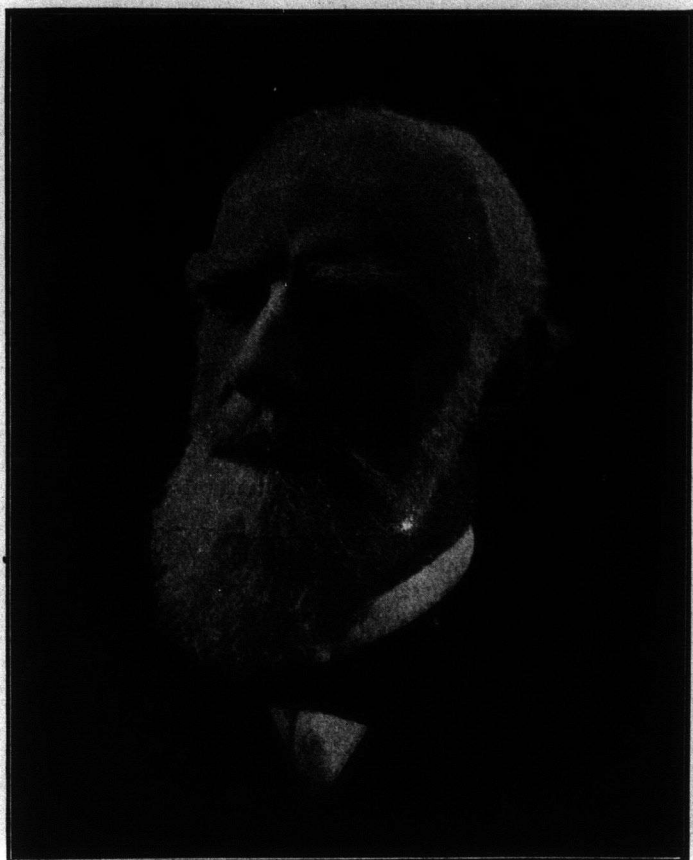


Lord Strathcona's New Year Greeting

To the Canadian West

Expressly written for The Western Home Monthly



LORD STRATHCONA.

1910. Crops were not quite as large as expected, owing to unfavorable weather conditions in certain parts of the country—conditions that were glorious in themselves, a maximum of sunshine and a minimum of rain, but not exactly the conditions that are required to make the prairies beautiful and abundantly fruitful. I am aware, of course, that this state of things was not entirely general, and that some particular sections, were especially favoured with good crops. Still the aggregate out-put is not quite as large as was expected, having regard to the additional area of land placed under cultivation, although on the whole it will probably be regarded as highly satisfactory. In other respects it appears to me that Western Canada is flourishing. Trade has been good; immigration has increased; capital is being attracted; railway construction has gone on apace, and the hopeful and optimistic feelings of the people have been in no way diminished. Let us hope that we can look forward to the year 1911 as one that will be prosperous in every way. Under ordinary circumstances there is every reason to expect that this will be the case, that the farmers will reap the benefit of the additional land they are tilling, and that every branch of industry will enjoy the utmost prosperity. These remarks apply not only to Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, but to the important Province of British Columbia, which is so full of resources, although in many cases of a different kind to those that are found on the prairies.

If I had any special message to deliver it would be to impress upon Canadians what I feel they very fully recognise, the importance of patriotism, not only to their own Provinces but to the great Dominion and to the still greater Empire of which it forms a part. Local jealousies should be avoided; there should be "give and take" between the different Provinces and it seems to me to be the duty of every citizen to look upon himself as a member of the Dominion as a whole. None of us can afford to study solely our own particular or local position in any special connection when questions that concern the whole of the community are at stake.

The various people which have gone to Western Canada are helping to build up a great country. I believe that they will thoroughly assimilate under the Flag which protects them and that they and their children will zealously safeguard with their fellow-Canadians the heritage which will belong to them as British Subjects; and further that Canadians will continue to do all that within them lies to maintain the integrity of the Empire and to hand it down to succeeding generations unimpaired and strengthened in every possible way.

Personally I am not without hope that I may again be privileged to visit the Great West. When there somewhat over a year back, its progress amazed me. Should I once more be permitted to spend some little time there, I know I shall witness still more important developments in every part of the country, in whose future, from my long association with it (since the earliest days of its being opened up and before) I feel the greatest possible interest, and have unbounded confidence.

STRATHCONA.

LONDON,
3rd DECEMBER 1910.

The Hon.

Sends a Sentiment

WILLIAM J. BRYAN
HONORARY MEMBER
RICHARD L. MEYER
ASSOCIATE MEMBER

My dear
was over
me of wa
a sentiment which you
can use next year - it will
be sure to reach you in time
Christmas - the season when
our appreciation of God's great
gift to the world inspires
us to give: may the day grow
until it swallows up
the entire year. Yours truly
W. J. Bryan

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