

# THE ALBERTAN

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SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1912

## THE WEST SPEAKS

It is apparent that there can be little doubt respecting the real significance of the victory of Premier Scott in Saskatchewan. Mr. Haultain, who, as leader of the Conservative forces, opposed him in one of the bitterest contests ever witnessed in the West, has admitted, with a degree of frankness that does him credit, that his defeat was due, "first and foremost" to the unexpected strength of the sentiment in favor of free trade among the electors of the neighboring province.

There would be nothing remarkable in the admission of a fact that must be apparent to all observers, but for such disingenuous attempts to minimise the influence of this sentiment as that which was made by the Calgary member yesterday. Mr. Bennett declared that if reciprocity was a factor in determining the result of the election it was because seventy per cent. of the population of the province are Americans who have made their homes there within the past few years and because these Americans, believing it to be the desire of the Liberals to make the province an "adjunct" of the United States, gave their support to that party.

It would be interesting to know from what source Mr. Bennett derived the information that seventy percent of the population of Saskatchewan is comprised of Americans who have crossed the line within the past few years. His statement, as a whole, however, is not deserving of serious attention, as its obvious falsity and insincerity must defeat the purpose for which it was made. Apart even from this consideration it would be valueless in view of his admission that he is not sufficiently familiar with local conditions in Saskatchewan to offer an opinion as to the causes which contributed to Premier Scott's victory.

Most people will be prepared to accept the explanation which Mr. Haultain gives of "the first and foremost" cause of his defeat. In common with other Conservative leaders, he believed that reciprocity was dead. It was a belief which he had held so firmly and proclaimed so often during the campaign that he would not be likely to forsake it, save in the face of incontrovertible evidence. To admit the existence in overwhelming force of that evidence must have been the more humiliating in view of the fact when reciprocity was first proposed he openly supported the proposal, abandoning it only under pressure from the leaders of the Conservative party in the Dominion house.

Mr. Haultain, unlike Mr. Bennett, is familiar with local conditions in Saskatchewan. He recognizes that it would be useless to attempt to ignore so unmistakable a demonstration in favor of free trade.

The West has spoken and the West must be heard. The voice from Saskatchewan, unmistakable as its purport was, is but a prelude to the thunder which will assail the ears of the East if it continues longer to ignore its claims. The West is young and the East may regard it as a child. Young it may be, but weakling it is not. Already it stirs with the strength of a giant. Let the East give heed to its movements.

## THE JOURNALISTIC JINGO

A Radical M.P., whose name is not given, is held up to derision by the correspondent of The Montreal Star, who writes under the pen name of "Windermer," because he was not merely thrilled by "the mightiest armada that ever gathered in British waters," but was moved to reflect on the horror of "Peace," armed from head to foot and spoiling for the fray.

The dispatch to "The Star" read, in part, as follows: "A Radical M.P. was heard to remark as he passed down the deadly line of fighting weapons (Winston Churchill was 'entertaining' Mr. Borden and his colleagues)—fighting weapons on every hand and even above their heads: 'To what a pass the civilization of the twentieth century has brought us!'

To the jingoistic correspondent of The Star this is the utterance of crawling pusillanimity, and to show the contempt he feels for the speaker he quotes the dictum of Admiral Lord Fisher in reply to some one who ventured to suggest the humanizing of war.

"Humanizing war!" exclaimed the doughty admiral. "You might as well talk of humanizing hell! As if war could be civilized!" If I am in

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Sham Fight and Its Sequel.  
Editor, Albertan:  
Might I ask for a little space in your paper to call your countrymen's attention to the growing spirit of militarism in Canada, to call attention, very briefly, to two articles in our Calgary papers? The first is from The Herald of July 8, and part of it reads:

"The great sham battle... The mother is compelled to be rattle of musketry and the clash of horses' feet was heard in every direction, and so, to say the least, a most inspiring spectacle. Words cannot adequately describe the battle," etc. etc.

The second is from The Albertan of July 10, two days after the "sham fight." It reads:

"A 16-year-old boy, who suffered blindness which may cause him to lose his sight, and Dan Robbie, 11 years old, was painfully burned Monday afternoon in the explosion of some loose gunpowder which the lad had packed in a hole in the earth. The boy had recently returned from the cadet camp, and had retained a few of the blank cartridges against orders.... We have seen crack regiments of the British army perform various evolutions in imaginary fights, but it is not an exaggeration to state that the battle

command when war breaks out I shall issue the following order: 'The essence of war is violence; moderation in war is imbecility; hit first, hit hard and hit anywhere.'

If this dispatch were intended for home consumption and came to the notice of the "Radical M.P." we may assume that he would be expected to hide his diminished head after receiving so stinging a rebuke from this belligerent man of the pen. Without knowing his name, however, we incline to the belief that he would not be greatly disturbed.

At a time when there is so much shallow thought on a subject of such profound and far-reaching import, it is refreshing to find in the public life of Great Britain, or of any other country, a man who has the courage to utter what is in his heart and who refuses to be stampeded by the strident voices of an irresponsible press, which is prepared to glorify murder so long as it is accomplished on an extensive scale.

## THE SUBTLETIES OF BENNETT

Of all the views of the significance of the Liberal victory in Saskatchewan, to which expression was given yesterday, that of R. B. Bennett, member for Calgary in the Dominion house, was at once the most original and the least ingenuous.

Mr. Haultain, leader of the Conservative party in the neighboring province, frankly, if reluctantly, admits that the outcome of the election must be taken as an unmistakable demonstration of the strength of the sentiment for free trade among the people of Saskatchewan. Mr. Bennett regards the verdict of the electors as indicating "a settled conviction against the acquisition by the prairie provinces of their natural resources."

The fundamental assumption from which Mr. Bennett proceeds to this conclusion appears to be that a Liberal administration is incapable and incompetent because it is Liberal, and his method of reasoning is as follows. The natural resources of any province should not be entrusted to an incompetent and incapable administration. The electors of Saskatchewan have returned to power a government which, being Liberal, is necessarily incompetent and incapable. Therefore the electors of Saskatchewan have declared themselves as unalterably convinced that the province should not acquire its natural resources.

What could be more delightful than the naivete with which the Calgary member adds that "the Conservative party is prepared to accept the responsibility of providing administrators of so great a trust, worthy in every respect of the confidence of our people."

Mr. Bennett and those of like political faith are moved by a generous impulse to provide honest and capable administrators for the several Western provinces. They await only the recovery of the people of Alberta and Saskatchewan from the blind stupidity which prevents them from recognizing that the Conservative party in the Dominion has established a monopoly of honesty and ability, after which they will provide them with such an administration.

From the Saskatchewan result Mr. Bennett draws a lesson for this province. "It remains for the people of Alberta," he says, "to say whether or not they too are of that opinion"—namely, that the provinces should not acquire their natural resources.

"It is not surprising," he adds, "having regard to the incompetent and incapable manner in which the affairs of this province have been conducted during the past seven years, that our people have heretofore been of the opinion that it would be too dangerous to entrust the administration of our great resources to the Liberal government."

Mr. Bennett is at least making an intelligent statement when he says that by electing a Liberal government, the electors of Saskatchewan declared in effect that they did not wish to secure the control of their natural resources. We know what he means though his meaning reflects no credit upon the party which he represents. We see also the implication in the statement, namely, that Mr. Borden will fulfil his promise to the provinces only when those provinces have returned a Conservative government to the power.

We are entirely at a loss, however, to know what can possibly be meant by his statement respecting this province. He declares that the people of this province have heretofore been of the opinion that it would be dangerous to entrust the administration of our great resources to the Liberal government. It would be interesting to know from what source he derives his information regarding the opinion of the people of Alberta. So far, they have persisted in electing a Liberal government, the present premier of which has made every effort to secure control of those resources for the people of Alberta.

If the word Liberal had been omitted from this statement respecting Alberta, the only logical interpretation that could be placed upon it would be that which must be placed upon his statement regarding the action of the electors in the neighboring province, namely, that the people were horrified at the prospect of administering their natural resources, and therefore preferred to elect an incompetent and incapable Liberal government rather than a Conservative government which would acquire the control of these resources for them, despite any protest they might make.

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THE MORNING ALBERTAN, CALGARY, SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1912

## BLUE BLOOD FROM MEN OF THE SOIL

Many British Nobles Are Descendants of Humble Farmers

(From Answers, London)

Recent political tendencies in England have drawn attention to the fact, of which sight is often lost, that blue blood was not always blue; that some of the proudest families have their origin in lowly ancestry. Dukes, marquises, viscounts, earls and barons, although they do not always like to be reminded of the fact, are linked with humble farmers, small tradesmen and ambitious but flat-pursed apprentices.

No better case in point could be found than that of the Duke of Northumberland—the head of the peerage family of Percy, one of the greatest landowners in Great Britain, who counts himself of equal birth with the kings of the world, is one of the few remaining specimens of the old British aristocracy which is so rapidly disappearing before the irresistible march of modern democracy.

The old feudal system is to him as real as is in the day of his ancestors, one of whom chummed with William the Conqueror. Yet the numbers among the direct ancestors such humbly born persons as William Smithson, farmer; Ralph Smithson, tenant farmer, and Anthony Smithson, yeoman.

The present Duke of Leeds is passionately fond of the sea. Most of his time is spent crusing about the world on his palatial yacht. One wonders if his fondness for the water has any relationship to the circumstances surrounding his lowly ancestor who founded the fortunes of the ducal house of Leeds.

Topped into the Thames

Edward Osborne came to London from a village to serve his apprenticeship to a goldsmith.

One day while Anne, the fair daughter of Hewitt, was hanging her bird cage out of the window she lost her balance and toppled into the Thames. Osborne was soon at her rescue, leaped off his shoes, leaped into the water, and the son of his master's daughter Anne was saved, the two were wed. His son was knighted, his grandson made a baronet and his great-grandson a baron, viscount, earl, marquis and the like.

No fewer than three peers—Earl Crome, the architect of modern Egypt; Baron Revelstoke, one of England's greatest bankers, and Earl Northbrook—are descended from one John Baring, a son of a Breton parson, who started in business as a cloth manufacturer on the outskirts of Exeter.

Fifty years in the Cabinet

No more distinguished family exists in England today than that of Ripon. The present holder of the title is chiefly known to the public as the finest game shot in the world, but his father, who did as a great deal for the welfare of the people of Ripon, was established as a cabinet office holder that future British politicians will find it hard to equal.

For fifty years he held a post in every Liberal government with a single exception.

He was such a fixture in public life that the Liberal leaders hated to break with him and from force of habit included him in their governments. Only death broke his firm hold on office.

Yet the great peer was descended from a simple Yorkshire tradesman by the familiar name of Robinson, who became established in York.

The Rise of a Plain Smith

One could be more plebian than the name of Smith, yet the descendant of John Smith, who sold taps and buttons and dress materials in the Strand of London, was the Marquis of Lincolnsay. John Smith never dreamed of the brilliant future of his descendants, and died a humble draper, but future Smiths had other ideas, and became bankers and politicians. King George III made him a knight of the Garter, privy councillor, Knight Grand Cross of St. Michael and St. George, joint-hereditary lord high chamberlain of England, the last descendant of plain John of Nottingham.

Opposite Earl of Dudley is one of the richest of English peers. He owns thirty thousand acres of the most valuable land in the country, much of it rich in minerals. The founder of the Dudleys was William, a farmer, who was apprenticed to a London gent and ultimately made a large fortune.

The Successor of this first baron

thought Carrington much more aristocratic sounding than Smith and dropped the latter entirely. So it is that one finds it hard to recognize in the present Earl of Dudley one of the richest of English peers. He owns thirty thousand acres of the most valuable land in the country, much of it rich in minerals. The founder of the Dudleys was William, a farmer, who was apprenticed to a London gent and ultimately made a large fortune.

Even the Sound of Bell's Absent in This New Resort in London

London, July 11.—What is probably the quietest club in the whole city has been opened in London. Its members are deaf or deaf mutes, and its name is the National Deaf Club.

The organization is carried on by signs. The solitary waster never offers an audible comment on the weather, which is about as far as in the conversation line as a self-respecting waster permits it to go on the subject.

Others are not deaf in the club, for the assumption is that no one would notice them even if they were rung. Under the door plate there is a button which instead of a bell, switches on a red electric light when it is pressed.

When the wasters are not in the club, the members of the club are invited to sit in a red light and not a bell that calls him.

The club numbers 120 men and 60 women, and included in its appointments is a billiard room, provided with tables and chairs, which are of a size that the members of the club can sit at.

The president of the club, A. J. Wilson, is deaf, but can speak clearly, and when he opened the club he declared that he had never seen "a merrier lot of men and women."

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