

The Canadian Courier

A National Weekly

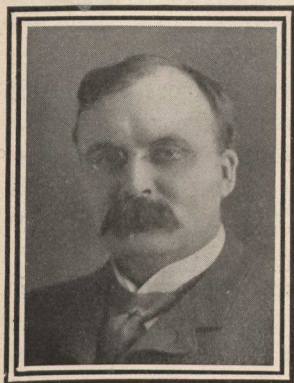
Subscription: \$4.00 a Year.

Vol. IV.

Toronto, September 26th, 1908.

No. 17

IN THE PUBLIC VIEW



Hon. W. J. Hanna,
Prov. Secretary of Ontario

MR. R. L. BORDEN'S impressive meeting at Halifax on September 15th introduced to an audience of Eastern Canadians the Hon. W. J. Hanna, Provincial Secretary of Ontario, whose speech on that occasion was a remarkably logical and effective deliverance. Those who are wondering what the Ontario Minister means, by going so far from home in Federal interests, show that they do not yet realise the fighting quality of this Sarnia lawyer, who was a new member in the Ontario Opposition assembled in March, 1903, and a Cabinet Minister in the Ontario Government in February, 1905. Mr. Hanna, though a Canadian by birth, has the blood of Ulster in his veins and warms to the political fray. He was recognised, from his

first speech during the most strenuous debate to which the Ontario Legislative Assembly has listened, as a foeman worthy of any antagonist's steel. He was never happier than when camping on the trail of Mr. James Connely, and must have regretted that gentleman's departure for the House of Commons. Mr. Hanna is not looking for Ottawa favours—he is simply tasting the former joys of Opposition strife. A spell of "being agin the government" will refresh his energy. His administrative ability, as shown during the last four years of office, is generally conceded, but only those who have heard the member for West Lambton in brisk debate know how keen is his forensic skill, how swift is his glance for the weak point in the opponent's armour. Sarcasm is a weapon which he uses sparingly but with genuine Irish aptness, as was shown last week when he described the reform from "within" of the Dominion Government.

However, the Provincial Secretary of Ontario is by no means always spoiling for a fight. No member of the Ontario Government works harder, but no member of the House has a readier appreciation of a jest—even though it come from the opposite side of the House. Essentially democratic, he has a gift for making and keeping friends, which has been a great factor in winning for his party a constituency which had always been marked as Liberal. This is an age when effective speaking is rare, as "consuming commercialism" is not favourable to its development. Before the close of the campaign of 1908, the Ontario Minister from Sarnia will be recognised as a man whose hard thinking and fluent talking will eventually bring him more than provincial honours.

TWO city clerks have become conspicuous during the past few months. Last spring the city clerk of Victoria composed the words of a new national hymn which was recommended to be sung at the Tercentenary celebration. But the city clerk of Quebec

had already stolen a march on his contemporary up the steep slopes of Parnassus by having been the real originator of the Tercentenary scheme. Honore Julien Jean Baptiste Chouinard was the man who in a letter to the *Quebec Telegraph* first mooted the brilliant idea. He also took a leading part in the details of the celebration and was created a C.M.G., being invested with that title by the Prince of Wales. Mr. Chouinard is a true Quebecker; born, educated and established in the Ancient Capital as a lawyer; has been president of several learned and political societies; lecturer and alderman and member of Parliament—sitting as member for Dorchester in 1887; City Clerk of Quebec since 1889 and at present

laureate of that distinguished body, the Royal Society of Canada.

* * *

HOBSON'S choice has fallen to the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. The new president of that body is Mr. Robert Hobson, general manager of the Hamilton Iron and Steel Company. Mr. Hobson is the son of a man who in Canada is as well known as his namesake in the United States—and to much better purpose; Mr. Joseph Hobson, for forty years the eminent engineer of the Grand Trunk Railway; since 1896 chief engineer of the company—famous as the man in charge of construction of the St. Clair tunnel and the enlargement of Victoria Bridge at Montreal. The president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association is not less energetic than his father, whose footsteps he followed in railway work up till February, 1896, when the Hamilton Blast Furnace Co., first producers of pig-iron in Ontario, got hold of Mr. Hobson as secretary-treasurer. In 1899 his company, along with the Ontario Rolling Mills Company, was merged in the Hamilton Iron and Steel Company, of which in May, 1904, Mr. Hobson became general manager—succeeding Mr. C. S. Wilcox. Mr. Hobson is also vice-president of the Caledon Mountain Trout Club, an organisation of choice spirits from Hamilton and Brantford who have some of the best times in the world when they get out after the trout; a club in which Mr. Hobson's predecessor in the presidency of the C. M. A., Mr. Frank Cockshutt, was also a moving spirit.

* * *

PRESIDENT of the American Veterinary Medical Association is a Canadian—Dr. J. G. Rutherford, who recently was elected to the greatest office of its kind in the world. Dr. Rutherford is veterinary director-general of Canada, which is proof that he knows more about horses than any other man in Canada. The horse as an economic figure in Canada is more important than ever it was. The future prosperity of agricultural Canada depends more upon the horse than upon all the oxen and steam ploughs and gasoline engines in the world. Dr. Rutherford has been a good many years identified with the interests of the Canadian horse, and he is the first Canadian to be elected to the presidency of the A. V. M. A. He has been seven years in the veterinary medical service of the Dominion and two years director-general. He has done a great deal for the inspection and quarantine of diseased animals. If under his direction something could be done to provide that in town and cities where horses are worn out hundreds in a day, a horse should be mercifully retired to the bone-yard when he becomes too feeble to travel, it would be a great deal in the interests of humane treatment of the animal to which Canada owes a large debt of consideration.

* * *

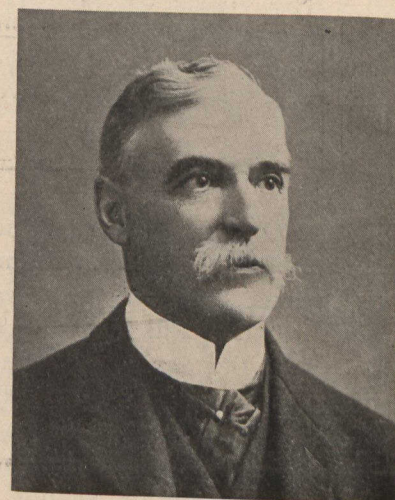
THE appointment of Prof. S. J. McLean to one of the vacancies on the Railway Commission follows logically after that of Professor Shortt to the chairmanship of the Civil Service Board. Professor McLean is a keen student as well as teacher of political economy—a branch of thinking for which the former Railway Commission was by no means celebrated. Judge Mabey is the able chairman, while Dr. James Mills, his lieutenant, is an exceptionally able college man.



H. H. Reshad Effendi,
Heir to the Throne of Turkey



H. J. B. Chouinard, Esq., C.M.G.,
City Clerk of Quebec



Mr. Robert Hobson,
New President Manufacturers Association.