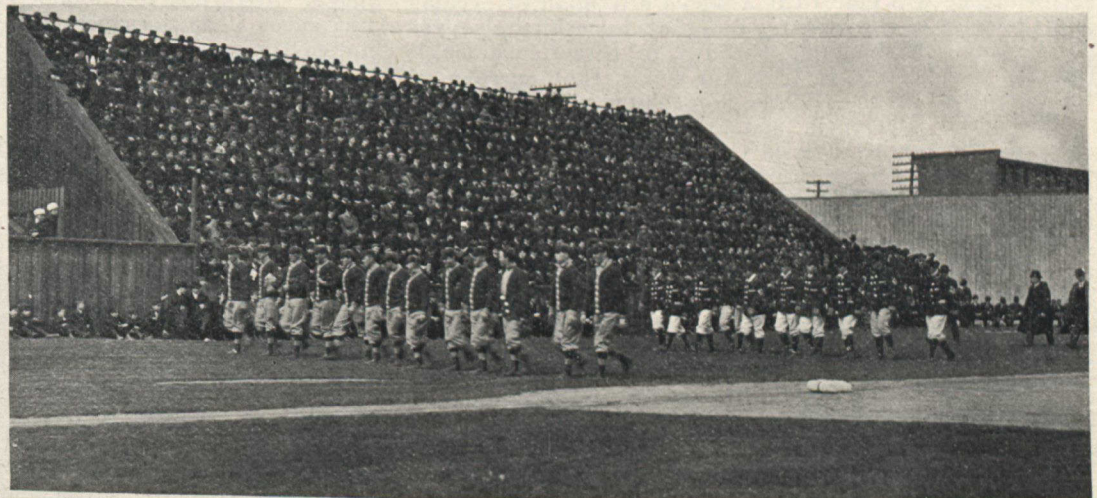
WINNIPEG, Man., April 28—(Special.)—The West is laughing over a sensational story published in last week's Canadian Courier about the Order of the Midnight Sun being organized by Americans to seize the Yukon, and about the plot being frustrated through the alertness of the mounted police. In the Canadian West there are hundreds of members of this mystic brotherhood, which essentially is a Canadian organization along the lines of the Elks. The first condition is, and always was, that a member should reside at least a year in the Yukon. One of the chief, if not the chief spirit of the Order of the Midnight Sun is Hon. W. L. Walsh, now a lawyer in Calgary, and member of the firm of McCarthy & Walsh. He is an Ontario lawyer and probably one of the best known members in the West, having practised for years in the good old Orange county of Dufferin. He is proud of his membership and ridicules the stupid story. The Brotherhood of the Midnight Sun is about as capable of hatching a plot against Canadian authority as would be the Zorra municipality.

Just a word to this clever brother editor. There were two societies in the Yukon—one loyal, the other disloyal. Mr. Walsh was a member of the loyal society, not of the disloyal. The loyal society was known as the Arctic Brotherhood; the disloyal one as the Order of the Midnight Sun. This is the simple explanation of our Winnipeg brother's mistake.

Just to settle the matter, there will be published in this journal next week some further particulars about the Order of the Midnight Sun, the oath taken by its members and some pictures of the men who helped to break it up. If this will not satisfy our Winnipeg critic we may reproduce some public documents now in possession of the Ottawa authorities.

Flag Courtesies

Mrs. Roosevelt will, with her own hands, fashion a silk American flag, to be presented to the naval academy at Annapolis for the draping of a small bronze bust of Admiral Lord Nelson, the gift of King Edward to that institution. Queen Alexandra of Great Britain will provide British colours for the same purpose, the presentation of which will be made by Mrs. James Bryce, wife of the British ambassador.



The Opening of the Base-Ball Season

The Toronto and Rochester teams parading before the Grand Stand before the first game, Toronto, Friday, May 3rd. The Premier of Ontario pitched the first ball, the Mayor of the City was at the bat and Mr. J. P. Downey, M. P. P., was at the receiving end.