

The West

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 1910.

HAIL INSURANCE

The Grain Growers' Association and the convention of Local Improvement Districts have both declared in favor of a system of government hail insurance. These are the two great bodies that represent the sentiment of our agricultural population and if the government wishes to legislate to suit the sentiments of the farmers they cannot hesitate to re-establish the government hail insurance.

This system of insurance was established under the old Territorial government, of which Mr. Haultain was premier and was very popular with the farmers, and especially those from the United States. The system of inspection needed amending as its weakness led to abuse and a deficit was the result. Instead of the Scott government attempting to act and institute a system of inspection that would prevent irregularities, they abolished the insurance to make way for party favorites, who were waiting to secure the field for the operation of private companies. Thus this way our first move in the direction of government ownership was abolished and it does not preface a successful future for government ownership of elevators under a government, whose hostility has been shown towards the principle.

MR. BORDEN AND QUEBEC

It is hard to believe that Quebec is greatly concerned about the position of Mr. Monk in the Conservative party. A leader who fails so completely to maintain the fortunes of his party in his own Province is not likely to arouse exceptional enthusiasm for his personality. For fourteen years, Mr. Monk has absolutely failed to gain ground in Quebec. The Conservative representation from that Province is no stronger in the Commons today than it was when Sir Wilfrid Laurier took office. Surely a leader who does no more than this is hardly in a position to dictate to his party either on questions of policy or questions of leadership.

If Mr. Monk had proved to the Conservative party that he could cope with Sir Wilfrid Laurier amongst his own people, and bring strength to the party at Ottawa, he would have a right to speak with authority. Having failed utterly to do this, and having failed also to add to the strength of his party in the other provinces, Quebec Conservatives may well question whether it is Mr. Monk or Mr. Borden who should be disciplined. If Mr. Borden should resign the leadership of the Conservative party, who is to be his successor? Who is there in the party better fitted for leadership than Mr. Borden? Who in the House of Commons except, perhaps, the Prime Minister? Moreover, a leader grows slowly into the confidence of a country like this, and Mr. Borden's successor would require to serve a long apprenticeship before he could know the country as well as Mr. Borden knows it, and be known by the country as well as Mr. Borden now is.

There are only a few Sir John Macdonalds. Certainly not one is in sight at the moment. Under the leadership of any such successor to Mr. Borden as seems available, the party probably would doom itself to eight or ten years more of Opposition. Besides it is not conceivable that a few men in any one Province can dictate the policy of a national party. If once the notion should sink into the public mind that the party which harbored the "nest of

traitors," however unjust may be the significance which attaches to that term, had also tolerated an intrigue to depose another leader, the results could hardly fail to be very serious. All Opposition leaders must expect to undergo criticism. In this country we attach so much importance to office-bearing that an Opposition is apt to be querulous and bad-tempered. The Liberal party passed through many such periods of depression, between 1878 and 1896. During the last fourteen years the Conservative party has had similar experiences. There was a time when the whole managing element of the Liberal party declared that success was impossible under Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Sir James Whitney was denounced within his own party as feeble and incompetent down to the very day that he took office. Mr. Borden, too, must expect to meet criticism from many persons who will acclaim him as a prince of statesmen when he becomes Prime Minister. In this country we dearly love success and office, and we have very little regard for the men who fail, however splendid the battle they fight or however noble the work they do.

EDITORIAL NOTES

If the government has plenty of money another election will be the result. Last election made the treasury bankrupt.

While the government can borrow, there is nothing to prevent them having money.

Has anyone heard of Attorney-General Turgeon taking steps to punish the road gang grafters? Mr. Turgeon is attorney-general for the Grit party, not for the province.

Champagne, Neely, Davis and McNutt are opposing J.T. Brown's appointment to the Bench. This is a strong recommendation for Brown.

H. E. Perry, the Federal organizer for this province, is working for the Manitoba Liberals. Perry may have a chance to be mixed up in another "North Pole" scandal.

To be recommended by Champagne, Davis, Neely and McNutt for a judgeship must be pleasing to an aspiring lawyer.

The Conservative convention at Ottawa may be postponed a month in order to give opportunity for a greater number to attend. Any attempt to postpone it for a year will be bitterly opposed by the party west of the Great Lakes.

PRESS COMMENT

(Montreal Star) That problem of what to do with the ex-presidents of the United States was almost solved by a publisher recently when he planned to buy one of the great New York newspapers and make Theodore Roosevelt editor of it, at the conclusion of his triumphant tour of Europe and with the laurels of his African hunting trip still fresh upon him. Two objections presented themselves, the owners of the newspaper in view declined to part with it even for such a patriotic purpose, and Mr. Roosevelt has not yet signified his willingness to subdue his rather erratic genius to the requirements imposed on the editor of a daily paper by both the convention and the laws of a country. As President of the United States, for example, Mr. Roosevelt called "meat" with "whiskies" and "liquors" and "strong" with "freedom and impunity," as editor of a newspaper, even a New York newspaper, such a course of action would be regarded not only as undignified but as unnecessarily expensive, yet a habit as deeply ingrained as the liberal and spontaneous use of epithets in Mr. Roosevelt can not be eradicated without great difficulty.

After all, what has there been in Theodore Roosevelt's career to make it necessary for the citizens of the United States to feel that they must "find him a job"? So far he has never lacked opportunity to put his great abilities to good use, or, if opportunity was lacking, he has found no difficulty in making one. He is in the prime of his life, fully than ever of energy and probably loaded to the muzzle with ideas and policies evolved during the interludes of the past year between shooting lions and chasing elephants. In two years more there will be another presidential campaign and if Mr. Roosevelt feels that President Taft has been "sunnier in mode" rather than "fortiter in re," there is no force known to American politics which can prevent him making a bid for the presidency.

(Tribune) Under the heading "Private Interests in the House of Commons," the Sifton

organ in this city publishes the following editorial article this morning: The twenty-four hour sitting at Ottawa last week in the interest of the passage of a private measure, the bill of the St. Lawrence Power Transmission Company has occasioned a good deal of comment of a character which should be seriously considered by those who are responsible for the proceedings in the house of commons. A sitting of this duration is a very serious matter, indeed, only to be resorted to in cases of grave emergency. We have no difficulty in recalling an occasion "not many years ago" when the government would have been well justified in resorting to prolonged sittings for the purpose of placing upon the statute book a measure intended to do simple justice to individuals suffering from oppression, but the government on that occasion did not consider the circumstances serious enough to justify drastic measures. But last week the authorities in charge of the house appeared to have no compunction about using the majority and the powers which are at their disposal in an endeavor to expedite the passing through the house, by means of a twenty-four hour sitting, of a private bill which is under suspicion as being part of a general scheme, engineered by United States interests, for the purpose of practically securing the control of the St. Lawrence river at the Long Sault Rapids.

The unfortunate position in which the Liberal majority has placed itself by its action on this occasion is indicated by the publication in the Ottawa "Free Press," a Liberal newspaper, of an editorial headed "In a False Position," which is a mixture of censure of the Liberal members and apology for their conduct. The Free Press explains that the Conservatives were unreasonable in their opposition to the bill and that their unreasonable was answered by obstinacy on the other side of the house. It regrets that a number of Liberal members should have been led "out of mere party loyalty, to stand up and vote for a bill about the advisability of passing which they were just as doubtful as Mr. Emmerson and other Liberals who voted against it," and it admits that the resulting impression that the Liberals are standing in with the American capitalists in their St. Lawrence grab game is "most unfortunate." It certainly is.

The occasion seems to be opportune to draw the attention of the Liberal members to a fact which is ominous for the future of the party, unless there is a prompt change for the better. It is quite apparent that systematic attempts are being made to induce the Liberal majority in Parliament, by plausible and spacious appeals to party feeling, to support measures favored by Liberals, which aim at giving important posts "up and franchises to favored parties" upon conditions which do not properly safeguard the interests of the public. There have been several bills of this nature introduced in Parliament during the present session and they are being given a measure of support which suggests that a good many of the Liberal members are not as alert in the interests of their constituents as they might be. The twenty-four hour sitting was a startling illustration of the length to which the members can be induced to go in furthering and upholding these schemes.

The Liberal members from the House of Commons, with but few exceptions, are well meaning men, and it is therefore, more regrettable that they permit themselves to be manipulated and bamboozled by designing, interested parties under the cloak of party regularity. The Liberal members of parliament, to be true, do profess the principles they should be the uncompromising opponents of special privileges, and the unrelenting foes of special interests and corporation selfishness. The Liberals in Canada except their representatives in parliament to cease to be the dupes and the victims of special interests and of parties seeking exceptional privileges, and to assume their proper role as the defenders of the interests and the rights of the common people.

Antidote Discovered.

New York, March 24.—Dr. Simon Flexner, of the Rockefeller Institute, who has been laboring for five years to find an antidote for spinal meningitis, has at last succeeded in perfecting a serum that, in the early stages of the disease, is as effective as the anti-toxin which has swept the fear of death from diphtheria.

This was learned today when medical men all over the city were discussing the statement made secretly to a private gathering of physicians by Dr. Flexner this week, that after recent experiments in New York hospitals, it had been conclusively proved that the new serum was an almost certain cure of the disease.

It is stated that out of 123 cases of the ailment treated with the serum before the third day of the advancement of the disease 107 recovered. This gives a mortality of 16.5 per cent., where formerly the percentage of deaths was from 75 to 80 per cent. Several months ago Dr. Flexner issued a private report of 463 cases treated with serum, in which the death percentage was less than 40, when the treatment was begun in time, and since that time he has so perfected the serum that now it is said, but a trifling mortality percentage attends the malady.

On Friday the coal miners of twelve states go on strike. Nearly 300,000 men will quit work and industry will be paralyzed.

BRITISH SETTLERS

Thousands Pouring into Canada from Britain—Lecturer Meets with Good Success—Much Interest Displayed.

Montreal, March 28.—Advices received by the railroad companies in Montreal show that the present week will be a record breaker for this year in immigration business and one of the biggest during many years. Close upon 12,000 immigrants will be landed at St. John and Halifax during the week ending next Saturday, the exact number of whom advices have been received, being 11,972.

So great has the rush of immigration been that arrangements are under way for the establishment of immigrant camps in the Calgary district, where the settlers can go and stay a few days until they get located. The rush of settlers is now under way in earnest and it is expected that it will keep up until several weeks after navigation opens to Montreal, this always being the big season for immigrants, and as every boat coming out is booked to its utmost capacity for a month or more it is considered that Canada's population will go up considerably during that time.

Most of the settlers are coming from Great Britain although there is a considerable percentage from other European countries who are sailing from Liverpool. Last week was considered a good one, but only scored 1,486 so that the present week will tax the railway companies considerably to handle the settlers.

Lecture Tour a Success. Ottawa, March 28.—Hundreds upon hundreds of well-to-do British farmers are coming out this spring to take up farming in the Canadian west," declared J. Heathcote, of Kitacoote, Alberta, one of the Canadian farmers who were sent to Britain by the Dominion immigration department last fall to spend the winter there delivering lectures and generally educating the prospective British immigrants concerning the Dominion. He has just returned and is en route to his home.


"I was surprised at the keen interest taken in Canada which was manifested everywhere. I went," continued Mr. Heathcote, "I did a lot of lecturing on my own allotted district, which was the midland rural section of England. The smallest audience he ever had was 250 and it was nothing for the attendance to reach 980 or 1000. In many cases torals presided at my meetings.

"Our lectures on 'The land of opportunity' were all illustrated by stereopticon views and proved very interesting to the audience. In my own section I think it can be safe to say that every lecture was followed by immediate preparations on the part of those present to come to Canada, so deeply were they impressed with prosperity. Not all of the twenty-eight confined themselves to personal work, for which there was plenty of scope among those who sent enquiries by the score.

"The only drawback we had to contend with in our work was the incivility to British immigrants of underling clerks of the Canadian railway companies. Cases were cited in which British farmers entering the country with \$5,000 capital could not get civil treatment from these miserable clerks. This is a matter which the press of Canada should take up, and something which the government should take action in, because it is more serious than would at first be supposed."

Reports of prospectors in Northern Ontario indicate valuable coal fields. Claims are staked and recorded for twenty square miles where an immense body of coal has been found on the G. T. P. line west of Cochrane.

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GENERAL NEWS

For the Hat. Medicine Hat, March 28.—R. R. Stoner, Canadian Government agent at Minneapolis, states that arrangements have been made whereby six large industries will within the next thirty days establish branches or remove their entire plants to Medicine Hat. The industries include a 25-barrel flour mill and elevator, sash and door factory, general machine shop, foundry, saw-mill machinery manufacturing company and a farm implement manufacturing firm.

Assault Case. Rosthern, Sask., March 22.—Spencer Field was charged today with being an accomplice in the assault upon Herbert Henschell, a bank employee, at Hague last Thursday night. Henschell was asleep in his room in the hotel when the door opened and a man started to beat him over the head with a beer bottle. In protecting his face and head, Henschell was badly bruised about the arms and shoulders. Mark Field, the man whom Henschell assaulted, hit left Hague hurriedly. The case adjourned to Saturday to allow the defendant to secure counsel. He is out on bail.

Big Land Deal. Edmonton, March 23.—A huge land deal, in which the purchaser put up nearly a million dollars in cash, was put through here this morning. It bought 80,000 acres in the Beaver Hills district, east of Edmonton, at a little over \$10 an acre. This is the largest cash land deal ever put through here.

The owners of the property were J. A. Powell and T. W. Lines, of Edmonton. The spring rush of land-seekers to this district commenced this week, fully a month ahead of last year. Hundreds of homesteaders are applying for land in the Grand Prairie, northwest of the city, thirty townships of which are being opened this year.

Regina-Prince Albert Line. Brandon, March 23.—John Bradley, the well known Brandon railroad contractor, has been awarded the contract for building the new C.P.R. line from Craven, north of Regina, to Colonsay. This is the biggest single contract let by the C.P.R. this year. The road will be 110 miles in length, running around the south end of Long Lake, thence northwards. Contractor Bradley will employ eight hundred teams and fifteen hundred men on the line, which will be rushed to completion. Bradley is now completing the Craven-Bulyea line of twenty-five miles on which he has been at work all winter, uninterrupted by cold weather or snow. This line when completed will link Regina with the Kirkella line.

Fisher for Senate. Ottawa, March 22.—Rumors have been current for some time to the effect that Hon. Sydney Fisher will shortly resign his seat in the House of Commons for the county of Brome, Que., and go to the Senate as representative of Bedford, the division for which the late Senator Baker sat until his death.

Mr. Fisher would take with him the portfolio of agriculture and thus give to the upper house the cabinet minister for which it has been calling in the event of Mr. Fisher going to the leadership of the upper house, which is practically assured. R. C. Smith, K. C., of Montreal, who was a candidate against H. B. Ames in St. Antoine, in 1908, and who is the counsel for the Transcontinental commission in the Lumsden enquiry, will run for Brome in the Liberal interest.

Indian Head Pioneer Dead. Indian Head, March 23.—Peter Ferguson, one of the early settlers of the Indian Head district, died at the hospital this morning from gangrene, after several weeks' illness. Mr. Ferguson came to Indian Head shortly after the formation of the government experimental farm, and has been continuously employed there since that time, about 1885. Mr. Ferguson came to Indian Head from Duntroon, where he was one of the first councillors of Nottawassaga township, the first school teacher in that township and also reeve. He was postmaster at Collingwood for a number of years. At the time of his death he was 83 years old. He leaves a son and three daughters at Duntroon, Ont. His remains were forwarded to his old home on No. 96 tonight.

Patent Succeeded. Edmonton, Alta., March 22.—While in a state of delirium, William Barber, a patient at the Misericordia hospital, climbed out of the window of his room on the top floor, tore away the netting that guarded the opening, and walked out to his death, falling to the ground sixty feet below.

The terrible accident had only occurred a few minutes before a nurse entering the patient's bedroom, and seeing the empty bed and the open window, raised the alarm.

Everything possible was done, but Barber only lived about four hours. An inquest was held at the hospital this morning, Dr. Braithwaite presiding. The verdict was that William Barber met his death as the result of an accidental fall while he was delirious. He leaves a wife and four children. He was a typhoid patient.

Father Disappears. Prince Albert, March 23.—Harry Francis Hamilton, with a family of four children, the oldest 14, and the

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Gen. French Coming. Ottawa, March 25.—General Sir J. French, the famous British soldier, will sail from Liverpool for Canada on May 12. Though his visit will be somewhat of a private nature, he will inspect as far as possible the militia forces of the Dominion and his remarks thereon will be addressed to Sir Frederick Borden, the Minister of Militia.

As many troops as possible, especially cavalry and artillery, will be as-

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ESTABLISH SANITARIAN

Maple Creek will have Consumptive Sanitarium. Cypress Hills—Landed. Leased from Dominion. ermet Game Preserve.

The war against the white which is being waged by Seymour, head of the Board of Health, is making gains, and about one-half the divisions of Saskatchewan organized into local leagues fighting of the disease. The of the districts are rapidly brought into working order and steps are being taken to provincial league. The new having a sanitarium is being to, and there is every probability that a big scheme which has up will be carried to a successful conclusion.

Big Ranch Sanitarium. The opportunity to secure site for the sanitarium can when the Dominion Government through the Department of or, reached the decision to forestry reserve in the area of from 80,000 to 100,000 the Cypress Hills, south Creek, is to be set aside for reservation of forestry, along of the great conservation which was started some time of which Hon. Clifford Sifton the head. With the decision Dominion Government to forest reserve, came the of the provincial government, now the first time, to a game reserve. Within the cleared a forest reserve, ment of the province was the hunting of game, and a be made to foster the many animals, native of wan, which are now rapidly extinct. The board of health evolved the plan of establishment of a forest sanitarium for the victims. Application was made Frank Oliver, when Premier in Ottawa the other day, lease on this property, a of the department of the signified his willingness to a lease. The Dominion the ownership of the province or the board of hold the grating lease, subject to the same term leases granted under the of the interior regulation.

With the erection of the for the consumptive, w fines of the reserve, a large cattle ranch will also be One of the greatest handling cases of consumption of giving the patient out. It is proposed to st for the purpose of giving work to keep them busy.

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