

The Daily News

THE PEOPLE'S PAPER

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IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE IN MANITOBA

A COURAGEOUS CANDIDATE

In the clear cut statement of his position on the questions before the electors, Mr. S. E. Clement has shown a decided contrast to the action of that of his opponent, George R. Coldwell, on the issues of the campaign. Times without number, in the legislature, in the lodge room, on the platform, in the press, and from the pulpit, Mr. Coldwell has been asked to declare himself on the questions of the hour, questions that have to do with the future of Manitoba, yet the electors have looked and waited in vain for a reply. He has side-stepped every effort to secure from him a plain statement, he has evaded all questions by indirect answers and equivocation; he has refused point blank to offer any explanation of his infamous school amendments and instead has quoted the legal opinions of lawyers engaged by the Winnipeg School Board who did not want and refused to be driven into the expense of conducting separate schools at the request or dictation of Mr. Coldwell, traitor to the people of the province, and our national school system. Even these must give him cold comfort, as it has been stated by Mr. Munson that it is quite conceivable that the intention of the "Master Hand" that drafted the clauses was to make possible separate schools.

What has Mr. Coldwell to say to this? Why does he not answer and give the electors of this province, who have a right to know, what he meant by the Coldwell Amendments when he enacted them?

With the unsavory attitude of Mr. Coldwell, compare for one moment the straightforward position of Stephen E. Clement.

Regarding the Coldwell Amendments, Mr. Clement has pledged himself, if elected to the legislature, to have them repealed, and to see to it that the national school system is kept sacred and inviolate. "Hands off our schools" is Mr. Clement's watch-word.

On the temperance question Mr. Clement says: "I am absolutely in favor of 'Banish the Bar.'" Could anything be more straightforward? No turning of sharp corners, no equivocation, no enlisting, like Mr. Coldwell, the support of the bar-room proprietors, but a manly statement of where he stands on this great moral issue.

On the question of whether the people or the "Big Boss" should rule Manitoba, Mr. Clement says the "People" every time, and Direct Legislation is the way to insure this. Unlike Sir Rodmond Roblin and George R. Coldwell, he desires above all things that the government of Manitoba shall come into the hands of the "people," which, Sir Rodmond says, will happen if we get Direct Legislation. It has been out of the hands of the people too long for the good of the province, and it is time for a change.

On the question of Woman's Suffrage the Liberal candidate takes a forward and fearless stand. The women of Manitoba are entitled to a voice in the governing of the province and must have it. With the vote in the hands of the women the moral questions in this province would be solved very readily, particularly the abolition of the liquor traffic.

On all the other points at issue the same open and frank attitude is seen. One does not have to engage a solicitor to find out. He is open, manly and above board. This is the only kind of a representative that Brandon can afford to choose. Let it not be said of the Wheat City that the man whom it sends to the legislature is a "trimmer" nor yet a "rubber stamp" in the hands of designing politicians, but let it be said that Brandon has a fearless, independent, manly and straightforward representative who will not be toyed and played with by those who have ulterior and dangerous ambitions to serve.

THE REAL MEANING

As if to finally clinch all argument in regard to the Coldwell Amendments as to what they really mean, the "Sun" on Saturday published from the Winnipeg Saturday Post about three columns under the caption, "Real Meaning of the Coldwell Amendments." Of course the government's is very anxious that this view should end the matter once and for all, but there are several things that are far from satisfactory.

That the Winnipeg school board were forced to obtain legal opinion on these amendments is

in itself proof that they were by no means lucid in their meaning, and if the expense so incurred, vide the "Sun", amounted to \$200, the ambiguity of the amendments was the cause of such expense.

The "Sun" wishes the people of Brandon to believe that the Hon. G. R. Coldwell is a legal gentleman of such outstanding ability that it was necessary to call upon him for legal advice to settle the Gordon/Mackay deal and other matters and that what he said was law. Even granting this, which we do not, yet this very same gentleman cannot apparently explain the amendments of which he is the sponsor, and was himself obliged to go to A. J. Andrews, K. C., to know their meaning. Still not satisfied with this, the "Sun" blossoms forth with the opinion of J. H. Munson, K. C., and asks the people to believe that this one, at any rate, is the real explanation of the amendments.

But what does Mr. Munson say, after all? Here, according to the "Sun," is a part of his report to the Winnipeg school board:

"It is conceivable that Section 218 and the Sub-section (5) of the 1912 Act, so far as 'intention of the draftsman was concerned, were intended to mean a Roman Catholic teacher for the children of the petitioners exclusively, that is, that no non-Roman Catholic teacher should teach them any subject, and that they should be taught all the subjects that were taught in the school, by such Roman Catholic teachers.'"

Just so. It is conceivable, and it is what the amendments really do mean or are intended to mean by the Hon. G. R. Coldwell, Archbishop Langevin, Hon. Joseph Bernier and all the rest of the crew. But the Hon. G. R. is far too wily to say so. Why? It is surely not hard to guess.

G. R. has tried to "straddle the fence," but it is no use. The people are not going to wait for a legal fight to ensue between the Roblin government and the school boards (which would probably end up in the Privy Council), to know what the amendments do legally mean. They are quite convinced that the INTENTION at any rate is eventually to force separate schools and that the amendments are the "thin edge of the wedge."

The outstanding feature of the whole matter, however, is that this great legal fight, this wonderfully clever lawyer, George R. Coldwell, K. C., should have put through such a piece of legislation, which was so involved in its meaning that even K. C.'s are at variance. But "There's a reason." It was intended to be arguable in order to deceive the Orangemen and the Protestants, but it has not succeeded, as the Orange Grand Lodge meeting at Regina plainly showed.

THE ELEVATOR FIASCO

The boast is being made throughout the length and breadth of the province by Sir Rodmond Roblin and his henchmen that the present government is above all things a "business government." This would be an ample excuse for unconstrained merriment were it not for the seriousness of the claim and the fact that some people, through not giving it a due amount of consideration, may be led to accept it as fact.

Nothing could be further from the truth. In every piece of public business that the Roblin government has attempted to perform, the results have been pitiful in the extreme, and entailed enormous waste and loss to the people of Manitoba. It would take pages to tell of the gross mismanagement that has marked the trail along which the present government has travelled.

Hundreds of thousands, yes, millions of dollars of your money have been squandered—if not grafted—by Roblin and his gang of political highbinders. Deliberate and definite charges have been made in the legislature and all to no avail. The weight of the Roblin government, with the aid of George R. Coldwell and the others of his type, have voted down any attempts for investigations. Take, for instance, the elevator deals of the Roblin administration. Could anything more grossly mismanaged be imagined than the government's handling of this matter? And yet in the face of the facts as they exist, the claim is being made that the Roblin government is a business government.

Let us examine the elevator deals of the Roblin-Coldwell outfit for instance:

The Roblin government's attempt to establish a government system of elevators for the Province of Manitoba resulted in a complete fiasco, involving the province in heavy loss and imperilling an investment of \$1,100,000 of the people's money.

The government went into this enterprise in a spirit of panic born of their defeat in the Birtle by-election in November, 1909, in which the question of government elevators was an issue. Up to that time the Roblin government had taken the ground that there were constitutional difficulties in the way of the province establishing such a system of elevators, but after the defeat in Birtle it speedily changed its mind, and in December, 1909, George R. Coldwell appeared before the Grain Growers in convention in Brandon and

declared that the government was prepared to accept the principle of publicly owned elevators. The Grain Growers were asked by Mr. Coldwell to give the government their help and suggestions in putting the legislation which would be necessary in the best shape possible.

The government, however, in dealing in the session of 1910, with this matter of government elevators, declined the help of the Grain Growers which it had invited at the Brandon meeting. It refused to accept a bill establishing such a system of elevators prepared by the Grain Growers' Association, and it also declined to accept the recommendations of the Grain Growers as to the parties best qualified to serve upon the elevator commission responsible directly to the legislature and removable only by this body. This the government refused to accept.

After securing power to go into the elevator enterprise the government placed the business in charge of a commission made up of D. W. McQuig, chairman, F. McLennan and W. C. Graham. The commission was organized in July, 1910, immediately after the provincial elections. The government ceased to operate the elevators on August 31, 1912. In the first year's operation a loss of \$84,145 was incurred. In the second year the loss was \$40,000. Sir Rodmond Roblin, speaking in the legislature in April, 1912, admitted that the enterprise had been a complete failure.

An examination of the causes of the lamentable failure of this attempt to administer publicly owned elevators shows that it was due to incompetence, mismanagement and the subordination of the enterprise to the political requirements of the government. In the purchasing of elevators there were serious irregularities. At the outset the commission purchased elevators from the existing companies by negotiation. Fifteen elevators were thus purchased at a rate averaging 12.24 cents per bushel capacity. The government then intervened and appointed a special officer to secure further elevators by the process of arbitration. By these means one hundred and fifty elevators were purchased at an average cost of over 22 cents per bushel capacity. There were further marked differences in the rate of payment for elevators purchased from the different elevator companies. Thus the government bought 19 elevators from the Dominion Elevator Co. at an average of 23.42 cents per bushel capacity; 24 elevators from the Winnipeg Elevator Co. at an average of 18.13 cents per bushel capacity; 24 from the Northern, average of 20.15 cents per bushel capacity; 18 from the Canadian, average of 19.60 cents per bushel capacity; 6 from the Western, average 19.01 cents per bushel capacity; 5 from the International, average 20.21 cents per bushel capacity; while from the various farmers' companies 18 elevators were bought at the very low rate of 12.76 cents per bushel capacity. The Dominion Elevator Co., which received favored treatment in the matter of price, is the elevator company in which Sir Rodmond Roblin, the premier of Manitoba, was formerly president, and in which he is still thought to be largely interested.

In addition to the elevators purchased, the commission built ten elevators at a cost of \$110,000, while in the purchase of elevators they paid out \$852,370. Other expenses brought the total outlay up to the end of 1911 to \$1,001,342. An extraordinary feature of the purchase of these elevators was that the government in some cases purchased several elevators at the same point, although, as experience proved, there was only business for one. Thus the government bought two elevators at Rathwell, three at Reston, four at Binscarth, two at Altamont, two at Treherne, three at Crystal City, three at Elva, two at Hartney, four at Snowflake, four at Nings, two at Miami, three at Griswold.

Could any stronger evidence be required to show that the Roblin administration is not a business government?

NOTE AND COMMENT

Smash "Boss" rule, and let the people have a chance.

Roblin says that "Direct Legislation will place the power of government in the hands of the people," yet he asks you to oppose it. Some nifty politician this man Roblin.

Vote it out.

Vote to protect the boy.

And the girl who marries the boy the bar spoils.

And the children who tremble at the unsteady footsteps of their father.

And the community that spends much money to house the victims of the liquor traffic in jails, asylums and refuges.

It's time for a change.

Oust the Roblin gang.

THE MATTER IN THESE COLUMNS IS FURNISHED THROUGH THE TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIAL SERVICE COUNCIL OF BRANDON

SOME OBSERVATIONS BY EDITOR JAMES O. BOWMANVILLE

Yes, as the Guardian says, it is getting harder every day to show why liquor advertising should not be put in the same class with liquor selling. Publishing, advertising, setting forth the merits of intoxicating liquors is certainly helping to promote the sale of said liquors. How much worse is the man who actually does the selling?

He is in the very same class with the publisher, the bartender and the newspaper publisher who advertises the stuff he sells as hand-in-hand in the liquor business sure enough.

Some people assert that every person should have liberty to drink intoxicating liquor or to ride on a railway train with a drunken engineer or in an auto with a drunk man as chauffeur? What about the case of John Madison, hack driver, Lindsay, who is said to have one home drunk at ten o'clock the other night, set fire to the house when trying to light his pipe and was burned so badly that he died next morning and three of his children are also dead from the burns received? Is not every man and woman who voted against Local Option in Lindsay in a sense responsible for the sacrifice of these four lives? Talk about the liberty of the individual. Who would be safe if every person were given liberty to drink as much intoxicants as he chose?

The man who drinks alcoholic liquors, whether conscious of it or not, commits a serious crime if he becomes a father for he pronounces of eight hundred German professors and physicians declares that the greatest danger in the regular use of alcohol is the degeneration of the race. The progeny of the regular drinker inherits a generally inferior physique, especially a weakened nervous system. When Mothers drink, too, degeneration must proceed at a considerably quicker pace.

The man who claims the liberty to drink what he chooses should listen to what these men of science and experience say: "Drinking customers bring degeneracy, poverty, sickness, vice, crime, madness, and death, and this not only to those who succumb to them. They also endanger those who personally have not yielded to them. Thousands die yearly because of the drunkenness of others. We recall the many accidents caused by drunkenness—railway accidents, shipwrecks, accidents on buildings, in factory,

in workshop. We recall crime committed in drunkenness, the endless cases of assault and murder. We remember the unnumbered families who have been maltreated by drunken fathers. We recall the hundreds of thousands born sick and wretched because of drunkenness, who fall a burden on society, passing down their misery to children and grandchildren. Therefore it is not only a duty to fellowmen, but incumbent upon all who would hold themselves upright, to help in doing away with alcoholic drinks, and this by the personal example of abstinence. We are convinced that with the banishing of alcohol other causes of human misery would be easily suppressed, that abstinence would contribute essentially to the solution of the great social question." — Bowmanville Statesman, March 20th, 1914.

LIQUOR MEN

The members of the Licensed Hotel-keepers' Association of Manitoba held a meeting recently in the Travellers' Building, Winnipeg, when there was a large attendance of delegates from all parts of the province. The chief matter of business grew out of the tense situation in the political field. Some of the leaders had become very restless over the prospect of the growing power of the organized temperance people with the politicians. It was thought necessary to take stock in the situation and to make plans to protect the trade. The addition of a saving clause to the local option law and the provision for applying the prohibition clauses of the local option law to the unorganized territory of the province were accepted as evidences that the advance of the temperance forces.

The change in the secretaryship of the association from W. T. Edgecombe, who was recently elected Grand Master of the Orangemen, to Mr. E. Powell, who was promoted from the chief license inspector's office, was noted, and there was fear expressed that this would weaken the situation for the liquor party, but it was understood that Mr. Edgecombe's assistance would not be wholly lost.

Of course the meeting was held with closed doors and every precaution taken to prevent anything from leaking out to the press, but some of the members were not so prudent in talking about the business after they left the hall, and the information here given reached "The statesman" in that way.

IN 1920

Last week the Rev. Dr. McTavish, one of the Alliance Field Secretaries, laid before the Toronto Presbytery a series of resolutions declaring that the time is opportune for a great campaign for national prohibition. The motion was spread upon the minutes, so as to be studied by the members, and will be further dealt with at a later meeting.

On Monday of this week the same proposal was laid before the General Ministerial Association of this city, and fully explained by Dr. McTavish, who pointed out its similarity to the plan of campaign now being carried on in the United States. The Association endorsed the speaker's vote of thanks, and indicated its readiness to participate in such a campaign if promoted by the Dominion Alliance. The resolutions presented by Dr. McTavish are as follows:

1. Inasmuch as the Prohibitionists of the United States have entered upon a campaign with the view of prohibiting the manufacture, importation, transportation and exportation, and the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage after 1920; and

2. Inasmuch as the most cordial relations exist between this country and the United States, as is evidenced by the fact that we are now about to celebrate one hundred years of peace; and

3. Inasmuch as many of the forces, such as the W.C.T.U., the Gideons, the Y.P.S.C.E., and others which are making for the prohibiting of the liquor traffic are international in their scope and organization; and

4. Inasmuch as there might be a large measure of co-operation which would prove mutually advantageous, much of the literature being equally well adapted to both countries; and

5. Inasmuch as a movement in Canada and the United States conducted along similar lines and having the same end in view would attract attention, awaken interest and arouse enthusiasm; and

6. Inasmuch as the liquor traffic, if permitted to continue in this country after it has been prohibited across the border, would be a constant menace to our neighbors; this Presbytery believing that the time is opportune for a campaign in Canada looking towards prohibition by 1920, cordially approves of such a campaign, and expresses its willingness to co-operate with other churches and temperance bodies to the end that prohibition may be an accomplished fact within the time specified.

MINISTER OF WAR IS VINDICATED

INVESTIGATION INTO TREASON ACCUSATION EXONERATES ESSAD PASHA OF ALBANIA

Budapest, Hungary, June 29.—Essad Pasha, the former minister of war in the Albanian cabinet, who was banished from Albania under a suspicion of treason, has since remained in Naples and Rome, pending the investigation which was supposed to establish whether or not he had been guilty of instigating or participating in an intrigue against Prince William.

The investigation in Durazzo has failed, however, to place any guilt on Essad Pasha or even to prove that he has acted in any except a loyal manner.

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towards the Albania ruler and the newly established Albanian government. It is true that there was continual friction between Essad and the Dutch officers in Albania, and on account the former desired to resign his position as war minister.

The postage stamps which were seized in Trieste and which were supposed to have been issued there for a new Albanian government, inasmuch as they bore the portrait of Essad Pasha, were certainly not ordered by him, but probably by some of those fanatical Albanians who desire to see Essad become ruler of Albania. The party which desires this rule includes nearly all the Muhammadans in Albania.

Essad Pasha is a statesman and a diplomatist, and it seems unlikely that he has conspired against the prince or against the established government of which he was himself a part. He cannot be held responsible for the acts of thousands of Muhammadans in Albania.

The Christian Albanians are equally opposed to the establishment of the Wird dynasty, and especially desire to see Prince Ivan Ratkovics, a descendant of a very old princely Albanian family, who is at present residing quietly in Fiume, Hungary, at the head of independent Albania.

It is tolerably certain that the Muhammadan population of Albania would prefer to place Prince Rathovics at the head of the Albanian state in place of Prince William of Wird, provided that it was impossible to obtain a Muhammadan ruler, for the present uprising in Albania is directed exclusively against the establishment of a dynasty in Albania by a Prince who is not an Albanian.

BIG BANK NOTES

The special-printed \$1,000 note which the King of Denmark signed at the Bank of England when he visited London, the other week, is just a thousand times less in value than the highest-priced note issued by the Old Lady of Threadneedle street. No fewer than four \$1,000,000 notes have been issued by the bank. The Rothschilds had one, Coutts had another, the Bank of England itself had the third and Rogers, the banker poet, had the fourth put in a gold frame and hung up in his parlor.

DUKE LENDS PAINTINGS

London, June 29.—The Duke of Norfolk has lent three pictures from his collection of Tudor portraits for the walls of the reception hall of the British pavilion at the Leipzig book exhibition. One is a contemporary half-length portrait of Queen Elizabeth and one is a portrait of Queen Mary as a child, dressed in white, embroidered with gold, with white ruff and jewelled cap. The third portrait is of Thomas Howard, third Duke of Norfolk.

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