

THE WEST

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THE MANAGER,
 THE WEST COMPANY, LIMITED
 REGINA, SASK.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1908

What is He There For?

In view of the appalling waste of public money by the present government at Ottawa, revealed by the report of the civil service commission and by the proceedings of parliament it would appear to be proper at this time to enquire of what use is the office of the Auditor General?

In the days of J. Lorne McDougall Hansard bears eloquent testimony that the office was no sinecure. Time after time did that faithful public servant reel, without fear, favor or affection, the rags of unscrupulous ministers and officials on the public treasury. His honored name was familiar to all who took any interest in the public affairs from one end of Canada to the other, and was freely used by members on both sides of the House during discussions on items of expenditure.

But this did not suit the views of those on the government side of the House, who consider that the chief duty of a member of parliament is to guide gentle rills of government gold into the private banking accounts of himself, his friends, or relations—especially the relations. And so the fat went forth that J. Lorne McDougall must not be allowed to stand in the way when such important considerations as the enrichment of individuals at the public cost were the desideratum and with machiavellian ingenuity Mr. McDougall's position was made untenable for a man of his probity and sense of public duty, a subordinate official of his office staff named Fraser (a brother, by the way of Fraser of timber limit notoriety) was railroaded into his place, and the tide of extravagance and robbery swept onward unchecked.

We doubt if there are twenty people in Regina who could tell, if asked, the name of the present auditor general, nor does it appear from the records of the present session of parliament that on any occasion by the exercise of the prerogatives peculiar to his position he has checked or even protested against irregularities in the way of payments which have been unearthed by the tireless persistency of a vigilant opposition, bent on letting the light of day in on the many worse than questionable transactions, which at some stage or other must have come under review by this official.

The position of auditor general is possibly the most important and responsible in the Dominion and requires a man of large parts, strong moral fibre and unquestioned courage. Such a man we had in J. Lorne McDougall and the circumstances which depriving the country of his services form one of the strongest possible condemnations of an administration which has thrown decency, honesty and responsibility to the four winds of heaven and made constitutional government in Canada a farce, a byword and a hissing.

Methodists Endorse Borden

The Methodists at their recent conference, realizing the rotten state of the civil service in Canada, passed the following resolution:
 "That in the judgment of this conference the time has come when the civil service both at the capital and throughout the country should be re-organized in

such a way that appointments to it and promotion in it shall depend on merit and not on political affiliations."

In this resolution is a practical endorsement of the plank in the platform of R. L. Borden. Here is the plank in his platform dealing with this subject:

"A thorough and complete reformation of the laws relating to the Civil Service so that future appointments shall be made by an independent commission acting upon the report of examiners after competitive examination."

No doubt all reasonable persons will come to the conclusion that promotion or appointments in the civil service should not rest upon the work the appointee has done for the party, as has been the case under Liberal rule, but should be made on merit.

Brewers on Temperance

At a recent meeting of the United States Brewers' Association held in Milwaukee, the temperance question came up and the association placed their views on record in a somewhat lengthy statement. They declared themselves as not being in sympathy with those who keep disorderly drinking places, but they do claim that with suitable laws properly enforced and backed by healthy public sentiment, such disorderly saloons could be exterminated and not only the community purified, but the brewing trade freed from an incubus which it is now struggling to shake off.

Of course they believe that the temperate use of beer promotes health and happiness which are the underlying conditions of morality and social order, and in this doctrine who can contradict them.

To say that the brewers are anxious to see men become intemperate drinkers, is not saying what is true if we can place any faith in the request that the above referred to association, has made for legislation. They express themselves as follows:
 "Consistent with this belief we favor the passage and the enforcement of laws for the regulation of the drink traffic and for keeping such traffic free from unlawful and improper accessories and we earnestly desire such improvement in the drinking habits of the people as is wisest for the advance of temperance, together with the spread of enlightenment whereby the individual may be able to regulate his habits according to the requirements of wholesome living."

Still Alive

Some of our readers may be laboring under the impression that when the Hon. J. A. Calder rose in his place in the House and gave a direct denial to the assertion of the leader of the opposition that the big fat ten year contract for the publication of school books for the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan had been given to a Toronto firm (Moranges) but in reality the deal had been made on behalf of The American Book Co. of New York, the question was dead and buried. That it is still very much alive, however, is shown from the following paragraph which appears in the last number of the Eye Opener:
 "On May 19th part of the Alberta School book contract, which for this year amounts to about two cars left New York, N.Y., in

C.V. car 60404 routed via N.D.G. E. line to Sarnia; Northern Navigation Co. to Port Arthur; thence by C.N.R. consigned to the Department of Education, Edmonton, and the Regina contract will or has moved already by the same route."

The same paper goes on to say: "Here is a copy of Morang's letterhead taken from the government file:

The Morang Educational Co., Ltd. Publishers of School and College Text Books.

Special agents in Canada and Newfoundland for the publications of the American Book Co."

Incidentally we might remark that this American Book Co., does not own a press or a font of type, its printing being all jobbed out.

What do the people of this province, what do our labor unions think of the above? Are they prepared to answer the question, Who is the liar?

Press Comments

(Toronto World.)

Our silver coinage is now mined in Canada, and more than that it is mined out of silver the product of Canadian mines, smelted and refined in Canada. Formerly all this work was done out of the country and with foreign silver. Now we are able to mine and smelt silver in Ontario, and have it mined in Ontario, and turn it into coin as well as any other country. Some day soon we will be minting gold coins in the same way.

(Mail and Empire)

According to the organ of the Ottawa politicians, Mr. J. G. Turfiff, M.P., has just been banquipped by some western Liberals at Estevan. The organ intimates that Mr. Turfiff is the sort of a man western Liberals delight to honor, and he is so thoroughly representative of the great doctrines of the Liberal party. Mr. Turfiff was land commissioner under Sifton. It was during his regime that his brother-in-law, Adamson, now an M.P., secured the Saskatchewan land at \$1 an acre. It was also during his official term that Burrows, Sifton's brother-in-law, was so fortunate in his applications for timber limits.

A short time ago in parliament, a revelation was made which throws light upon the Sifton-Turfiff policy in the management of the public estate. Three men applied for a coal mine. Under the law these men have to be dealt with in the order in which their applications are received. The parties were: (1) Gilmour, (2) Howard, (3) Griffin. Gilmour was the man to whom the lease ought to have been given. The property went to Griffin, the last applicant, and a law suit being entered by Gilmour, Turfiff was called to testify, and to bring all the papers. In court Turfiff swore that Griffin was given the property because the other applications had withdrawn. Turfiff also produced certain documents, and declared on oath, that these were all of which he was aware. In parliament Turfiff's own letters, not one of which was included in the documents this politician produced in court were read. They show that Mr. Turfiff, although an official, was holding private correspondence with the parties having business with the department. They further show that when Mr. Turfiff swore that the papers produced by him in court were all the papers bearing on the subject, he stated what was not true. The letters suppressed by Mr. Turfiff were addressed by him to Howard, applicant No. 2 for the coal mine. The first tells Howard that, as the matter stands, "Gilmour (applicant No. 1)—is the most entitled to the property, but that something might be done with reference to his application. Turfiff, however, says: "It will be more satisfactory if Griffin can do as he says—get an assignment or withdrawal from Gilmour—and we will issue lease to him for the whole section. I trust you can get this arranged satisfactory. If not, let me know and I will see if we cannot do it anyway; but I would much prefer to have Gilmour withdraw."

The position is here very clearly stated. Gilmour is entitled to the property. The man who is not entitled to it is advised by the government Land Commissioner, Turfiff, to make an arrangement with the first man and to get him out of the way. But, says Turfiff, if the first man does not come to terms I will give you the property anyway. Two days elapse and Turfiff telegraphs Howard not to act on his letter. This second letter reads thus:
 "I have just seen a friend of his—(Griffin)—who tells me that possibly Gilmour will hold you up for one-quarter or one-third interest in the business, and I do not want to put you in that position, and unless Griffin can get Gilmour's withdrawal for a mere trifling amount it would be better not to go near him at all, and we will issue the lease to Griffin." This is an intimation that the government, knowing that Gilmour is entitled to the property, will give him a chance to sell out. But unless he asks a very small consideration the government will pass the property to the parties not entitled to it, and this without any compensation

or any reference to his claim. Here we have an inside view of the administration of the public lands under the present government. The case proves favoritism, injustice and robbery. Such an incident makes it clear that Mr. H. B. Ames is on the right track when he arraigns the Interior Department, and the system under which the lands, the timber and the mines are distributed. It also shows that in delighting to honor politicians of the Turfiff type, the Liberals of the west are not to be congratulated.

(Grenfell Sun)

To ride two horses running in opposite directions is rather a difficult feat for even the most dexterous political acrobats, but still more so, we fancy, for political "greenhorns." Yet this was the trick attempted by our budding statesmen in the provincial legislature on the temperance question. The temperance people tumbled over each other to praise the government for their "advanced legislation" by which local option, by a bare majority was to be brought within their reach. But the liquor men and the government played into each other's hands by having a great big "nigger in the fence corner" who was only trotted out the last day of the session. In cities and towns like Sintaluta, Broadview, Whitewood and others, where the act has small chance of being carried, if by a miracle a majority can be obtained for it, it can become law. But in villages and districts like Grenfell and surrounding country, its only chance for operation lay in the passage of the Rural Municipalities Bill. This bill was quietly dropped by the government the very last day of the session, and the much-lauded "local option" act of our most "temperance" government is now nothing more than a "tinkling brass and sounding cymbal." The temperance people have been completely April fooled, and the habitual liquor men, with hands in their pockets, are delightedly laughing at their discomfort. It was rather a clever trick, but hasn't the government been just a little too smart this time for their own good? We shall see.

Crop Conditions

The crop outlook is undoubtedly the most discussed question of the day in this part of Canada, notwithstanding the fact that heavy topics are being dealt with by the Presbyterian general assembly meetings here this week. All eyes are on the wheat growing conditions, and it is gratifying to know that they are favorable. In a year like this, when so many nervous, faint hearted pessimists are eagerly looking for trouble somewhere, it is surprising that false reports are not spread regarding the situation. The fact of the matter is that the seeding and growing weather has so far been so ideal that there has been no room left for pessimist rumors. Seeding was general about the middle of April, and although now about the middle of June, nothing has occurred to retard the progress of the grain. It is very encouraging that in addition to having seeding time a month earlier than last year, we also have the best continuous crop weather the country has ever experienced. Very promising reports are coming in from every part of the three provinces.

It is a fact that nearly every business man west of the lakes felt a little nervous in the early spring, feeling that a poor crop this year might bring disaster, while a good crop would bring increased prosperity. Now, however, it is felt that with two favorable months of the seeding and growing season expired, it is practically assured that we will reap this summer the greatest grain crop in the history of the west. As a result of the bright prospects business is steadily improving, and it is not the fears regarding the crops that is interfering with greater progress, so much as the attitude of financial circles, who have continued to hold the purse strings too tight altogether.

To keep more directly on the question of the grain outlook, we have to say that the winter wheat in Alberta is doing splendidly. Reports from that province indicate that the winter wheat is from 24 to 30 inches high; while the spring wheat is more than a foot high. Notwithstanding the vastness of the great Canadian plains, the conditions are promising over the whole territory.—Winnipeg Commercial.

"Why, Jimmy! Is it true that you gave Bobbie a black eye?"
 "Yes-yes."
 "What excuse have you for such a brutal act?"
 "Well, he provoked me."
 "How did he provoke you?"
 "He hit back!"—St. Louis Republic.

HUMPHREY BROS.

MAKE A SPECIALTY OF IMPROVED FARMS AND ALSO HAVE A LARGE LIST OF WILD LANDS TO DISPOSE OF NO CHARGES FOR SHOWING LAND INFORMATION FREE

CRAIK SASK

If one feels dull and spiritless in the spring or early summer, they call it "Spring Fever." But there is no fever—usually. It is the after effect of our winter habits. The nerves are mostly at fault. Tired worn-out nerves leave us languid, lifeless and without spirit or ambition. A few doses of Dr. Shoop's Restorative will absolutely and quickly change all of these depressing symptoms. The Restorative of course won't bring you back to full health in a day or two, but it will do enough in 48 hours to satisfy you that the remedy is reaching that "tired spot." Druggists everywhere are advising its use as a splendid and prompt general tonic. It gives more vim and more spirit to the teapoonful than any other known nerve or constitutional tonic. It sharpens a failing appetite, aids digestion, frees sluggish livers and kidneys, and brings new life, strength and ambition. Test it a few days and be convinced. Regina Pharmacy Stores.

Judicial Sale.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF SASKATCHEWAN
 JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF REGINA.

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAND TITLES ACT and in the matter of a certain mortgage dated the fourth day of December, 1906, made by Edward Wirth of Kennell to the Great West Life Assurance Company on the North East quarter of Section Twenty-eight (28) Township Twenty (20) in Range Nine (9) West of the Second Meridian in the province of Saskatchewan registered as Number I-5010.

PURSUANT to the order of the Honourable Mr. Justice Lamont made in the action of The Great West Life Assurance Company, Plaintiff, and Fannie Wirth, administratrix of the estate of Edward Wirth, deceased, the Massey Harris Company Limited, James Smith and Albert Leslie Gordon, Defendants.

There will be offered for sale at the Sheriff's Office in the City of Regina in the Province of Saskatchewan at twelve o'clock noon on Saturday the 8th day of August, A. D. 1908,

ALL AND SINGULAR the following lands, viz: the North East Quarter of Section Twenty-eight (28) in Township Twenty (20) in Range (19) West of the Second Meridian in the Province of Saskatchewan.

TERMS: The purchaser shall pay twenty-five per cent of the purchase money at the time of the sale and the balance upon delivery of transfer duly confirmed after the sale and subject to the further conditions approved herein. Full particulars may be had from the undersigned.
 ALLAN, GORDON & BRYANT,
 Regina, Sask.
 Solicitors for Plaintiff. 9-18

Judicial Sale.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF SASKATCHEWAN JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF REGINA.

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAND TITLES ACT and in the matter of a certain mortgage made by William Henry Coard, dated November 10th, 1906, to Thomas W. Cunliffe, upon Lot Number 10 and the South Half of Lot Number 9 in Block 340 in the City of Regina in the Province of Saskatchewan, registered as Number I-5246.

PURSUANT to the order of the Honourable the Chief Justice made in the action of Thomas W. Cunliffe, Plaintiff, and William Henry Coard and The Union Bank of Canada, Defendants.

There will be offered for sale at the Sheriff's office in the City of Regina in the Province of Saskatchewan at Twelve O'clock noon on Saturday, June 27th, A.D. 1908.

All and singular the following lands, viz: Lot Number Ten (10) and the South Half of Lot Number Nine (9) in Block Number Three Hundred and Forty (340) in the City of Regina in the Province of Saskatchewan.

TERMS: The purchaser shall pay Twenty-five per cent. of the purchase money at the time of sale and the balance upon delivery of the transfer duly confirmed within one month after the sale and subject to further conditions of sale approved. All particulars may be had from the undersigned.
 ALLAN, GORDON & BRYANT,
 Solicitors for Plaintiff.
 3-11 REGINA, SASK.

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