

IS DESCRIBED AS OUR BEST FRIEND

Hon. Frank Oliver Enthusiastically Received in Lethbridge—Tells of Railway Expansion.

Lethbridge, Oct. 3.—Frank Oliver addressed a crowded meeting here last night. The occasion was distinguished by every mark of good-will for the minister, who was described in the writings on the wall as the West's best friend. Mr. Oliver insisted that railway development and railway competition were the salvation of the country, and when he announced that, although attacked for its already large expenditures on its railway development policy, the government would build the Hudson Bay railway, there was an outburst of enthusiastic cheering.

The minister has made the same announcement at every meeting at which he has spoken this week, and every time it has been received with enthusiastic approval. So that if the Liberals are returned to office, a mandate on the question that cannot be set aside. Mr. Oliver showed how the Conservatives had always voted against railway competition and for the railway monopoly, citing their opposition to the Grand Trunk Pacific project and the extension of the Great Northern into southern British Columbia.

The Lethbridge audience seemed particularly interested in the new Land Act, and after he had finished his speech he was again called upon to explain the homestead provisions, which he did to the satisfaction of the audience.

WAR TALK AFFECTS THE STOCK MARKET

Severe Fall in Prices on London Exchange Yesterday With Slight Recovery Before the Close—Wall Street Feels the Effect at Opening But Prices Soar Later On—War Market Will Collapse Completely.

London Oct. 5.—The best quarters here do not expect serious complications over the Bulgarian affair. The sudden development of trouble, however, found the markets rather freely committed to the bull tack. After a severe fall, prices ended above the worst, closing at 85, after having sold down to 84½. Turkish 4s suffered a loss of 4½ points. Russian 4s were 2 points lower. Other gilt-edged shares, home rails and Kaffirs ended very gently below Saturday. Discounts were ½ per cent. firmer here at 1½ per cent. and at Amsterdam there was an advance of 2½. Elsewhere the rates were unchanged. Paris Exchange on London declined.

THE WEST IS NOT NOW PRIMITIVE

Only Temporary Break. New York, Oct. 5.—The declaration of the independence of Bulgaria caused some depression in the London market early today, and a west opening in New York. The first prices were nearly two points under the closing Saturday in the futures, but there was a quick revival and by midday the entire loss had been made up. Early in the afternoon saw a material advance in the market, many issues rising to the highest prices they have reached on the present movement. Northern Pacific, Reading and Union Pacific were conspicuous features. In the late afternoon further war talk from Turkey unsettled London again, and the entire American market declined sharply. Union Pacific broke more than three points, and the other leaders declined in proportion. This selling movement continued up to the close of the market, and the last figures were the lowest of the day. The decline was due entirely to European news. Should there be a serious war in Europe its first effect would be to break the stock market, because American shares would be liquidated freely to secure money to protect European securities that would be unobtainable. After the first collapse the war would be made a strong bull argument for American shares, because it would increase the price of American securities. The war would be a heavy demand for war materials.

During the time when stocks were advancing to day, Northern Pacific was the most active feature. The old talk of a big cash dividend was revived. The directors are expected to meet to-morrow to take action. Aboisson directors are expected to meet to act on that road's dividend on Wednesday. An official announcement was made today, that the management is not contemplating further financing in the near future. It was unofficially announced that the dividend would be maintained. The strength in the Chicago and Alton stock is said to be due to the great increase in earnings. On the curb market to-day lumberland fully advanced to eight, and the entire list of mining shares was fairly strong.

Not Indestructible Barriers. Twenty years ago, or maybe it is more, people said there was nothing in this Western Canada but misery, trimmed with ice, snow, and the bit of Providence. This was not criticism from abroad; it was said by men who lived on the spot. But pioneering perseverance proved that extremes in climate are not indestructible barriers to a nation's sturdy growth.

The automobile of the west can clear his machine around wheat fields. The horses are unaccustomed to this gasoline demonstration of progress, but the motorist knows how to quieten the restive animal. In one hand he holds the reins, in the other, the harness. From his fingers and rubber bulb comes the familiar "hook," from his lips the effective "whoa!"

The Canadian West has grown out of the primitive. One may see now in almost any town or city, stores which, set down in the east, would make a good impression. As for jewelry, the theatre, pleasure, the west has little to learn. Signs of luxury are everywhere. There may be a little to learn in the respect to the most part it is composed of agitators and seekers of labor, hoping that labor will come not. Poverty, as it is known where a hundred families live in one block, is unknown in this country, where the sun paints a rosy blotch at even. And what is behind this national knack of making things and making things do?

West's Primary Duty. One phase of this building-up process claims special consideration. Making money, and rapidly, is considered the primary duty. This is not strange. But with the dollar problem constantly in view, with no thought of ten or twenty years hence, problems for future solution are being created.

Some of our farmers will gather three, perhaps more, crops from their land. Then it is summer followed, in other words, given an earned rest. Next year again it does a bearing duty. As the transcontinental speeds upon its way, one sees from the windows a hundred prairie beacon lights. They are burning stacks of straw. In their smoke is reflection. Nobody troubles to haul this straw from the wheat fields. It can be hauled as a gift, or at the most, for a dollar a load. Talk there is of strawboard factories to eat up what now is wasted, making it something useful. Men here, who are thinking hard, say this straw in the shape of manure should go back into the land.

Do Not Want This. In the Dakotas this season a man told me the average yield was about seven or eight bushels. In our own country eighteen bushels is a commonplace. Some are convinced that in time to come a similar sorry, statistical story must be our lot in the west. That may be raising the prophetic telescope rather high, but this straw business is one example of how money is made only while the sun shines.

Another instance—in Brandon one may see wagons, loaded with onions, vending along the main street. These are burning stacks of straw, the United States. "A something shame!" exclaimed a Scotchman. He knew that onion-growing around Brandon means getting a handful of dollars every three weeks, say instead of every one. Money is not criticism from abroad; it was said by men who lived on the spot. But pioneering perseverance proved that extremes in climate are not indestructible barriers to a nation's sturdy growth.

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Men Decide to Accept Award of Conciliation Board in Recent Dispute.

Montreal, Que., Oct. 3.—The big C. P. R. strike, which has been agitating labor circles for the past two months, is at an end. It was settled to-night and the men return to work under the same conditions against which they struck two months ago. By the terms of the settlement, the men agree to accept the finding of the majority of the arbitration committee. This is what they refused to accept. The C. P. R., on their part, simply agrees to take back the men as they find room for them on their staffs. They also agree that there shall be no discrimination against the men who went out.

Must Retain Strikebreakers. The men will lose their pensions and seniority, and many of them will be unable to secure their old places as the C. P. R. is under contract to maintain the strike. Men here, who are thinking hard, say this straw in the shape of manure should go back into the land.

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PLEDGED TO VAST EXPENDITURES

Minister of Finance Defeats Conservative Argument of Extravagance by their Own Platform.

Cobourg, Oct. 5.—Effective and skillful was the argument utilized by Hon. W. S. Fielding, minister of finance, here tonight with respect to the Conservative charges of extravagance in the management of public affairs. He referred to the celebrated platform of the Conservative chiefs showing that as one of the planks was the public ownership of public utilities—taking the general understanding that railways were meant by that plank—Mr. Fielding left it to the imagination of his audience as to what such action as the purchase of railways would cost the people.

Dealing with a similar subject the minister of finance mentioned the promise of Hon. Geo. E. Foster to construct the tunnel connecting Prince Edward Island with the mainland which engineers estimated would cost anywhere between nine and forty millions of dollars. If the Conservative party were prepared to spend vast sums like that, supposing they gained power, he did not think they could sell the present Liberal administration.

That the citizens and the farmers of West Northumberland appreciated this setting of the political scenery was beyond all doubt for they applauded long and loud. The meeting was held in the opera house and so great was the desire to hear the man who takes care of Canada's money that scores of persons were forced to stand.

PEOPLE OF GUINA GRATEFUL.

Look to Canada to Take Bulk of Their Sugar.

London, October 6.—A Georgetown, British Guiana cable, states that the Governor Hodgson to take steps to show Canada that the people of Guiana are grateful for what she has done in putting out the tariff on the tariff is reduced Germany might be put on Canada's intermediate tariff. Guiana relies on Canada to take the bulk of her sugar. The Governor summoned a special meeting of the legislature to discuss Canadian reciprocity, and it is understood here that no official announcement of a reciprocity treaty between Canada and the West Indies will be made till after the Canadian elections.

Population of Berlin, Ontario. Berlin, Ont., October 6.—The assessor's returns show the town's population to have increased 217, making it now 13,300.

Boy Drowned at Prince Rupert. Prince Rupert, Oct. 5.—Wilko Frizell, the sixteen-year-old son of a pioneer merchant here, fell out of a boat yesterday, and being stranded, was drowned in shallow water.

Union Officials Leave Montreal. Montreal, Oct. 5.—The officials of the C. P. R. union have left the city for their homes.

Re-Engaged as Vacancies Arise. St. John, N.B., Oct. 5.—Former Canadian Pacific employees on the Atlantic division, who went on strike, will be given employment as vacancies arise. None of those who have been engaged by the company since the dispute occurred will be dismissed to make room for the strikers, excepting probably some who are incompetent and who will naturally be dismissed anyway. The officials state here they have had standing instructions to re-engage strikers who desired to return but no special instructions, following the settlement of the strike, have been received. So far none of the strikers have returned to work, but it is expected that numbers will appear today claiming their former positions. At McAdam Junction, a divisional point, many having been turned out of their homes, have moved to other towns.

Decide to Accept Award. Ottawa, Oct. 5.—A telegram was this morning received at the labor department from Bell Hard, general chairman of the federated trades, confirming the report that the C. P. R. machinists' strike has been settled. The telegram, which is from Winnipeg, under date of October 1, says: "Employees of Canadian Pacific have decided to accept award of the conciliation board."

Go Back to Work Tomorrow. Port Arthur, Oct. 6.—News of the settlement of the C. P. R. strike gives satisfaction here. Only a few men are employed but all will go to work tomorrow.

Settlement First in Winnipeg. An agreement was first reached between Mr. Whyte and Mr. Bell Hard, covering the western divisions. This was then followed up by a conference in Montreal which resulted in settlement of the strike. Tonight Hon. Robert Rogers received the following wire from Colin Campbell: "Strike happily settled. Cause C of agreement made as follows: 'Company to use all reasonable means to find employment and prevent discrimination against men who have been on strike.'"

At the strike headquarters the men were far from satisfied at the news that there was some talk of not accepting the terms. Among the rank and file of men, however, there is relief felt that the contest is over. For some time they have been anxious to return to work. Two months enforced idleness has been a heavy drain on their resources, and they are eager for work.

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