

THE ALBERTAN

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THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1913.

MONEY FOR ELEVATORS.

John Kemmis, the Conservative candidate and late member for Pincher Creek, says that the Elevator bill is the very best that has ever been introduced by any legislature.

The Calgary Herald says that the bill is a deception and a fraud. Mr. Bennett, the Elevator Trust of Alberta, is of the same opinion. The Herald declares that it is a hoax of the worst kind, passed for the purpose of beguiling and cheating the farmers.

This idea, that a premier of a great country like Canada should not tell the truth because it may be of advantage to Dr. Blow and Mr. Michener, a principle which Dr. Blow applauds, is a new one in public affairs in the west.

And see where this Blowist idea of political rectitude would lead us! He insists that the Borden government should not fulfill its promises while the Liberal government is in office in Alberta.

The Herald says that the legislation is no good because the government did not appropriate one cent to assist the farmers in building the elevators. All of which would be interesting, if true. But it does not happen to be true.

In the Elevator bill itself provision is made that the government may vote for this purpose any unappropriated revenue. The reason for this was that the government had no idea of the amount of money that would be needed for this work, and the farmers were not in a position to say just what was needed.

But it happens that the government has the large sum of \$600,000 of unappropriated revenue this year. The government can vote up to that large amount to assist in the building of the elevators, which should be sufficient. Though the farmers would make no estimate, it is generally believed that the investment in elevators this year will not exceed a quarter of a million.

THE STRONGEST PROP GONE.

The Edmonton-Dunvegan & B. C. Railway was really the last prop that the opposition candidates and speakers had to support them at all. Having no policy that looked well in polite society, they attempted to make up with personal attacks upon the candidates and personal abuse of a more or less vicious character.

But the choicest attack of all was upon the action of the legislature in guaranteeing the Edmonton, Dunvegan and British Columbia Railway. This is a road which J. D. McArthur is building into the Peace River country. And though no person questioned the need of railway extension into that country, the opposition declared that it was done to make the timber limits of one Burrows more valuable.

Burrows, it seems, is a brother-in-law of a brother of the premier of Alberta. The Albertan could never see that that relationship made any very great difference. If the road was needed, it was needed; and if it was not needed, it was not needed. That was all that there was to it. Let the opposition prove that it was not needed.

But the road does not run near the Burrows timber limits or near the Burrows properties. The railway runs far north of the Saskatchewan. The timber limits owned by the brother-in-law of the brother of the prime minister of the province lie to the far south of that river.

"But what about the Imperial Pulp company?" asked The Herald and the interrupters at the Red Deer and other meetings.

It seems that the Imperial Pulp company is a lumber company in which Mr. Burrows is interested, and that Mr. Burrows is a brother-in-law of a brother of the prime minister of Alberta.

Neither Mr. Burrows nor the Imperial Pulp company own limits within any reasonable distance of the new railway, and their properties will not be benefitted in any way by the coming of the new road.

Thus goes the last prop of the opposition! It was about the only good card in the pack, and it was of little use. It wasn't such a terrible thing if true. If the road had been needed, and the opposition did not question that very much, it should be encouraged, even if the brother-in-law of the brother of the prime minister was interested. But now that scandal has been exploded. The dear scandals of the opposition are fast disappearing. What is the next one?

Editorial Notes

Today is Nomination Day. One week from tonight we shall know all about the public in general, with the exception of the professional opposition, who knows pretty well all about it now.

POLITICAL MORALITY

Dr. Blow and other leading politicians listened to Mr. Borden when he addressed the electors in Calgary, in June 1911, and applauded heartily when the Dominion leader declared that if successful at the elections, he would hand over to the western provinces their natural resources.

He made no qualifications. He did not tell the public that he would hand over the natural resources to the provinces when he got good and ready. He did not say that he would hand over to the provinces the natural resources when Mr. Michener and his party came to office in Alberta and withhold them until they came to office. He made the straight, out-and-out declaration. The Sifton government was in office in Alberta and the Scott government was in office in Saskatchewan when he made the declaration.

And Dr. Blow applauded it, and said that it was good business.

Now Dr. Blow insists that Mr. Borden should not carry out his promise. Mr. Borden has come to office. He has the power of carrying the promise into effect. But he is holding it off. He has declined to deal with the provinces. He has not kept the sacred promise that he made to the electors of the western provinces.

It is Dr. Blow and Mr. Michener who are keeping the natural resources from the province. Premier Sifton has been insisting upon them from the beginning. If the Laurier government had been in office in 1911, we would have had our natural resources by this time. If Dr. Blow and Leader Michener would place the interest of their province ahead of their paltry partyism we would have had our natural resources.

This idea, that a premier of a great country like Canada should not tell the truth because it may be of advantage to Dr. Blow and Mr. Michener, a principle which Dr. Blow applauds, is a new one in public affairs in the west.

And see where this Blowist idea of political rectitude would lead us! He insists that the Borden government should not fulfill its promises while the Liberal government is in office in Alberta. Suppose that the government should change in Ottawa and then the government should change in Alberta. Then, according to the proper political tactics, we should still be without our natural resources. Then if there would be a change of government in Ottawa and the government should give the natural resources to Alberta, and later on the government should change in the province, then, according to the Blow principle of party tactics, the government should take away the resources already granted. There would be a hide and seek game with the resources all the time. Now you have them and now you haven't. This would be a confusing condition of affairs.

The Albertan has not yet been convinced that the premier of a country is justified in violating a sacred promise because Dr. Blow believes that the violation of it may result in a party advantage. We believe that men with such ideas of uprightness in public life are dangerous to the province.

COWARDLY MISSTATEMENTS.

At a meeting of the public accounts committee during the recent session of the legislature, when Harold Riley was face to face with the minister of agriculture, the late Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Boyle asked the member for Gleichen if he had any insinuations to make. He replied demurely that he had no insinuations to make against the minister of agriculture. He never had. And the incident closed then and there.

But Harold Riley is off by his lonesome now, and he is not face to face with men who can put him right when he wanders into the paths of untruthfulness.

In Bassano last week he took up what the journalist describes as the "methods of Duncan." He proceeded to discuss them after the "truthfulness of Harold." He declared that the government bought steers from P. Burns, and after keeping them for some time, sold them at a loss of \$2,000. That is positively untrue. Mr. Riley made no such statement, you will notice, when he was face to face with Mr. Marshall in the public accounts committee. As a matter of fact, the government made \$5,000 out of the Burns steers, and the Calgary opposition press complained because the government was entering into competition with the farmers.

We doubt, however, if any candidate at any time has shown such a desire to be unfair and untruthful as Rev. S. R. Hillocks, of North Calgary. He started in from the beginning to attempt to discredit his opponents. He has stopped at nothing. He repeated a lying canard about Premier Sifton. Though called in question, he has continued to repeat it, though he must know, for every person else knows, that the statement is a bold, bare-faced lie.

He has repeated night after night that the new roads coming into Calgary do not bear the guarantee of the Sifton government, though the records are in plain open sight, and he and every person else who desires, can read them.

If these ingenious gentlemen had a platform that could be dignified by the name of a policy, and could raise an issue in this entire controversy worthy of consideration, they would not stoop to this sort of thing. Their policy of misstatement is a reflection not only upon themselves, but upon their party.

ing over the natural resources to the provinces. In the South, Dr. Blow is taking up most of his time in insisting that the Dominion should not hand over the resources of the province until the high places of the province are filled of all the people of whom Dr. Blow does not approve.

If R. B. Bennett is not interested in his own elevators, as he says, why did he refer to them as "my elevators" when speaking in Calgary last January? He is the elevator trust, and Calgary people know no other, and he has come to Calgary to try to defeat the government that secured competition to that trust.

No person can believe that the Conservatives of Alberta are sincere in their desire for direct legislation when they see the same Conservatives in Ottawa sparing no effort, constitutional or un-constitutional, fair or foul, to prevent the question of the naval polity from being submitted to the Canadian people.

Rev. S. Bacon Hillocks has merely stopped repeating the slanders he circulated against Premier Sifton. He has not corrected the untruths which he made public. Those are his political principles, which are the most prized principles that the reverend gentleman has.

Will Great Britain prize a contribution of ships that has been secured without the approval of the people and steam-rolled through parliament in the most vicious manner? That is not the sort of contribution that Great Britain should look upon with favor.

Let us invite our nervous political readers, too excited over the political situation, to turn over to the baseball page and learn that even in the storm there is always the restfulness of the hope provided by the sporting editor.

There has been a famine of election poetry this year. We are merely mentioning the fact, and this small and innocent note must in no wise be construed into an invitation of any kind.

If there is a single charge that the opposition has made in this entire campaign which hasn't been exploded and shot to pieces a dozen different ways, we should like to look upon it. It would be a curiosity.

And while we are proceeding with all this excitement in this election contest, R. Bonifas Bennett's elevator contains 18 eggs. It is a basket for our party, which is almost half as much as we can get for them across the line. Mr. Bennett is opposed to the government, which is encouraging competition for the elevators.

We have some idea beforehand of the kind of thing that would be done in parliament if the steam rolling clause should become a permanent affair. There would be no such thing as a fair show for the opposition or fair play for the opposition.

The Lethbridge News (Southam) says that it is a dashed good thing that Mr. Bennett in our midst to build the elevators and give them 15 to 18 cents a bushel for their oats. The only thing is that Mr. Bennett doesn't build, but merges. He didn't make the elevators, he just combines them.

Not mentioning it as a complaint, but just in passing, it may be remarked that the editor of the Lethbridge column in the Calgary Herald is not filling up much space these days.

We doubt if any province in the Dominion of Canada, or any dependency of the British Empire, ever borrowed \$14,000,000 without one item in it all being challenged or questioned by some person. But nothing like that has been done in the case of the Alberta legislature. Mr. Michener says that we should have all the improvements and public buildings and more, and that we shouldn't get them from current account, and that—My! Oh, my! No—we shouldn't borrow money! He evidently believes that we should go to the river bank and pick the money off the trees!

THE TRUTH ABOUT DIRECT LEGISLATION IN ALBERTA

(Continued from page 1)

somewhat surprising, but it is the fact that the Ontario government is drafting new regulations to prevent a very important question from being submitted to the people for an expression of opinion. Premier Roblin of Manitoba denounces the legislation as monarchistic, anti-British, and the advocate of it as an adventurer. His government is the only one in Canada which ever rejected it. The Albertan first suggested direct legislation for Alberta, but met with severe criticism from Opposition newspapers. But now the Conservatives insist that they are the only direct legislators and that the present enactment does not go far enough. Their objections are as follows:

1. It does not include the recall. The United Farmers of Alberta, who pressed this legislation upon the government, did not ask for the recall. The reason doubtless was that it is contrary to the intention and cannot be introduced without changing the British North America Act. The recall is not included in all of the states where direct legislation has been adopted. As is usual in direct legislation unless sanctioned by the legislature, the recall is not included in direct legislation in Switzerland.

2. Money bills will not be subject to a referendum or initiative. According to our British system of government, money bills are subject to the House by the government alone. This is not special legislation submitted to the people for an expression of opinion, and the imperial government itself. The Opposition must appear before the imperial government and change the B.N.A. act before it can hope for this.

3. No legislation is open for referendum unless sanctioned by the legislature. But that is usual in direct legislation unless sanctioned across the line. In the Oregon system, which is the best known of all the direct legislation enactments, the law provides that the legislature by majority vote may prevent any legislation from becoming subject for a referendum.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY



An Invitation

ONE of the sights of the city is a visit to this store and the new fashions for the new season. Nowhere will you find a more interesting exhibition of all that is new and beautiful for correct wear during the coming seasons.

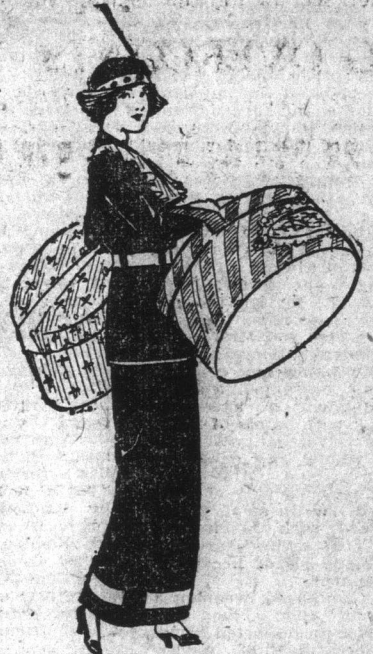
Horse Show Styles on Parade

This week, more so perhaps than on any other occasion, women will find here a gathering of the new styles and fashions on a scale more diversified than ever before attempted by this or any other store hereabout.

- AT \$25.00—A very stunning coat that has proven an immense success in New York. It is shown in material of Black Mistelle Cloth, full lined with satin charmeuse, in beautiful shades, which reflect through the material. Collars and revers and cuffs of black satin and Bengalie Cord, with edging of fancy braid and hand embroidered stitching of Oriental silk threads. One large silk frog fastening in front. The colors produced are: black with Copenhagen, black with Faddy green, black with amber, and black with nall rose.

News of New and Pretty Wash Fabrics

- LINALENE DRESS FABRICS
A fine mercerized cotton most suitably adapted for House Dresses. Comes in sky, sage, navy, brown, ecru; all fast colors; 30 inches wide. Per yard 15c



Stylish Millinery Moderately Priced

If Calgary society want an exclusive creation of Paris, a striking model designed by one of four or five noted French milliners, they will get it here, for they are represented among the gathering of fashionable hats on display.

Thrifty Housewives Will Appreciate These Grocery Savings

- Salmon—'Clover Leaf'; 1-1/2 lbs. tins, per tin 25c
Sugar—Good pink; 40-lb. sack \$3.10
Eggs—Fresh, 3 doz. 95c

The Hosiery Section Is Most Complete

Women have always looked to this store to supply them with the finest grades of hosiery and at prices a little lower than they are accustomed to paying elsewhere. At this particular writing, this hosiery store is complete in every particular. Let us attend to your needs while stocks are replete.

- Fine Quality Black Cashmere Hose in a full range of sizes; 3 pairs for \$1.00
The Famous 'Onyx' Silk Lisle Hose, in a full range of sizes, in black and tan 35c and 50c
Cotton Lisle Hose, with high spliced heel; well shaped and finished. Splendid value... 25c

prevent any legislation from becoming subject for a referendum. In South Dakota there is the same inhibition clause and a referendum properly passed by the people. Utah has had direct legislation since 1900, but has never had recourse to the initiative or referendum. Nevada has the referendum but no initiative. All legislation is subject to a referendum and there is no initiative clause. Oklahoma has an inhibition clause. The system in Maine has not proved effective. Michigan legislature by majority vote may remove any enactment from the power of the referendum. The legislature can also prevent an initiative. Arkansas has the inhibition clause and a referendum properly passed by the people. Colorado has an inhibition clause and the recall. It is one of the latest and most radical of all. New Mexico requires that 40 per cent of the total vote of the state must be polled against a bill before it is rejected by a referendum. Washington has an inhibition clause. Nebraska has no inhibition clause. Wyoming has no such clause. Ohio has an emergency clause.

total votes for initiative and five for referendum. Oklahoma requires 15 per cent of the total votes for initiative and 5 for a referendum. Maine demands 12,000 votes on a petition for initiative and 10,000 for a referendum. Missouri requires eight per cent and five. Arizona requires 15 per cent. For the initiative and five for the referendum. Colorado has eight and initiative, is of the total vote and not the vote polled in the last election. It will be seen by this comparison that the direct legislation enactment of Alberta is very liberal and compares very favorably with similar enactments in the different states across the line.