

The Albertan

W. M. DAVIDSON,
Editor and Manager.

DEFEAT OF SOCIALISTS

Every person who desires the advance of freedom and the confusion of tyranny and militarism will regret the result of the elections in Germany where the Socialists met disaster last week.

The Socialists may be somewhat extreme, and it might not have been well had the Socialists attained their ambition and made the sweep they expected.

It must be remembered, however, that the German Socialists are composed of perhaps the ablest and most sincere men in any political party in the world today. In Germany Socialism is in better hands than it is in British Columbia for that it is in the hands of a member of the cabinet, and to be a member of that party it is not necessary to be a crank. It must be remembered also that the only reliance upon the Kaiser and his policy of tyranny and absolutism is the Socialist party, which has ever stood firm to its policy and its sane ideals.

The defeat of the Socialists in Germany means a decided check to the Liberal advancement of the people and the march towards freedom and a decided advance of the cause of absolutism and despotism.

THE PRICE OF POWER

The Albertan is informed by people who know that the cost of power developed by gas producers is \$15.50 developed by gas producers is \$15.50 per horse power. There is no question about that, and the Albertan is prepared to quote the figures more extensively.

The Albertan is informed by an independent authority that the cost of developing power by natural gas is \$19.00 per horse power. There is no question about it. If the city should dig its own wells, the price would be considerably less than that.

In both cases the outside figures are taken.

The Budd and Alexander proposition is to charge the city \$35 per horse power per year and to tie the city down to that figure for the next 25 years.

There is every prospect that we are within a few months at most from natural gas. It is certain that we are within a few months of knowing whether or not there is natural gas.

Two large institutions in this city, the Calgary Milling Co. and the Calgary Water Power Co. are installing the gas producing plant. The Calgary Milling Co. has the plant on the ground and will have it installed within the next few weeks.

Why not wait for a few weeks and see how this plant is going to work? We are losing nothing by it, for Calgary is paying very little for its power and light now.

Under these circumstances would any business man make an agreement for 25 years when by waiting a few months at least, and losing nothing by waiting, he could ascertain if it was not possible to get light and power for less than half what the company is offering?

Why should we hand over to Budd & Alexander, gentlemen who are not well known to Calgary who decline to tell us who they are and who are behind them, what we have done to Calgary citizens who have money and want to invest it?

Then again there is an auto bus line to be started in Calgary at once. That company is asking nothing from the city, and is about to furnish a great convenience. Would it not be fairer to these gentlemen to wait for a short time and see if these auto buses will not satisfy Calgary's demands for the next year or so?

CUT OUT THE RAILWAY PART

As this railway proposition seems to be an open one, and does not in any way affect the power scheme, the Albertan believes that the council should not hesitate about lopping that part of it off. Then we can discuss the power scheme upon its merits.

The railway scheme is no way associated with the other part of the scheme. It was dragged in as a sort of bonanza prize to induce the city to bite at the hook. The company does not ask it and the city does not want it. As a matter of fact it would seem that the company intends to see to it that that part of the scheme will not be considered.

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FRANCE AND ROME

It reports from Rome may be relied upon, the quarrel between the government and the vatican has entered on a new phase. The clerical policy of passive resistance is to be abandoned and the church will appeal to the French courts in order to test the legality of the government's action in taking possession of ecclesiastical property and in other respects. It is pointed out that several courts have already decided in cases of priests, who refused to make the declarations required by M.

Briand, under the law of 1881, that they were not guilty of any violation of the law as it stood, and all circulars of ministers could not change it without the approval of parliament. French lawyers are quoted as authority for the statement that there is no justification in existing laws for the French government to seize properties acquired by the bishops and other ecclesiastics, since the concordat went into operation without the consent of those who contributed thereto, or of their descendants or heirs. There are hundreds of bishops' palaces and palatial residences recently seized by the government which were given to bishops and priests, or to dioceses or parishes, by pious persons who wished them used in perpetuity by bishops and priests. No government, the pope has been informed, has the right to deflect such properties to other uses, unless it can be shown in a court of law that the wills of such persons were contrary to law. It is added that there is as yet no law in France, except ministerial circulars, which requires a declaration from a lay association in order that the buildings be used for the purposes they have been dedicated to for scores of years, and any court in France, the pope has been told, would uphold the contention. If this legal view be well taken, and it seems reasonable enough, the vatican has adopted the right course for asserting the property rights of the church. It will not be the pope or the vatican, however, that will appear in the courts, but the bishops and other ecclesiastics in whom the usufruct of the properties was vested. That these will be given a fair hearing cannot be doubted, for it is observed that the French magistrates are, as a rule, Roman Catholics, and while careful to perform the duties imposed upon them by their office, will not let the church suffer injustice. The removal of the dispute from the arena of politics into that of the courts of law will place the government on the defensive and have a calming effect on the public mind. It is to be remembered, however, that whatever the courts may decide as to the effect of the separation law in the matter, the will of the people as expressed through parliament is supreme and that, if the people wish it, the law can be reinforced even to the point of consecration. All Roman Catholic countries have at a certain stage in their progress taken possession of church property. It is only in Protestant countries, and those under Protestant rule, as for instance, the Philippines, where she sacred rights of the church are held sacred. If the Philippines had been left to the management of the Filipinos they would have made short work of the convents.

It may be only a coincidence, that when Mr. Hunter was in the midst of his sermon on Hell, the fire brigade was called out to the Methodist Church.

Insanity is increasing very rapidly in the state of New York, and the results of the recent election for governor show that half of the voters, at least, are sane.

Again the weather man jauntily announces that the temperature will be pretty stationary, and then as a little balm to our chillblains adds, or perhaps a slightly higher temperature. Perhaps.

Bob Green, the eccentric politician from British Columbia says that he declined to accept the shares that Sir. Aldophe Caron offered him, but he knew of a good handy man who would accept them.

Grace Church has decided that all appeals for financial aid shall be by the managers themselves, which will enable the stranger to believe that the salvation that the minister is preaching about is free.

Last week a man who was arrested for being drunk, claimed that he was trying to ward off the cold, and when Magistrate Smith fined him \$5 and costs he proceeded to get in a sweat about it.

The Calgary Eye Opener says that all the Calgary merchants are in favor of this Budd-Alexander proposition, but the statement of the Eye Opener would be very much stronger if these merchants had names.

It is reported that the new Shah of Persia will begin business by cutting off a few heads which seems to indicate that Persia has the latest line on civilized politics and that the spoils system is in full swing.

The idea seems to prevail that gas producers are something new and novel and in the experimental stage. That is a mistake. They are used in various parts of United States and in Great Britain, and very successfully.

EDITORIAL NOTES

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New York is still worrying over the question of who was really elected mayor in 1905, which leads a Calgarian to surmise that it will be a long, long time before any person has any reasonable doubt about who was elected mayor of Calgary in 1906.

Was it not the Calgary Eye Opener that first suggested auto buses for Calgary maintaining that they would be better than street railways? And that is not so long ago either, and we shall have the auto buses in active operation in a couple of months.

Prince Edward Island refers to its decrease in population since confederation, while Newfoundland increased rapidly during that time which is accounted for by the fact that Prince Edward Island is nearer to the Great Canadian West where a man has a chance.

It is no condemnation of Governor Swettenham that Britain is annoyed about his conduct. Had Swettenham risen up to save the island from the Yankee desperados, and the American government objected to his conduct, the British Government would have given that impetuous person the worst of it just the same. We know what kind of justice to expect when United States is against us.

The Medicine Hat News speaks quite hopefully of securing an unfair distribution of seats so that Medicine Hat may benefit and remind its readers that when Medicine Hat goes to Ottawa for anything it usually brings the goods back with it, which does not prove that Medicine Hat is always right, but does prove that Medicine Hat has a fine lot of lobbyists with plenty of hot air with which to hypnotize the Ottawa Government.

Editor Buchanan of the Lethbridge Herald says that in St. Thomas street railways do not pay, and he doubts whether they will pay in any ordinary city with a population of less than 20,000, but Calgary is no ordinary city and when anyone is logging in to the city, he will find it right here, unless he should wait for a couple of months when we shall have 25,000 and by the time that street cars could be put in we will have 30,000.

Public notice is hereby given that, under the provisions of the Railway Act 1903, Section 175, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company as Lessee and exercising the franchises of the Calgary and Edmonton Railway Company intend to apply to the Board of Railway Commissioners for Canada, after the expiration of four weeks from the first publication of this notice, or so soon thereafter as the application can be heard, for authority to construct, maintain and operate a branch line commencing at a point on the Calgary and Edmonton Railway as now constructed across the N. W. Quarter of Section 12, Township 24, Range 1 West of the 5th Meridian and lands adjoining the same; thence in a South Easterly direction a distance of 972 feet to a point on said Quarter Section, the location of which proposed branch line is shown on a map or plan and profile deposited in the Calgary Land Titles Office on the 26th day of December, A. D. 1906 as No. "Ry. 58", so soon thereafter as the application is heard pursuant to the provisions of said section.

Dated at Edmonton, Alberta, this 4th day of January, 1907.

FRID. GELINAS,
Secretary
Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, January 18, 1907.

TAKE NOTICE that an application will be made at the next sitting of the Legislature of the Province of Alberta, for an Act to incorporate a Railway Company under the name of the CALGARY & KNEE HILL RAILWAY COMPANY, with power to build a railway from a point within the corporate limits of the City of Calgary northerly through townships twenty-four and twenty-five, in range one West of the Fifth Meridian; thence northerly and easterly through townships twenty-six, twenty-seven and twenty-eight, in range twenty-eight, twenty-seven, twenty-six, twenty-five and twenty-four, in range one West of the Fourth Meridian on Kneehill Creek.

Dated at Edmonton, Alberta, this 4th day of January, 1907.

SHORT GROSS & BIGGAR
Advocates for Applicants.
7-14-21-23

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C. DRINKWATER
Secretary
49-16-23-30

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Shoe Bargains

Here are some tempting bargains in winter shoes. Every pair new stock.

Men's \$5 winter shoes \$3.35

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Three lots in block 73, section 15, \$11,000; easy terms.

Two lots in block 71, section 15, \$9,000; easy terms.

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