

The West

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R. J. WESTGATE Editor and Managing Director

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The Premiers' Reply

Elsewhere in this issue we publish the reply of the premiers of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba to the requests made by the associations of Grain Growers for the three western provinces.

It would appear to us that the premiers have thought the subject too deep or too troublesome a one for them and have gone to work deliberately to frame some sort of an excuse to evade the real question.

The reply is more the reply of politicians or legal men and not the sort of reply that might be expected to a business proposition.

We believe that the Grain Growers will not be satisfied to let their proposals end there but that they will make further suggestions which are within the powers of the provinces.

Enjoys Confidence

The Ottawa Journal correspondent pays the following tribute to Mr. R. L. Borden, leader of the Conservative party in the Dominion:

"When we hear then that Mr. Borden fails to carry the country because he lacks that indefinable quality which is crudely termed personal magnetism, we are inclined to draw from the record the assurance that Mr. Borden enjoys the confidence of the Canadian people at large in greater measure than that in which it is enjoyed by any other Canadian public man who has asked support for his naked personal merit and has gained it by no doubtful means, no appeal to either prejudice or cupidity.

"It is unnecessary to refer to Mr. Borden's conspicuous parliamentary attainments, to his splendid eruditions; to his almost unflinching tact; to his keen appreciation of the worth of the modern movement toward economic reform; to his warm humanistic sympathies. He is armed at all points with the requisites for leadership.

The government thus stood at the last session of parliament for the old system, with its patronage lists and its graft. It is gratifying to find Judge Cassels condemning that system and urging a reform of the type suggested by Mr. Foster.

A Blow at Graft

Judge Cassels' report upon the crookedness in Minister Brodeur's department is a sweeping condemnation of that bureau, says the Mail and Empire. Reduced to a few words it declares that politicians have had the rim of the office. These men have made up "patronage lists" which the officials have had to follow.

It is unfortunate that the enquiry was restricted by the Government to the acts of minor offenders. Had the judge been authorized to make a complete investigation, he would, no doubt, have reached the larger men—the politicians who are responsible for and have profited by the system upon which he comments.

This idea, it is interesting to remember, was presented to parliament last year by Hon. Geo. E. Foster, who moved a resolution in these words: "That all the supplies purchased for the use of the various departments of the government should be procured on the basis of public tender and contract, under the direction of a competent purchasing commission, and with regard primarily to quality and price."

"If we maintain the principle," he said, "that all important expenditures should be made under contract and after tender, I do not think that there is any necessity for any departure from the present system." Finance Minister Fielding was even stronger in his opposition to reform. He pronounced against the principle of purchasing by tender, and moved as an amendment to Mr. Foster's resolution a motion saying that supplies should be bought by tender "so far as practicable, and especially where large quantities of goods are required," and that all purchases of goods should be made, not by a commission or board, as proposed by Mr. Foster, but "under authority and direction of ministers responsible to parliament."

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Editorial Notes

From what came out in evidence at the trial of Premier Scott for libel, it would appear that neither Mr. Fry or Mr. Laird were willing to pay high compliments to Peter.

Press Comment

The marine department is now doing its buying through a purchasing agent on the basis of public tender after a public advertisement. The department of public works "wherever reasonably possible" is doing the same thing. But what about the other departments? These are only two out of fourteen. Yet some of the others do a lot of purchasing.

The decision of the three western premiers on the question of public ownership of elevators turns out to be as foreshadowed in the Tribune's news columns two or three times; that the constitutional difficulties in the way are in the judgment of the three gentlemen, insuperable, if the scheme of government ownership is to be made a success.

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Advertisement for Scott's Emulsion, featuring a fisherman carrying a large cod fish on his back. Text: "The physician attending me prescribed, on my rallying from an attack of rheumatism, your Scott's Emulsion, which I have been taking every winter since. I find it most valuable in strengthening and building up one after a severe illness. I have not had rheumatism since the time mentioned above and I owe it to your most valuable Emulsion. It is my life now, and makes me strong and healthy." - R. PICARD, Grand Ligne, Quebec.

Advertisement for Scott's Emulsion, featuring a fisherman carrying a large cod fish on his back. Text: "Scott's Emulsion is modernized Cod Liver Oil, the purest and best of partly predigested, made palatable and suitable for the most delicate child or invalid. It enriches the blood, tones up the entire system, and drives out rheumatism. ALL DRUGGISTS. Let us send you a copy of Mr. Picard's letter and a bottle of the emulsion. Post Card, accompanying this paper, is sufficient." SCOTT & BOWNE, 126 Wellington St. W., Toronto.

shows that the authorities are watchful of and are prepared to yield to public opinion. It might be reasonably easy for the farmers to consider the situation in the three western provinces, but how helpless will they find themselves when they come to deal with the House of Commons and eastern interests and pull. It will take a long time to overcome this; most of us will be dead, but in the interests of posterity the task must be bravely faced and performed with the same industry and earnestness that would characterize it if the fruit was to be reaped forthwith.

(Alameda Dispatch) Farmers are at a loss to know how the hail insurance business will be handled this year. There seems to be universal regret that the government has gone out of the business. For the past two years there has been a heavy deficit.

This state of affairs could not go on indefinitely so the government decided to drop that particular venture and leave the matter to companies subject to the Companies Act. The deficit last year amounted to \$180,856.48. The amount of claims settled was \$299,816.09, with an estimate of \$12,500 yet to be paid, or a total of \$269,816.09. The revenue paid in premiums \$145,831.98. Contracts entered into were 6,940 covering 856,000 acres. Claims were paid to 1360 persons and there are yet 124 to be paid. There seems to be something radically wrong somewhere when a deficit of over one hundred and thirty thousand dollars taken place when the expenditures are only double that amount. Either the premium charged was too low, or the working expenses have been abnormally high, or both.

The farmers have found out that it is a wise precaution to insure their crop, and each succeeding year showed a much larger number taking advantage of the opportunity. Many people found it a difficult matter in the month of June to gather together sufficient money to pay the insurance. This year the people were arranging to keep a sufficient amount on hand for that purpose. Now that the government has ceased to carry on the business the farmers are more or less uneasy about the next year's crop. The public had the utmost confidence in the government when it came to settling the loss, how far the same confidence will be reposed in companies is doubtful. In this very district farmers were the victims of unscrupulous company promoters in the past, and they will naturally hesitate before they trust them with premiums in the future. Again there is a feeling that when a reliable company commences operations the premiums will be much higher than they were previously. The companies can say, and with truthfulness, that the government was unable to pay the claims without heavy loss, how can they be expected to charge the same rates and leave a margin on the right side for dividends? But there is no use meeting trouble half way. The Manitoba companies have been pronounced hopelessly blighted by the big hospitals in Glasgow and Edinburgh. So great has been the fame that he has already achieved that the miner's days as a pit worker appear to be nearly ended, for he is daily besieged by patients. Syndicates and private individuals are offering to exploit him and his right-restoring species, but Miller appears to be a typical canny Scot and so far he has not been tempted by the handshakes of those who that damaged crop by hail the past two years was unusually high.

MINER MAKES CURES London, Jan. 27.—All Scotland is interested just at present in the remarkable cures of blindness and diseases of the eye alleged to have been effected by one William Miller, a humble collier working in the little mining village of Lanarkshire, Lanarkshire. Miller, who describes himself as an "eye-ester," either cannot or does not care to tell how he is able to effect the wonderful cures attributed to him. However this may be, there appears to be evidence of a trustworthy character that he has been able to restore the sight of a number of persons who have been pronounced hopelessly blighted by the big hospitals in Glasgow and Edinburgh. So great has been the fame that he has already achieved that the miner's days as a pit worker appear to be nearly ended, for he is daily besieged by patients. Syndicates and private individuals are offering to exploit him and his right-restoring species, but Miller appears to be a typical canny Scot and so far he has not been tempted by the handshakes of those who that damaged crop by hail the past two years was unusually high.

LAYMEN'S MISSIONARY MOVEMENT

The short career of the Laymen's Missionary Movement, which is to hold a national missionary congress in Toronto, March 8th to April 4th, is full of interesting incidents, and the movement has shown a most remarkable growth.

It was organized in connection with the centennial celebration of the Haystack Prayer Meeting in New York, Nov. 13 and 14, 1906. Following these meetings there was a group of laymen who met for prayer in the chapel of the 5th Avenue Pres. church continuing all afternoon and evening, and closing with resolutions covering the following points:

The 100th anniversary of the first American Foreign Missionary work finds the door of every nation open to the Gospel; the organizations at work are doing excellent service; business men are taking a vital interest in every form of church work and such men have been successful in the management of large business and political enterprises; a committee should be appointed to co-operate with the mission boards for three purposes; to project a campaign of education among laymen; to devise a comprehensive plan looking towards the evangelization of the world in this generation; to endeavor to form through the church boards a commission of fifty or more laymen to visit the mission fields, and report to the church at home.

The work since that time has taken giant strides, and quite a number of denominational laymen's movements have been organized. The work in the Canadian churches has been particularly strong, though the churches in the southern States have their denominational organizations very complete.

It has no organization apart from a general committee, with headquarters in New York, meeting twice a year, and an Executive Committee of 21 members meeting each month. Three secretaries give their whole time to the work of the general movement, besides the denominational secretaries.

The movement stands for investigation, agitation and organization; the investigation by laymen of missionary conditions; and the organization of laymen to co-operate with the ministers and missionary boards in enlisting the whole church in its supreme work of saving the world.

It is noteworthy that wherever the movement has been presented, in scores of cities of the United States and Canada, it has received the enthusiastic commendation and co-operation of representative men. A commission of six laymen from the United States and Canada presented the movement in Great Britain, where it was at once taken up, and national committees organized both in England and Scotland. It has since spread to Germany and Australia. The time seems to be rapidly approaching when the Christian men of all nations will be federated for co-operative action in behalf of mankind.

The power of the movement in the lives of men seems to be particularly answered by the following considerations: (1) The movement presents to men the greatest possible spiritual challenge—the need of the world.

(2) It makes the largest possible demands upon men; reminding them that all life is a trust, involving stewardship of opportunity, influence, time and treasure; that spiritual values are the only permanent ones, and that selfishness is suicidal.

(3) The effort to evangelize the world presents to every man the largest opportunity of service which can come to him in this life.

(4) The life purpose emphasized by the movement when followed satisfies the deepest spiritual ambitions of men.

(5) The effort to evangelize the world presents the speediest and surest method of saving the church.

(6) The union of all branches of the church in such co-operation, emphasizes, as nothing else can, the unity of the church.

Advertisement for Qu'Appelle Flour Mills. Text: "OUR BRANDS ARE: Hungarian Patent O.K. Patent Strong Bakers Western Gem Always on hand: Rolled Oats, Corn Meal, Lined Meal, Rye and Buckwheat Flour in all sizes. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. The Moore Milling Company Eleventh Ave., Three Doors E of Rose St. P. O. Box 28 PROMPT DELIVERY Phone 253"

Advertisement for CHARCOAL BEAVER BRAND. Text: "A Better Kindler Than Wood. Quicker Easier Cheaper. PAPER STARTS IT. Quickens your breakfast fire. Promptly rekindles any dead fire in range or grate. Starts your furnace fire without delay. And it does not smoke. Cheap, well yes; just 25 cents for a half bushel bag. FROM WHITMORE BROS. In the Regina Pharmacy 1719 Reaith Street Phone 62"

Advertisement for HUMPHREY BROS. Text: "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"

Advertisement for CRAIK SASK. Text: "COMIC AND SERIOUS. The eyes are the windows of the soul. I suppose, then, that is why in many people they look so glassy. Jimmie—How did you know that I was going to call? Her little sister—I saw Nell taking the pins out of her belt—Puck. Sister Jane was being condoned with because she had no husband. 'Safe your pity,' she said independently. 'I have a dog that growls, a parrot that swears, a lamp that smokes and a cat that stays out at nights. Now why should I get married?' Say, there's a mistake in this bill you sent me the other day. What's wrong with it? Is it too big? No, but— Any mistake in the figures? No, it's not that. It's— Don't you think the bill has been running long enough? I reckon so, but— Then what are you kicking about? That's what I am trying to tell you. There's a mistake in the name. You sent it to the wrong man, confound you. I don't owe you a cent and never did—Chicago Tribune.

Advertisement for WE PRINT BY REQUEST. Text: "Recipe Easily Prepared at Small Cost, and Many Swear by It. Mix the following by shaking well in a bottle, and take in teaspoonful doses after meals and at bedtime: Fluid Extract Dandelion, one-half ounce; Compound Kargon, one ounce; Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla, three ounces. A local druggist is the authority that these simple harmless ingredients can be obtained at nominal cost from our home drugist. The mixture is said to cleanse and strengthen the clogged and inactive Kidneys, overcoming Backache, Bladder weakness and Urinary trouble of all kinds, if taken before the stage of Bright's disease. Those who have tried this say it positively overcomes pain in the back, clears the urine of sediment and regulates urination, especially at night, curing even the worst forms of bladder weakness. Every man or woman here who feels that the kidneys are not strong or acting in a healthy manner should mix this prescription at home and give it a trial, as it is said to do wonders for many persons."

Advertisement for THE NORTH AMERICAN LIFE. Text: "Regina Earth Looks Good to The North American Life. This Company, which is solid as the continent, has assets of \$5,000,000, and is prepared to lend on First Mortgages on good farms in this district. We will insure you having Fire Insurance on your buildings. In your life we must make valuable property. These are all at once about a Policy that will protect your family and your home. W. D. McEldrie, Provincial Mgr. Northern Bank Offices P. O. Box 1028."

Advertisement for RAILWAY COMMISSION. Text: "Ottawa, Jan. 28.—The organization of the railway commission by which the Dominion will be divided into districts under a chief commissioner has been announced. Ontario to Port Arthur will be under the jurisdiction of assistant commissioner D'Arcy Scott, assisted by Inspectors Ogilvie and Clarke. The Hon. Bernier will have charge of the Quebec Maritime division, assisted by Inspector LaLonde. Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Ontario west of Port Arthur will be in charge of commissioner McLean, with Inspector Blyth of Winnipeg. Dr. Mills will look after British Columbia, assisted by Inspector McCall."

Advertisement for For BARGAIN GO TO THE... Text: "New Bicycle and Gun Shop. JAMES... P.O. Box 17... Phone 633 17... We Give Re-upto... L. E... Phone 633 17... JAMES... P.O. Box 17... Rose"

WESTERN CAN'T BU

Prairie Premiers Is Reply to Request Them to Approve North American Stables in the W

The following letter signed Premiers of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, has been received secretary of the Grain Growers' Executive with regard to the of the government ownership of grain elevators:

Dear Sir,—We have had no full consideration the representation made by you to us in our references concerning the grain and the necessity of certain measures being adopted to the grievances complained of, and also means the of any such action, is of paramount importance, serves the most mature consideration that nothing further hoped for by amendments to legislation insofar as internal matters are concerned, and what your executive requires that insofar as the three provinces are concerned, system of government ownership of grain elevators is a matter to be considered in the following:

The several matters presented in their institution, and out and performance, the of of unusually grave and asked questions, constitutional and legislative, which more fully hereinafter indicate. The three provinces are wholly private, operate and on the public credit, the quota of elevators for the grain and to regulate general manner in which the transportation of grain is conducted. This will necessitate as you will recognize, a notational principle not hitherto, and also means the from time to time of heavy responsibilities, on the several provinces, and putting in practical form legislative the right of provincial government control of the matters involved. It is evident that to accede to its entirety, the end has mentioned or sought by you to be given, or have desired, the necessary legislation through the Imperial Parliament, the British North America Act, secondly, to have adequately made for the necessary action and the consequent undertaken by us amongst various expressly stipulating grain should pass through, and one channel only, or words, to create in regard a complete and absolute Any attempt to deal with the matter, other than in a full and far-reaching manner in our opinion, fall and p

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