

OUR CHRISTMAS DAY

A Cloudless Sky and Spring Weather in Rossland.

HOW THE DAY WAS CELEBRATED

Every Body Had a Jolly Time—Special Church Service—Christmas Dinners at the City Hotels—No Skating or Sleighing This Year—Merchants all Did Good Business.

Although there was no sleighing, coasting or skating Monday in Rossland, every body made the best of it and had a jolly time. There was bright sunshine all day, and the weather generally was better fitted for the late spring than Christmas day. Quite a few people indulged in riding, but driving was not resorted to, except where necessary for business reasons. The rink was closed all day, the weather being far too mild to make ice. No coasting was attempted, as the snow was too soft and wet, nor was there any attraction at the opera house. With the exception of the saloons and liquor stores, all the city merchants closed up their places of business all day. On Saturday evening—which was actually Christmas eve—the city stores were thronged till midnight with busy purchasers, and the streets were crowded up to a late hour. All the merchants have done good business during the past week, but, of course, Saturday was the best day with them all.

At the Roman Catholic church Rev. Father Welch celebrated high mass at midnight and again at 8:30 and 10:30 in the morning, and at 7 in the evening benediction was held. There was a good attendance at both the services, and the church was decorated with evergreens for the festival.

At the Presbyterian and Baptist churches special Christmas services were held on Sunday, and there were no services held yesterday.

The Church of England, when seen yesterday, was very tastefully decorated, the chancel arch and reredos looking particularly well. The flowers on the altar standing growing in their pots made a very pretty effect. These were presented by Mrs. Outimette, while the energies of some of the choir are to be held responsible for the decorations in general. The services yesterday were at 8:30 and 11 a. m., and again at 7 p. m. They were fairly well attended, but the absence of the well known figure of Father Pat has undoubtedly made a difference. It was hoped that the reverend gentleman would put in an appearance at Christmas time, but the rector has disappointed his host of friends. However, the festivities of the season are not over, and the church children are looking forward to a gorgeous Christmas tree next Twelfth Night (old Christmas day), and perhaps Father Pat will be on the spot to preside over this coming juvenile function.

The Christmas services at the Methodist church were held on Sunday last. Both morning and evening every exercise of the service was commemorative of the advent of the Saviour. The congregations were large, the church being filled in the evening, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather. At the morning service the choir rendered as the anthem, "Blow Ye Golden Trumpets, Blow." The subject of the sermon was "Advent Portals." The text was taken from several passages, viz: Luke, 2:12: "You shall find the babe lying in a manger." Luke, 2:51: "Jesus went down with his parents and came to Nazareth and was subject unto them." Acts, 10:38: "Jesus of Nazareth who went about doing good," and Col., 1:27: "Christ in you." The main thought of the discourse was the "advent" of the Saviour, and those who love him, and 2. The reality of the presence of the Saviour in the commonplace and practicalities of our lives.

The arrangement of the evening service was different from the usual order of service, several additional exercises being introduced to render the central thought of the birth of Christ more prominent. The choir rendered the anthem throughout the service, namely "Angels From the Realms of Glory," (Danks), "Glory to God in the Highest," (Oliver), and "Peace on Earth," (Lewis). The subject of the sermon was "The Sunrising From on High." The text was taken from Luke 1:78: "The sunrising from on high hath visited us." The discourse was a forcible presentation of the power, the glory and the benefits of the incarnation of the Son of God.

The services throughout were of a most inspiring and helpful character, no small credit to this result being due the faithful and excellent services of the choir, under the efficient leadership of Mr. Geo. A. Coleman. The solo obligato (bass) by Mr. Arthur in the anthem, "Peace on Earth," was particularly well rendered.

The annual festival of the Methodist Sunday school was held in the church last evening. The interior of the building was elaborately decorated, with flags, bunting and evergreens, and at the head of the platform was a large picture of the Queen flanked by the Union Jack and Canadian flags. The building was crowded to the doors all evening, and the entertainment given was a great success in every way.

After the opening chorus by the children and the choir, Rev. Mr. Morden led in prayer, and then followed a lengthy program, including recitations by Nettie Shields, Stanley Jones, Alma Beverly, Eva Doell, Amy Logan, Willie Beverly, Gordon Rutherford, Leona Tracy, Carl Doell, Ada Morden, Myrtle Hartell, Arma Shingsby, Maudie McKay, Mildred McLean, Blanche Bissell and Percy Plewman. A solo by Flossie Adams, and several choruses by the church choir and the children.

Mr. D. D. Birks, the superintendent of the Sunday school, presented the following report for the year: Officers 15, average attendance, 12; Teachers 14, average attendance, 10; Pupils 107, average attendance, 101; Visitors, average attendance, 9. Average general attendance, 132. Verses for boys, 43; verses for girls, 52. The financial statement showed receipts cash on hand, \$30.48; collections, \$122.10; for missionary purposes, \$18.05; total, \$168.61. Expenditures for school supplies,

\$120.46 printing, \$11.53; sundry, \$24, leaving a cash balance on hand of \$23.

On each side of the platform were two very handsome Christmas trees laden with pretty gifts of all sorts. Santa Claus, in the person of Mr. R. C. Waterson, arrived on time rigged out in the full traditional costume, including the pack, and the distribution of the gifts was carried out, to the great enjoyment of the youngsters. Mr. Birks received a slightly embarrassing present, consisting of a live turkey done up in a sack. Rev. Mr. Morden and Mr. Geo. A. Coleman, the choir leader, were each presented with a purse, and Mr. Birks also received a handsome writing desk.

At Trail the Rev. Mr. Clarke has been making great headway with his new church. In the course of the past few months he has gathered quite a congregation around him, and has built a church which has vied not only successfully with its older sister at Rossland in the way of Christmas services and church decorations. A special feature of the church services in Trail was a Wednesday evening lecture on points connected with church history and church matters, which have proved extremely interesting. Mr. Clarke is to be sincerely congratulated on the success he has made in his first career.

A WILY FORGER IS IN THE TOILS

GREEN B. HITCHCOCK ACCUSED OF PASSING TWO BAD CHECKS.

One Was Palmed off on the Crescent and the Other on the Rossland Auction House.

Green B. Hitchcock is registered at the city prison with two charges of forgery booked against him. The first charge is based on a check which he made and uttered, in which the name of E. B. Kirby is forged. This check is for \$25, and was passed on George Thornburn, one of the clerks in the Crescent dry goods store. At 7 p. m. on Saturday evening Hitchcock purchased a coat for \$8 at the Crescent and tendered the forged check in payment therefor. He was given the change in cash. He is also charged with passing a check on Mr. H. Cherrington of the Rossland auction house at about 6:30 on Saturday evening. This check was for \$23 and is purported to have been made by J. B. Krantz. At the auction house he purchased about \$6 worth of merchandise and received the remainder of the \$25 in cash.

The fact that Hitchcock is under arrest is probably due to Mr. Cherrington. He became suspicious soon after the check was cashed, and left the store and hunted up Chief of Police Ingram. The check was drawn on the Merchants' Bank of Halifax, and the chief directed Mr. Cherrington to find Mr. John M. Smith, manager of the bank, and to inquire of him if the check was good. Mr. Smith, when seen by Mr. Cherrington, pronounced the check a forgery, and soon the chief and Mr. Cherrington were hunting around town for the forger. In their rounds they visited the Crescent, where they learned that another check had been passed, by the same man who had duped Mr. Cherrington. The quest was joined by Mr. Thornburn, but they failed to locate their quarry that night. On Sunday morning the search was resumed, and watches were put on the depots to see that a man answering Hitchcock's description did not leave town. At the Red Mountain depot nothing was seen of Hitchcock until the train was just about starting. Then Hitchcock came hurriedly up Washington street with a grip sack in his hand, evidently intending to board the train at that point. This it was that Chief of Police Ingram and Officer Bradshaw pounced upon him before he could board the train and placed him under arrest. He turned pale when told that he was in custody, but otherwise he faced the music like a veteran. The police think that he is an old hand at the business. Hitchcock came here on December 16th from Butte, registered at the Butte hotel as Samuel Tanfern. He claims to be an engineer by trade, and says he worked at his business in various places in the United States. He will appear before Mr. John Boulbee, the police magistrate, this morning for a preliminary examination.

THE DOMINION IS GROWING.

Mr. J. Rankin Thinks the Conservatives Will Win.

Mr. J. Rankin has returned from a visit to Toronto, and reports that the feeling in Toronto is that Mr. Hugh John Macdonald is the coming premier, provided his leadership in Manitoba and the Conservative party is successful. "There is no doubt," said Mr. Rankin, "about his party being successful in the forthcoming Dominion elections. One reason why they will be so is because of the reverence that is felt for the memory of Mr. Hugh John's illustrious father, Sir John Macdonald, and because of the general belief that he has many qualities in common with his sire. They consider him to have not only the qualities of a leader, but that he is a statesman of more than ordinary ability." "The Christmas trade in Toronto was immense, and were it not for the war in South Africa making money somewhat tight there would be a much larger business than there is in Kootenay mining stocks. The sentiment there is that a victory would result immediately in an increase in the stock transactions. The faith in the future of the mines here is on a fixed and enduring basis. A great many of the Eastern Canadian people have made money in investing in the mining shares of this section, and are only waiting for British successes in South Africa to again begin purchasing shares on a large scale.

"I had not visited Winnipeg since 1884, and I was surprised at the growth the place had made in the interim. When I was there before the population was about 20,000, and now it seems to me that it is almost 50,000. The main street has large and substantial buildings. Take the Bank of Commerce structure and the McIntyre block and they would be a credit to any city in the Dominion. There are many other buildings on this street to which the citizens point with pride. In the store of George D. Wood & Co. they must carry a stock of hardware that is worth \$300,000. While I was in the establishment I saw an order put up for Phoenix. In fact the entire Dominion is now going ahead faster than ever before in its history, and this Canada of ours is certain now of a great destiny."

ORE FROM GOLDBUG

It Will Run From \$140 to \$150 Per Ton.

STRIKE IN THE NORTH STAR

There is Said to be \$300,000 Worth of Ore in Sight in the New Find—The Borate Property is Improving With Each Foot of Work.

Mr. D. A. Holbrook of Greenwood, is in the city. Mrs. Holbrook and son have been in Spokane on a visit, and he is returning with her, and they will leave for Greenwood today. He reports that the carload of ore which was shipped from the Gold Bug, one of the properties of the Boundary Creek Mining & Milling company, has arrived at the Trail smelter. It is expected that the ore in this shipment will run \$140 to \$150 per ton. This will be richer than the last shipment, which went \$111 to the ton. Mr. Holbrook reports that the mining properties about Chesaw are turning out well, and that it promises to be a place of considerable importance. Mr. George B. Meacham is purchasing claims there as fast as he can, and has acquired 22, and is still buying. He has bonded the Poland China group for \$30,000. Mr. Meacham represents a Montreal syndicate. The Poland China group consists of five claims three miles northwest of Chesaw, and the properties are considered valuable. Sufficient development work has been done upon them to demonstrate their value.

THE NORTH STAR STRIKE.

From advices received from Cranbrook, it is evident that the strike in the North Star recently made, is a most important one. It was made at a point 150 feet down the hill from the old workings. There is 26 feet of ore in the vein, and the vein has been opened up by two shafts sunk at a distance of 40 feet apart, and there is already said to be \$300,000 worth of ore in sight, and there is no telling what the extent of the deposit is. Mr. J. L. Parker, the superintendent of the North Star, is being congratulated upon all sides for making the find. Some say that it is the most important strike that has been made in East Kootenay for the past several years.

Growing Richer Daily.

A letter was received Tuesday from Geo. H. Colwell, foreman of the force of men now at work on the Borate Bank & Id Mining company's property on Morning mountain, near Nelson, B. C. He says the ore is of much higher grade than it was at the time of the superintendent's last visit, about two weeks ago. "We got gray copper in the shaft yesterday, and that is of a much better grade than when you were here last. I think there will be a decided change for the better in the next five feet. It indicates it. She is all right. The boys are all well pleased with the ore."

The Rathmullen.

Mr. L. H. Moffatt, secretary of the Rathmullen company, returned on Sunday from a visit to the mine. He was accompanied by Mr. Frank D. Howe, a well known mining engineer of Spokane. Mr. Howe made a careful examination of the workings on the Maple Leaf claim, which is the most developed of the group, and expressed himself much pleased with the appearance of the property. He counted the large quantity of ore stringers in the drift at the 200-foot level indicates that the main ore body will be met with by a little additional drifting along that level. He strongly recommends that while continuing to work on the 200-foot drift, work be also done by drifting at 66 feet level, which was cut by drifting at 66 feet level. Six feet of the ledge is pay foot, which averages \$30 to \$40 to the ton, ore, which average is made to the surface, and that a winze be carried down on the ore. The work will all be in shipping ore, and will develop reserves of the same. Mr. Howe concludes his report by saying: "The ore exposures of the mine, surface and underground, warrant the belief that with a little development the property can be made a paying concern and I hope you will appreciate the value of the property enough to simply follow the ore. I find the equipment and conduct of the mine to be very much above the average, and I believe you have one of the best properties in that section."

Work on the Mountain View.

John Dorsey, manager of the Mountain View Copper company, recently organized and operating the Mountain View mineral claim, which adjoins the famous B. C. Summit camp, was in the city yesterday, and left a fine looking sample of the rock from the property. He said that the company had placed 20,000 shares on the market at 10 cents per share, and it had all been spoken for inside of three days. There are now 10 men working on the property, and others will be put on as soon as there are openings for them. The working of sinking and drifting is being proceeded with. They have now got down about 40 feet and have drifted about 20 feet. Several open cuts have also been made to determine the trend of the vein. It is the intention of the company to place the plant now lying at the railway tunnel, on the property as soon as the tunnel has been completed.

Mr. Dorsey said that the track of the Eholt branch of the C. & W. had been laid as far as Hartford Junction, where the spur runs off for Phoenix and to the Golden Crown and Winnipeg. The track

will be continued to Phoenix first. Owing to the depth of the snow on the roadbed, which has to be shovelled off, the work is proceeding slowly.

FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

Messrs. Squires and Hughes Start for Headquarters at Calgary.

Messrs. Joseph Squires and Thomas Hughes, the acceptance of whose services in the second Canadian contingent for South Africa by Commissioner Herchmer was duly stated in Sunday's paper, left Rossland for Calgary last evening on the 5:00 C. P. R. train. Their departure was so hurried there was no time to turn out the Rossland Rifle company in uniform, but a large number of the men assembled at the station, together with a goodly crowd of citizens to see the departing volunteers off in good style. There was a great deal of hand-shaking and expressions of good wishes and a safe return for the travelers, and amid the hearty cheers of the crowd the train pulled out, taking two more of our citizens off to the scene of war.

Messrs. Squires and Hughes will report to Commissioner Herchmer at Calgary, and with the rest of the men gathered there will proceed direct to Halifax, from which point the whole of the second Canadian contingent will shortly sail for South Africa.

MAYOR GOODEVE IN THE FIELD

A LARGELY SIGNED REQUISITION PRESENTED TO HIM.

He Yields to the Request of Representative Citizens, and Will Again Stand For the Mayoralty.

The following requisition has been presented to Mayor Goodeve, asking him to allow his name once more to be put in nomination for the office of mayor of this city. Mr. Goodeve has consented, in view of the representative character of the requisition: Rossland, B. C., December 12th, 1890. To A. S. Goodeve, Esq., Mayor, Rossland: Dear Sir: We, the undersigned ratepayers of the City of Rossland respectfully approach you with the request that you will offer yourself as a candidate for the Mayoralty of our city for the year 1901.

We are sure we but re-echo the sentiment of the majority of the citizens of Rossland when we say that your conduct in office has been such as to secure to you the good will and confidence of all interested in the welfare of our city.

The experience gained by you during your tenure of office will be of incalculable benefit in carrying to completion many of the matters discussed and commenced by the Council of 1890, and we feel that it would be a serious loss to the community were you to decline to hold office for another year.

In conclusion we tender you our united support, and pledge you that we will do all in our power to secure your election should you be opposed, a contingency we think doubtful.

We remain, Mr. Mayor, Yours respectfully,

- John McKane, Ross Thompson, Alex. Dick, T. Mayne Daly, Hector McRae, J. Fred Ritchie, F. W. Rolt, G. M. King, R. M. Grogan, Edw. Bowes, R. Dalby Morkill, Jr., Chas. R. Hamilton, A. Marsh, G. R. Killan, J. S. C. Fraser, W. H. Whinside, Daniel Dickinson, W. H. Falding, W. T. Oliver, J. B. Elwood, Chas. E. Benn, E. Duthie, W. de V. LeMaistre, Jack Astley, John M. Smith, A. C. Race, Frank A. Hewer, A. B. Mackenzie, D. J. Kennedy, Fred J. Perrine, Geo. E. Townshead, Jno. S. Clute, Jr., A. Klockmann, Rich'd. Plewman, C. S. Wallis, W. J. Reddin, Ernest Kennedy, J. H. Moffatt, J. A. McPherson, Pat Cunningham, P. J. Walker, H. M. Rumball, W. H. Jones, Kenneth L. Burnet, C. F. Jackson, John Dean, Edwin Durant, A. W. Kenning, H. C. Campbell, Jr., G. W. Richardson, Chas. Howson, Geo. Herring, F. E. Empey, W. J. Lascelles, W. B. Husband, D. W. Morgan, G. W. McBride, M. Howard Jones, J. C. Gordon, George Purgold, Hunter Bros., Wm. M. Dunn, Claude A. Cregan, J. Ryan, M. J. O'Hearn, John Boulbee, The Reddin-Jackson Co., Ltd. Lby., F. J. Walker, Pres., H. P. Alan Montgomery.

The Mayor's Reply. Rossland, B. C., December 26th, 1890.

To Hon. T. Mayne Daly, Dr. Bowes, F. J. Walker, G. W. McBride, Ross Thompson, J. F. McCrear, R. Dalby Morkill, John Dean, John S. Clute, Jr., A. Klockmann, Hunter Bros., Patrick Cunningham, F. W. Rolt, J. Astley and others: Gentlemen:—I certainly feel much flattered and encouraged by the very influential signed requisition which you have presented to me.

If I was to consult my private wishes I would decline the honor, but in view of the fact that the requisition is signed by men representing so many varied and valued interests, I have considered it my duty to yield to your desire. I can only say that if elected I will endeavor at all times to conscientiously fill the duties of the office, as I feel I have done in the past.

In conclusion I thank all my friends for their evidence of confidence, and I hope sincerely that they will one and all give their active support and assistance during the contest.

I am yours respectfully, A. S. GOODEVE.

Would Make Fine Scouts.

Bob MacCann and California Thompson are anxious to go to the war for the purpose of doing scout duty. They say that they can raise a company of 25 prospect

ors who are used to mountain work and are adepts with the rifle. Each man will furnish his own horse, and these animals are sure-footed and used to rough work in the mountains. If the government will accept the offer they will immediately start in and gather their company of rough riders and sure snouts together, and think that they could render a good account of themselves in the South African campaign.

Advertising Pays.

The following letter, received at this office from Mr. MacDonald of the Bon Ton Confectionery store on East Columbia avenue, speaks well for the extended circulation of The Miner:

Editor Miner—Sir: We desire to express to The Miner our satisfaction at the business results attained in this city through persistently advertising in your columns. In addition to the city business which we have rapidly built up, we have recently been receiving orders from all over the Kootenay and Yale districts for our goods, and in every instance either a clipping from The Miner or a reference to your paper has accompanied the orders. This has more than satisfied us that we have received very good value indeed for the money we have invested in advertising with you. We wish you the compliments of the season and a very prosperous new year. M. McK. MACDONALD, The Bon Ton Confectionery Store, Rossland, December 26, 1890.

THE SURVEY IS NOW COMPLETED

THE GRADE IS EASY FROM HERE TO THE VELVET MINE.

It is a Little Over One Per Cent to the Summit of the Mountain, and Two Per Cent From There On.

The party of Canadian Pacific surveyors under Mr. G. G. McCarthy, which has for the past two months been surveying a line for a railway between this city and the Velvet mine, on the west slope of Sophie mountain, has just completed its labors, and Tuesday was engaged in moving its camp equipage preparatory to taking it to Robson. There are 14 members in the party, and they report that the work has not been of the pleasantest character, floundering around in the snow and running lines through the brush and timber on the sides of the mountains. The line as surveyed is 15 miles in length. The grade from Rossland to the top of Sophie mountain is a little over one per cent. From there down the west slope of Sophie mountain the grade is two per cent. There will be five legs of a switchback on the west side of Sophie mountain to reach the Velvet. The survey starts at the War Eagle switch, and continues west and north along the side of Red mountain, a longest bridge on the road will be between Red and Spokane mountains. Then it runs along the sides of Spokane and O. K. mountain. The latter mountain is really a portion of Spokane mountain. From O. K. mountain it crosses to the side of Record mountain, and thence along that mountain to the summit of Sophie mountain, and thence by switchbacks to the Velvet mine. It will not be a difficult or costly road to build. There are only a few bridges to construct, and these will be small. There is considerable sidehill grading but the rock work will not amount to a great deal. The distance to the top of Sophie mountain is 12 miles, and from the summit to the Velvet it is three miles. It is understood that but little remains to be done now but to construct the road. The field notes taken will have to be extended and then a contract could be let. President T. G. Shaugnessy stated when he was here that the intention was to construct the line, provided a practical route could be found. Now that this has been done the probabilities are that in the near future the contract for the construction of the Rossland-Sophie mountain line will have been let.

FROM THE RECORDS.

Certificates of Improvements.

- To the English-Canadian company, limited, on the Philadelphia. To same on the London Belle. To same on the Sidney. To same on the Early Morn. To same on the Mountain Lion. To same on the Monterey. To same on the A. B. C. To same on the Roman Eagle. To same on the Jennie. To same on the Edna. To same on the May Flower Fraction. To same on the S. C. Fraction. To same on the Gopher Fraction. To same on the Homestake Fraction. To same on the Vancouver. To same on the Bobolink. To same on the Mountain Lion Fraction. Certificates of Work. To the Philadelphia Mining company on the Mountain Trail. To same on the Mountain Trail Fraction. To same on the Alleghany. To same on the Hadley Hall. To same on the Hatfield. To same on the Lone Star. To Thomas H. Tracey, on the Joanna. To Allan G. White on the Princess. To same on the Duke. Bills of Sale. Ben Fimmel to Patrick G. Marshall, the Marshall Fraction on Sophie mountain for \$1. A. L. Anderson to Madeline Layton, a 50th interest in the Ella Fraction on Deer Park mountain, for \$1. H. L. Burnet to James E. Poupore, the Defiance No. 1 Fraction, adjoining the Spizee claim, within the city limits of Rossland, for \$1. Charles Haller to John Knaff, a 18th interest in the Iron Chief, Cumberland, Teller and Cashier claims, situated about 10 miles from Rossland, for \$1. Notice. By Joseph B. Dabney and R. C. Macdonald, Ovide Poulin and George Moore, have conveyed to him a 3-5th interest in the Lone Star and Sibley claims on Sophie mountain, in consideration of payment to each of the parties named of a one-fourth interest of the whole amount for which said interests are sold.

HE IS AN OLD MAN ELOQUENT

WHAT MR. A. W. ROSS HAS TO SAY OF SIR CHARLES TUPPER.

One of the Last of the Fathers of Confederation and a Most Progressive Canadian Statesman.

Columbia, B. C., Dec. 22.—[Special.]—Mr. A. W. Ross of Columbia was seen last night by a Miner reporter, and gave the following interview. Mr. Ross meets Sir Charles Tupper out at Robson on Monday morning and accompanies him to Columbia, where a reception will be held in the afternoon after the arrival of the train, and the people of Grand Forks will give him a banquet in the evening.

On Tuesday Sir Charles goes to Greenwood, where he will address a public meeting, and on Wednesday he will return to Columbia and Grand Forks, where a joint public meeting will be held in the evening, after which he proceeds easterly.

Mr. Ross said: "Sir Charles is a wonder, now in his 80th year, stamping Manitoba, with its severe climate, and in many cases the accommodations were not of a superior character; and not content with that, he is now traveling through British Columbia holding meetings to give the people an idea of the policy of his party. Age cannot wither him nor custom stale.

"The late Mr. Gladstone might surpass Sir Charles at his age in falling trees, but could not compare with him in traveling long distances, and in holding meetings under trying physical circumstances. "When I was elected in 1882 to the house of commons, there were still living a number of the 'Fathers of Confederation,' but now Sir Charles is one of the few left, and by all odds the ablest and most vigorous. In my experience in the house, I considered the late Sir John A. Macdonald, John Henry Pope and Sir Charles Tupper the three ablest men in Canada, and at the same time the most progressive.

"The building of the C. P. R. and the western development in Canada are due to these men. In the conception of the best plan to be adopted for the speedy completion of the C. P. R., more is due to Sir Charles, but in carrying the house, and in satisfying the country that the best methods were chosen, the principal credit is due to Sir John. Sir Charles always showed himself a Canadian in the broadest sense, and not a parochial politician, as are and were so many of our leading men.

"The country west of Lake Superior never had a truer and more consistent and hopeful friend, even in its darkest days, than Sir Charles. "When Mr. Blake and even the Globe predicted that the C. P. R. would never be built across the Selkirk, would never pay grades for the axle of the car wheels in the district of Regina, and that the road would finally be abandoned and thrown back on the country to operate, Sir Charles, with that divine optimism which has ever marked his public utterances, made hopeful predictions of the future of Western Canada, and his predictions, one by one, are being realized. I know that Western Canada owes him much, and today he is by all odds the ablest man in the party.

"At the death of Sir John A. Macdonald, the mantle of the chief should have fallen upon Sir Charles, as the natural leader of the great historical party, but owing to personal exigencies, an 'old man's man' in the person of Sir John Abbott was chosen, and just previous to his death Sir John Thompson was selected, a man of great forensic ability, but he was a political coward, too narrow for a statesman and leader of a progressive party, and was not a Canadian in his broadest sense, as he had not expanded sufficiently to take in a bird's-eye view of the Dominion. "The next leader, Sir McKenzie Bowell, had not the confidence of the various leaders of his own party, and the inevitable result followed, the Conservative party went to seed.

"After Sir John A. Macdonald's death, the so-called leaders of the Conservative party masqueraded in Sir John's clothes, trading on his fame and his achievements, and pretending that they were the inheritors of a policy by which he won the title to be called 'the greatest statesman of Canada'; but they did nothing but intrigue against each other, and were merely 'marking time' as far as a policy for the country was concerned. The country was sick of family rows and inanity among the members of the cabinet, were rancorous jealousy and miserable pettiness reigned supreme, and where a great policy for the country was hardly ever thought of.

"The ship of state in Sir McKenzie Bowell's time started with doling egotism in the captain's cabin, double dealing and office seeking on the quarter-deck, and the ship was foundered. At its very best, the policy of successive Conservative governments was merely a 'squeeze' of the policy of Sir John.

"Sir Charles, Hugh John and George E. Foster are now vivifying and reorganizing the Conservative party, and the signs are hopeful. "Hon. Mr. Sifton is studying the political heavens, and fails to see even a bow in the clouds. The policy of the Liberal party has undergone a strange metamorphosis since it came into power, and the heterogeneous leadership under which the party moves and oscillates is beginning to tell. Sir Wilfrid has found it much easier to lead an opposition than to successfully form and hold a compact ministerial party.

"Sir Charles is accused of egotism. That may be so, but his egotism is rigid and invincible, and whatever policy he announces it is his own.

"After all, what this new country requires is masterfulness in the cabinet council, a strong forward progressive policy of development, and if Sir Charles is successful in carrying the country's actions will undoubtedly be in this direction. The great fault he is in this direction lies in the region west of Lake Superior, and Sir Charles is fully cognizant of this fact."