

REPLY TO MR. SCOTT'S LETTER

Jno. Nicholls (Editor, Grenfell Sun)

We publish below a very pointed reply to the letter by Premier Scott, of which he invited newspaper criticism.

We lately received the following letter from Premier Scott which will speak for itself:

Regina, Aug. 16, '07. My Dear Sir,—The Supplementary Revenue Act is a measure of great importance and is in consequence being studied by many citizens throughout Saskatchewan.

Believe me, yours respectfully, WALTER SCOTT.

We regret that the length of the letter referred to by Mr. Scott, and which was addressed to Wm. Granville, of Dubuc, in reply to resolution of the local improvement district concerning some features of the new Supplementary Revenue Act, precludes our publishing it in the Sun at present.

Let us state at the outset that our own great objection to the act is not that given by Mr. Scott as the popular one—which he endeavors to remove—that it operates unfairly to the rural districts (that, to our mind, is a mere side issue) but to the very principle on which the act is based, viz., the imposition of an extraordinary tax to raise revenue for an ordinary department of the public service.

In order that our readers may clearly understand the grounds of Mr. Scott's argument, we give the pith of it as set forth in his letter: "Before the passage of the act in question the total cost of education in this province was borne—apart from the sums which the legislature was able to vote out of the general revenue for education by way of grant which grants are not being reduced—by the area of land comprised within the organized school districts, roughly calculated at present at eleven million acres. An area twice as great or twenty-two million acres outside the school districts was liable to taxation by the legislature, but was bearing no share of the cost of education."

"The supplementary revenue act was passed to make the whole taxable area (thirty-three million acres), carry the load instead of leaving one-third of the area under the entire burden. The new tax will yield more than \$200,000, two thirds of which comes from the lands which were formerly free from taxation. Therefore a sum of more than \$200,000 will be got from an entirely new source, so to speak, to help keep up our schools, and nearly all the sum goes under and by the act to the rural schools."

"If we have, say, one thousand rural schools, each district will make an average saving by the act of \$200, that is to say its total taxation for schools (after paying the one cent acre new tax) will be two hundred dollars less than the sum it had to raise in 1907 for its school. This is what the new tax act will do. I cannot see how it can fail to do it. The new law will take something more than two hundred thousand dollars out of the twenty-two million acres of land, which formerly paid not a cent and excepting a comparatively inconsequential percentage, the whole sum goes to rural schools which will draw practically \$200,000 more in cash grants than they are drawing this year. This amount is not coming out of the rural school districts, not a cent of it; it is coming out of twenty-two million acres of corporation or speculator's land."

"This extract gives, we think, the pith of Mr. Scott's case. Admitting the area of land taxable and the amount realized therefrom under the new act, we come at once to the assertion that each rural school district will profit to the extent of \$200 a year by the new tax. As the lan-

guage used is so simple and direct, it is evident that this will be perpetual, or at least of long duration, we cannot help saying that a more disingenuous or more superficial argument we have never met with. Let us examine it a little, as he obviously hopes to blind us to facts which should be patent to everyone, by taking one thousand rural schools as the limit, and dividing the two hundred thousand among them so as to give them \$200 each. But there is a glaring suppressio veri in this one on which the whole case depends, as we shall soon see. By the Saskatchewan Gazette of Aug. 16th we find up to date that there were 1866 organized school districts in the province. From the new atlas of Canada we learn also that last year there were four cities, twenty-five towns and forty-nine villages in the province. Allowing for increase since then it would be perfectly safe to assume that at least 1,700 (likely far more) out of the 1866 organized school districts will be rural schools and participate in the division of the two hundred thousand dollars. This would give less than \$118 instead of the \$200 to each school the first year the act is in force. By the same Gazette we learn that during the half month between Aug. 1 and 15, nineteen new school districts were organized in the province. This at the rate of 500 a year. It would hardly be fair to take this as an average, but we are informed on good authority that the number considerably exceeds 500. Take that number with an average area of 12,000 acres, which we do not think is excessive, and we have 3,600,000 acres withdrawn from the unorganized districts and added to the organized districts. This would cut down the fund from the unorganized districts from \$200,000 to one hundred and sixty-four thousand dollars to be divided among 1,700 schools the second year, or just \$92 each, instead of \$200 as Mr. Scott's calculation. Continuing the same rate of progress, which however, is likely to be exceeded, the next year another three million six hundred thousand acres will be organized and the funds from the unorganized lands reduced to \$128,000 to be again divided among 2,300 rural schools, or a little over \$55 each for the third year. In the fourth year the fund will have dwindled to \$92,000, the school districts will have increased to 2,600 and the amount to each will be less than \$37. At the same rate in another two years the fund from the unorganized lands will have entirely disappeared. But the tax will not cease, and over \$300,000 raised by direct local taxation will then pass into the hands of the executive at Regina, to be controlled and distributed by them without any further reference to those from whom it was taken."

Mr. Scott says: "If my calculation is not worthless, every rural school district will be \$200 better off." Do not the plain simple facts of the case as we have stated them, show that his calculation was utterly worthless. And where then will his assertion made further on in his letter come in at? "If every alleged grievance against the act were true, and true twice over, there is still a wide margin of hard cash benefit in it for the rural school that every rural ratepayer should welcome it."

We think the pivotal point on which Mr. Scott's defence of the act depends—that each rural school district will have a clear profit by it of \$200 a year in future—may now be quite safely left to the intelligence of "the average rural ratepayer." If he can find it we envy his vision. Could he not as easily find a needle in a strawstack?

We need not now discuss the details of the act or the grants from the fund to the proposed university, agricultural college and high schools. We quite agree that these are very minor matters at present, but let the average ratepayer beware that they do not always continue so. We have discussed, we think, all of Mr. Scott's letter which is essential to the case, or to his defence of the act. It really amounts to very little. But the tone of lofty superiority with which he condescends to enlighten "the average rural ratepayer" as to his duty in accepting such a piece of profound legislative wisdom, will, we believe, be resented by that rather ungrateful individual. Let us give one illustration out of many.

"Magnificent grants! Exactly what I am seeking to make plain. Are you as rural ratepayers actually in earnest in objecting against a law which is to furnish a magnificent cash grant to your school, and which will continue year by year as long (how long?) as the province contains an immense area of taxable lands outside the organized school districts?"

This is no doubt intended for a chiche. The average rural ratepayer is poor, stupid, black-headed, that he is taken to be, will surely stand with bowed head and downcast eyes before such a deliriance, his doubts, "those gloomy doubts that rise" are gone like the mists of the morning. But after all let him beware, for the goblins may catch him if he don't watch out."

We are surprised that Mr. Scott in the latter part of his letter should so little appreciate the position he

occupies as to make a most undignified and unmanly attack on that part of the community whose views on some public questions are not the same as his own. The great objection to the new tax act is not a party but a popular one and by the rural ratepayers without regard to party politics. Mr. Scott, as head of the legislature which passed the act, was endeavoring to explain and defend it so as to remove that opposition. Why should he leave the subject of discussion, and forgetful alike of his own self-respect, and the respect he owes to his position and the public generally, indulge in flippancy and "Provincial Rights," most of whom he himself will not deny are intelligent and respectable citizens. A worse exhibition of bad taste, and even bad sense, than the last paragraph but one, of Mr. Scott's letter we have seldom seen. Instead of removing opposition to the act it is calculated to make enemies of some who would rather be friends to himself and government. We are not now in the midst of an election campaign when even wise men lose their heads and say unjustifiable things. The Sun does not intend to belong to the Provincial Rights Party nor have we any brief for it, but we cannot help protesting against such an untimely and unwarranted attack on any part of the people of this province. Surely on reflection Mr. Scott will regret having written that paragraph.

We will deal with our objection to the principle of the act in a future issue.

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LAZARUS DEMONSTRATION The first provincial labor demonstration in Saskatchewan took place here under the most favorable circumstances on Monday last when Regina and Moose Jaw organizations affiliated to celebrate labor day. The visitors from the neighboring city arrived by special train and were some five hundred strong. The organization of the parade took place at Trades Hall at 11 o'clock, when the procession started headed by Grand Marshal P. A. Stanlake and headed by Chief White of the Regina Fire department. The various unions looked natty in their parade dresses and the floats of the different crafts added to the spectacular features of the procession which was conducted with military order. The music was furnished by Prof. Lanbach's band, the Sons of England band and the Moose Jaw Citizens band and the Moose Jaw Citizens band.

The judges of the parade were J. F. Bole, M.L.A., C. H. Gordon and E. McCarthy. The prize to the union presenting the best appearance was awarded to the Moose Jaw Carmen, who wore blue and white overalls and black caps. Civic Welcome Reaching railway park the unionists were welcomed by His Worship the Mayor, who was introduced by President Molloy, of the Trades and Labor Council. Mayor Smith was warmly received and he said that he could fittingly welcome the visiting union men to the city, as he had served his time at the workmen's bench. He regarded the men of brain and muscle as the greatest asset of the Dominion. The foundation of this province's prosperity will be well and truly laid if the work is done by the artisans and mechanics. He admonished them to be strong morally as well as physically, for a great deal depends on Christian character. "I trust," he said, "that your labor unions will be a success—that you will have abundant prosperity—and above all, that you will be good, staunch, noble, loyal Christian citizens."

Jas. Somerville, president of the Moose Jaw Trades and Labor Council, responded for the visitors. He assured the mayor that they appreciated his kind words of welcome, after which Mr. J. F. Bole delivered an admirable speech. A Vancouver dispatch says: "Some what belated information indicates that Mr. William Miner, who was lately serving the king in the government institution in Vancouver, but who is now 'abroad,' may have been seen by many and not recognized. After William, without notice quit his job in the brickyard in the penitentiary close at New Westminster, pictures and descriptions of him were sent out. They showed a man clean shaven with a poll like a shaved Tibetan priest. It now transpires that some little time before William made up his mind to leave, he discovered that he had a very soft lip. On this account, he was allowed to keep his moustache. Because of scalp trouble that also mysteriously developed he was allowed to have hair in high loops, so that as a matter of fact he didn't look a bit like the descriptions of him sent out."

William had evidently been laying out his plans well in advance, and his statement that working in the shoe shop made his feet blister was only one of the several cogs in the wheel on which he rolled to freedom. I will mail you free, to prove merit, samples of my Dr. Shoop's Restorative, and my book on either Dyspepsia, The Heart, or The Kidneys. Troubles of the stomach, heart or kidneys, are merely symptoms of a deeper ailment. Don't make the common error of treating the symptoms only. Symptom-treatment is treating the result of your ailment, and not the cause. Weak stomach nerves, the heart, or the kidneys—stomach weakness, always. And the heart and kidneys as well, have their controlling or inside nerves. Weaken these nerves, and you inevitably have weak vital organs. Here is where Dr. Shoop's restorative has made his fame. No other remedy even claims to treat the inside nerves. Also for bloating, biliousness, bad breath or complexion, use Dr. Shoop's Restorative. Write me today for samples and free book. Dr. Shoop, Racine, Wis. The Restorative is sold by the Regina Pharmacy Stores.

Other speakers were Mr. Lewis, manager of the King's who made a very fitting reply to the toast of his health; Hon. P. W. G. Haultain, H. F. Myton, H. W. Laird, E. Van Egmond and Clayton Peterson, proprietor of the Clayton Hotel. The musical program was furnished by A. T. Hunter and Geo. Stevenson.

APRECIATION OF MR. HASLAM The prophecy of J. H. Haslam is fulfilled, Regina will be the biggest city in western Canada. Surrounded as the city is with probably the richest agricultural lands in the world, it cannot fail to become a large industrial centre. The occasion of Mr. Haslam's speech was a dinner given in his honor at his hostelry the King's hotel, on Friday evening last, when about forty-five members of the city council and board of trade were present. In responding to the toast of his health proposed by P. Cooper, president of the board of trade, Mr. Haslam, in referring to the province, said that perhaps it was a little previous, but he was optimistic as to the future of Regina and he had every confidence that his hopes would be realized. He does not believe that there is a piece of land on earth as rich and fertile as that territory within a two hundred mile radius of Regina. The importance of this province with regard to the commercial affairs of the Dominion may be judged from the anxiety with which the present crop situation in Saskatchewan is watched from eastern Canada. The soil here guarantees a crop and there will be lots of wheat notwithstanding the lateness of the season, but, said the speaker, there have no other country on the globe which can produce a crop under such circumstances.

Mr. Haslam compared the position of Regina with that of Winnipeg and he contends that the future has more in store for this city than any other place in western Canada. This has been up to the present a one crop country but the varied resources of the country will be developed shortly and then the potential riches will flow through other channels as well. The whole country between here and the boundary south is underlain with coal and this will prove a big industry accompanied as it will be by contingent industries. The outside world is taking notice of this country and its possibilities and notwithstanding that immigration has fallen off a little from the south owing partly to the very severe winter, the people are bound to come here. With regard to the city Mr. Haslam referred to the railway connections now being made which will give shipping facilities to the whole province. Regina is not a beautiful place said he, neither is Chicago. This city can however, be made attractive and the city council should devote all attention possible to park improvement.

Concluding the guest of the evening alluded to the superior class of settlers coming to the west and he thought we could depend on the next generation of those coming from European countries doing a great deal to develop our resources. With this hasty review of our conditions at present he could not refrain from prophesying that Saskatchewan will become the richest and most prosperous country on the face of the globe. Mayor Speaks Mayor Smith tendered to Mr. Haslam the appreciation of the citizens of Regina for his having built such a magnificent hotel. All honor, he said to the men who in the earlier days provided the city with the best accommodation they could for the travelling public. But acknowledgment of their efforts did not detract from the praise that should be given to the guest of the evening. The mayor went on to justify Mr. Haslam's confidence that the city will grow. Regina he remarked, was making greater progress in proportion to its size

than any city in the Dominion, and probably on the North American continent. Mr. Lighthill, of Westwood, the greatest municipal expert in Canada, when in this city a short time ago, after a trip through Saskatchewan and Alberta remarked to the speaker, "You have the premier city of western Canada." That tribute from such an authority, was good evidence of the high relative position of the city. But while Regina was advancing with rapidity along lines of civic improvement, private enterprises kept pace with its movement. He trusted the public would appreciate Mr. Haslam's splendid new hotel, and give it the patronage it deserved in days to come.

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Additional Locals M. B. Peart returned this morning from a trip east. Mr. and Mrs. W. D. McGregor are holidaying north of Moose Jaw. W. Jones of the Glasgow House grocery, is at present out at the lake on a shooting trip. The marriage takes place at 6-30 this evening of Miss G. MacRae, sister of Mrs. J. K. R. Williams to Dr. Peterson of Saskatoon. They will afterwards leave for western points to spend their honeymoon.

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FORWARD STEP IN THE INTERESTS OF Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives The National Sanitarium Association of Canada has undertaken to publish a monthly magazine devoted to the Outdoor Treatment of Tuberculosis, and the inculcation of Hygienic Methods of Living for the people generally. The first number was issued in November, 1906.

All profits from this magazine—from subscriptions and advertising—will go to the maintenance of patients at the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives. Any one contributing one dollar a year, or more, to the funds of the Hospital will become a subscriber to CANADIAN OUT-DOOR LIFE for one year.

An Orphan, without Home or Means Dr. A. E. HANNA, PERTH: I have a patient here, a young fellow in whom I am greatly interested. He has tuberculosis. He is a poor young fellow, an orphan, out of home, without any means. If we sent him up would you take him in and do the best you can for him? I know how difficult it is to accommodate all who require treatment, but this is a special case.

It is especially encouraging to have a letter from friends who kindly contribute. For the convenience of those who have no time to write, the following blank may be used: "DO IT NOW" Is a business motto of this strenuous age that applies with tremendous force when it is a good act you should do. "A child's kiss set on thy sighing lips shall make thee glad." "A sick man helped by thee shall make thee strong." "Thou shalt be served thyself in every sense of service which thou renderest."

"I WAS SPECIALLY PLEASSED WITH THE ATTENTION PAID TO CONDUCT THE INSTITUTION CAREFULLY AND ECONOMICALLY."—Dr. R. W. Bruce-Smith, Government Inspector Hospitals and Charities.

NO FATHER, NO MOTHER, NO HOME—Worse than a Prisoner GARFIELD BRACEY, BERLIN, Ont.: Enclosed please find doctor's certificate and examination papers. Hope you will secure me a place in your Sanatorium. You will notice that my circumstances is a hard one; no father, no mother, no home—worse than a prisoner. Nobody wants me on account of my disease. Hoping you will have the charity and consider my position, and give me a position at once in your Sanatorium, I ever pray.

WILLIAM had evidently been laying out his plans well in advance, and his statement that working in the shoe shop made his feet blister was only one of the several cogs in the wheel on which he rolled to freedom. I will mail you free, to prove merit, samples of my Dr. Shoop's Restorative, and my book on either Dyspepsia, The Heart, or The Kidneys. Troubles of the stomach, heart or kidneys, are merely symptoms of a deeper ailment. Don't make the common error of treating the symptoms only. Symptom-treatment is treating the result of your ailment, and not the cause. Weak stomach nerves, the heart, or the kidneys—stomach weakness, always. And the heart and kidneys as well, have their controlling or inside nerves. Weaken these nerves, and you inevitably have weak vital organs. Here is where Dr. Shoop's restorative has made his fame. No other remedy even claims to treat the inside nerves. Also for bloating, biliousness, bad breath or complexion, use Dr. Shoop's Restorative. Write me today for samples and free book. Dr. Shoop, Racine, Wis. The Restorative is sold by the Regina Pharmacy Stores.

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QUEBEC FALLS St. Lawrence and M Quebec, Aug. 29.—A bridge collapsed this morning the vast mass of a tangled wreck across the channel where, estimated eighty-four feet above the water, the bridge fell at three minutes to just as many of the preparing to leave. I so horribly effective in lives of the men employed and those who so completely benumbed of the situation little to aid the situation. It was the southern the bridge which collapsed rapidly nearing the immense steel arch span the river. For feet from the shore the structure feared an supports but the piers while the outward 180 feet above the water. Suddenly those on saw the end of the down and a moment of enormous fabric began. Slowly at first, then crash, which was pl Quebec, and which inhabitants rushed out thinking an earthquake.

At the time of the collapse estimated that there were men working on the bridge have so far been picked up immediately by boats. Of the other eight sixteen have been rescued and it is feared that a most of them, have been crushed or crushed by falling. The horror of the scene created by the fact the number of wounded the wreckage near the ground and shrieks heard by the anxious crowd waiting at the water's edge, so far can be described or relieve their slightest degree. Their lights available and light of lanterns it is even locate the sufferers the present nothing can relieve them of their fate. The awful completeness of the disaster seems to have sensitivities of every place. There is scarcely the village of St. Rom Liverpool which has no ed, while in some cases men of one family have Drying through the vi most every house come of lamentations of woe the men are gathered a bridges to the platform to rescue those others waiting around helping to dispose of the dead as they are found. The disaster has produced an ordinary effect in the regarded as a national calamity. A few minutes after heard here a telephone from Sillery that the half of the bridge had fallen. For a long time ed to believe that such possible, and crowds of the newspaper offices were the news which did over an hour.

The original report affirmed with the additional every man who time had been killed. That there were about men working, and the most intense anger gradually grew to a certainty that one of the that ever occurred in taken place. The number of dead is estimated at from sixty the few left of the working on the structure there were about ninety that it could be taken that in all probability dead will be about eight Cause a Mystery Nothing is known of the disaster. There were an untoward nature it could give the slightest during the past few of immense structure was condition. It was but some time that it is desirable that it could be ther it was caused by materials or by an error culation of the architect matter of conjecture. The one certain fact this afternoon there was one of the engineering world, with a small

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