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Men of To-Day

An Alberta Victor

HONOURABLE ARTHUR LEWIS SIFTON is safely installed as Premier of Alberta for another four years, but whether it will be four years of peace or four years of disturbance remains to be seen. In the last Legislature there was one lone Conservative in Opposition, aided by one or two Independents; in this newly-elected Legislature there will be fifteen stalwart Conservatives fighting for the prestige of the Conservative party in the Province of Alberta. The Sifton-Cross-Marshall administration must mind its P's and Q's even though it has a majority of about twenty-five in the House.

It is just as well that Mr. Sifton should have strong opposition. It will prevent any of his followers from conniving against him, and also help him in undertaking only that legislation which is in the best interests of the Province. In other words, the strong Opposition will enable him to stand off all the bad advisers within his own party. And after all Premiers go down to destruction through the actions of the bad men in their own party more often than for any other cause.

Mr. Sifton's real problem is finance. The Privy Council has decided that the eight million dollars derived from the sale of bonds for the Alberta and Great Waterways Railway cannot be diverted to any other purpose. The money is tied up in the bank and Mr. Sifton cannot get a dollar of it except on certificates of engineers for the A. & G. W. At present the money may do the Royal Bank some good, but it won't do Alberta much good. If Mr. Sifton wants more money for other provincial enterprises he must sell more bonds, and selling bonds is not an easy task in these days of stringency. However, the resources of Alberta are tremendous and no doubt the Premier will find a way of getting over all his difficulties.

Mr. Sifton has had plenty of experience. Like his brother, the Honourable Clifford, almost the whole of his life has been spent in public affairs. He graduated from Victoria University in 1880 and entered the North-West Legislature in 1899. He was a member of the Haultain administration for a time and then became Chief Justice. When there was trouble in Alberta in 1910 there was a cry for him to take the helm and he somewhat reluctantly answered the call. That he has guided the ship safely through troubled waters is considerably to his credit.

A Progressive Educationist

SOMETIMES ministers of education are not educationists; sometimes they are politicians only. Occasionally one finds a surprise package; a man who is not supposed to be interested in education is thrust into a ministerial position and becomes a great educational reformer. At other times, a professional man who is supposed to know something of education undertakes one of these provincial positions and fails utterly to appreciate his responsibility. John Robert Boyle, Minister of Education for the Province of Alberta, is a surprise package. He was born in Lambton County, Ontario, and attended the Sarnia High School. He then studied for a barrister, but there was nothing in his education to indicate that he would some day be a leading educationist. Even after he was called to the bar and became alderman in the city of Edmonton, there was little to indicate his future career. In 1906 he was secretary of the Royal Grain Commission and it was the grain growers who made him a politician and member of the

Alberta Legislature. During the political crisis in Alberta in 1910 he was generally credited with being the leader in the revolt which put Mr. Rutherford out and brought Mr. Sifton in. The general opinion is that this work was worth while.

When he became Minister of Education his fighting independence led him to tackle that greatest of problems—the building of consolidated and graded schools in country districts. Nova Scotia, Ontario, and other provinces, have essayed to do the same and have failed miserably. Honourable Mr. Coldwell in Manitoba has succeeded where the older provinces failed. Now Mr. Boyle will venture the task in Alberta. If he succeeds the children on the farm in Alberta will receive an education which will be quite equal to that received by the children of those who live in towns and cities. Moreover, the country boy will not be compelled to walk three or four miles to school every morning; he will be taken there with his companions in a waggon or sleigh provided at the general expense of the community. This is what Mr. Coldwell has aimed at and largely accomplished in Manitoba; this is what Mr. Boyle hopes to accomplish in Alberta. If he succeeds he will be known as a progressive educationist.

A Rising Journalist

WHETHER a man should be termed a rising man or a risen man is usually determined by his age as well as his achievements. Mr. John R. Bone, President of the Canadian Press Association, President of the Canadian Club of Toronto, and managing editor of the Toronto daily *Star*, is still rising. Considering that he did not graduate from the University of Toronto until 1899, Mr. Bone has much to show for his fourteen years' record. Moreover, there are no dissipated fireworks along the pathway which he has trod. Mr. Bone has worked steadily and faithfully and won his honours by innate ability coupled with tremendous tenacity.

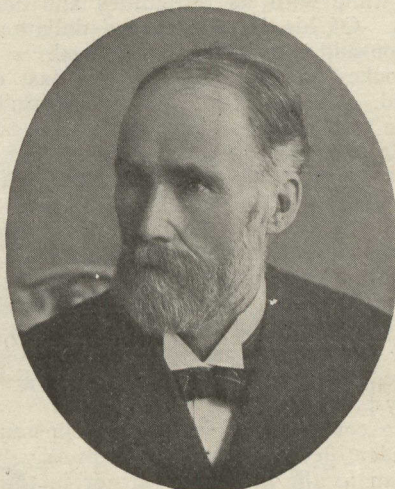
If one desired to indicate an outstanding characteristic in Mr. Bone's make-up it would probably be "silence." Mr. Bone has a wonderful faculty of being able to sit through a whole evening's conversation without taking part in it. Yet, when he is called upon to say something in private or in public he can invariably make a speech which commands both attention and admiration. Perhaps he inherits this silent quality from his Scotch father, who was one of the pioneers of the Huron district. At least it is not to be supposed that he got it from his Irish mother. As a writer, Mr. Bone excels as well as in public speaking. His letters to his paper during the last British general election were noteworthy. Finally, Mr. Bone's success is largely due to absence of partisanship; he can usually see both sides of a public man or a public question.

The Canadian Press Association will hold its fifty-fifth annual meeting in Toronto on June 3rd and 4th, and Mr. Bone will preside. Judging from the programme issued it will be the greatest journalistic gathering ever held in Canada. The C. P. A. is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, of our national organizations. With it are affiliated nearly all the provincial or local press associations throughout the Dominion.

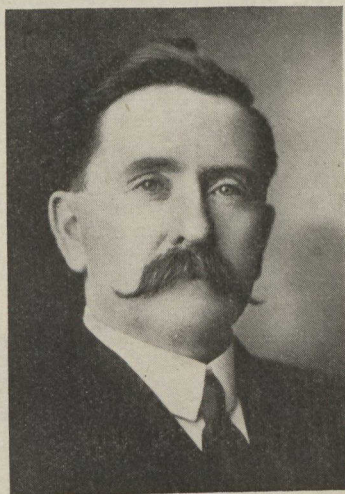
The Man of the Hour

SIR GEORGE ROSS is the man of the hour at Ottawa. The Liberals have a majority of twenty-five in the Senate and Sir George is the acknowledged leader of the Liberal senators. Upon his judgment largely hangs the fate of Mr. Borden's naval bill. If Sir George insists that the axe shall fall then fall it must. If he decides that the bill shall pass his dictum will prevail. If he decided upon a middle course, which may include mediation and conference, some

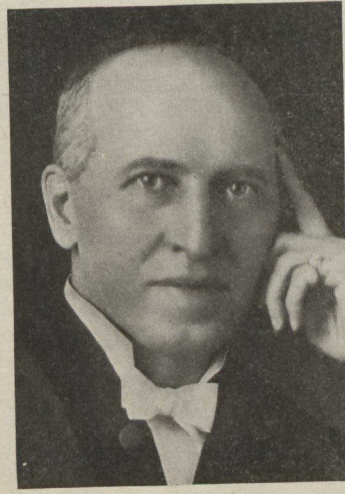
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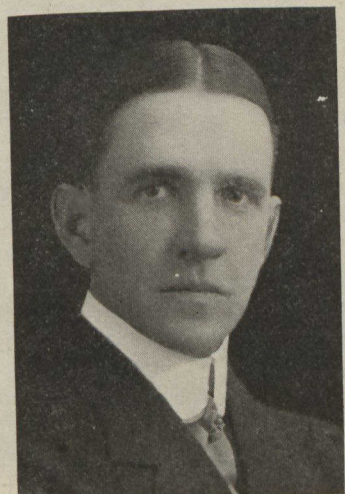
SIR GEORGE ROSS
Liberal Leader in Senate.



HON. J. R. BOYLE
Minister of Education, Alberta.



HON. A. L. SIFTON
Again Premier of Alberta.



MR. JOHN R. BONE
President Press Association.



MR. A. F. MACLAREN
"The Cheese King."