



MR. R. L. BORDEN.

The Liberal-Conservative Platform

As Enunciated at Halifax and Other Places by Mr. R. L. Borden, Leader of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition in the House of Commons.

- Honest appropriation and expenditure of public moneys in the public interest.
- Appointment of public officials under consideration of capacity and personal character and not of party service alone.
- More effective provisions to punish bribery and fraud at elections, to ensure through publicity as to expenditures by political organizations, to prevent the accumulation of campaign funds for corrupt purposes and to prohibit contributions thereto by corporations, contractors and promoters, to expedite hearing of election petitions and to prevent collusive arrangements for the withdrawal or compromise thereof, to provide for a thorough investigation of corrupt practices and if necessary to appoint an independent prosecuting officer to enforce the laws so amended.
- A thorough and complete reformation of the laws relating to the Civil Service so that future appointments shall be made by an independent commission acting upon the report of examiners after competitive examination.
- Such reform in the selecting of members of the senate as will make that chamber a more useful and representative body.
- A more careful selection of the sources from which immigration shall be sought, a more rigid inspection of immigrants and the abolition of the bonus system, except under very special circumstances and for the purpose of obtaining particularly desirable classes of settlers.
- The management and development of the public domain (in which are to be included great national franchises) for the public benefit and under such conditions that a respectable proportion of the increment of value arising therefrom shall inure to the people.
- The operation and management of our government railways by an independent commission, free from partizan control or interference.
- Development and improvement of our national waterways, the equipment of national ports, the improvement of transportation facilities and subsequent reduction of freight rates between the place of production and market, whether at home or abroad, and the establishment of a thorough system of cold storage.
- The re-organization of the present railway commission as a public utilities commission with wider power and more extended jurisdiction, so as to establish thorough and effective control over all corporations owning or operating public utilities or invested with a franchise of a national character.
- The establishment after due investigation of a system of national telegraphs and telephones under conditions which shall be just to capital already invested in those enterprises.
- The improvement of existing postal facilities, especially in newly developed portions of the country, and inauguration, after proper enquiry as to cost of a system of free rural mail delivery.
- A fiscal policy which will promote the production within Canada of all useful articles that can be advantageously manufactured from or by means of our natural resources, having due regard to the interests of the consumer as well as to the just claims of our wage-earning population.
- The promotion by negotiation and other constitutional means of a system of mutual preferential trade within the empire.
- The restoration of the public lands to the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan upon fair terms.
- The unimpared maintenance of all powers of self-government which have been conferred upon the provinces of Canada under the constitution.

FIRES SWEEP MINNESOTA

Towns Burned Down and Many Settlers Left Homeless—People Putting Up a Brave Fight—Duluth Raises Relief Fund for the Victims.

Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 7.—Reports tonight from Duluth state that the town of Snowball on the western Mesaba range, was completely destroyed by fires this afternoon, which were fanned into activity by a high wind. Other nearby towns are in danger, and the inhabitants are spending the night extinguishing incipient blazes to prevent the destruction of their homes. There was no loss of life at Snowball, but the property loss will run into the tens of thousands. The town consisted of 100 inhabitants, who have fled to other places. Relief will be rushed to them from Duluth as rapidly as possible.

Duluth, Minn., Sept. 7.—The wind is master of the fire situation on the Iron range today and the country is as dry as powder. There are scores of fires scattered over the Mesaba range and along the lines of railroad between Duluth and there, and they are all of such extent that their approach cannot be stopped by any facilities anywhere at hand if the wind lashes the flames into activity.

The fate of towns and other property hangs on the caprices of the wind, which is the real fire king at the present time in the forest region of northern Minnesota. Flames are still menacing the town of Wrenshall 36 miles west of Duluth. The town was thought to be doomed to the flames Saturday night, but the inhabitants have succeeded in fighting them off to the present.

The military road about a mile out of the city stopped the fire for some time, and the citizens took advantage of this obstruction to wage their fight against it.

John Lowry of Duluth returned last evening from Wrenshall. He states that the fires are raging all along the line of the road between Carlton and Wrenshall, and that a great many settlers have been burned out. The Great Northern train yesterday stopped several times between stations to pick up settlers who have been left homeless by the flames, and brought them to Duluth.

The 600 inhabitants of Wrenshall are making a desperate fight against the flames, and they should win unless a strong wind springs up today. The village of Holman, near Grand Rapids, is reported to be threatened. The town has no fire fighting apparatus, and it has been cut off from communication with Grand Rapids by telephone and telegraph.

The fire which devastated Chisholm is thought to be practically a thing of the past. All other towns of the range are reported out of danger, after trying fights with the flames. Woodsmen and cruisers are coming in from the woods north of Hibbing, and say that big fires are raging in the district between Hibbing and Sturgeon Lake, twenty miles north, and have expressed fears for some

of the towns, and possibly Hibbing, should a strong wind from the north spring up.

The weather bureau, however, forecasts that a southerly wind is due, which should carry the biggest part of the fire away from town. No rain is predicted, however. Hibbing is housing nearly two thousand of the refugees. The Chisholm people headed by Judge Edward Freeman, are taking charge of the ration work themselves. Ten thousand dollars have been raised in Duluth to aid the sufferers, and a trainload of supplies including a good supply of tents, blankets and provisions for housing the refugees, has been sent up from Duluth. J. W. Kratzer, superintendent of the Duluth Mesaba and Northern railway, has telephoned that all the sufferers are being well cared for at present.

Mrs. J. W. Ockerstrom, a Chisholm woman, who has been in poor health for some time, dropped dead from heart failure, probably induced from excitement, soon after the fire started to sweep the town. This is the only casualty of the fire so far as is known at present. A number of homesteaders are located in the Sturgeon Lake area, where the fire is reported, but while they doubtless have been burnt out, it is believed that they would have an opportunity to escape.

As far as can be learned at present about one-third of the loss at Chisholm is covered by insurance. The total loss in the town will reach one and a half million dollars. The insurance rates average about ten per cent, which was prohibitive for many of the merchants. Lumber was taken into the stricken town today and work of re-construction is being made at once.

The majority of the merchants have expressed their intention of rebuilding, with the exception of a few who carried no insurance, and were completely wiped out.

The militia is still patrolling the town and challenging all who desire to enter. The big vaults in the bank are still too hot to touch, and have not been opened. The fire did not extend as far east as at first supposed and blazes in the vicinity of Mountain Iron and Biwabik are inconceivable.

Hibbing, Sept. 7.—Three lumbermen who were driven into Hibbing by the fire Sunday are believed to have perished when they went back into the smoking woods to bring out their tackle from the camps. They have not been heard of since, although searching parties sought them all afternoon and evening. The wife of one of the men followed her husband into the woods and also may have lost her life.

Duluth, Sept. 7.—At ten o'clock this morning \$3,000 had been raised for the Chisholm fire sufferers. The Oliver Mining Co., headed the subscription list with \$5,000.

The party of Scottish farmers who are touring Canada were in the city this forenoon. They were entertained at breakfast at the Wascana hotel and afterwards driven about the city and adjacent country. Their cars were attached to the westbound train, which went through about noon.

THE PEOPLE'S UNIVERSITY

President Murray Outlines the Ideals to be Attained—Its Usefulness to the State—A University of Utility.

Speaking at Saskatoon after the dinner given in honor of the visit of the board of governors, President Murray is reported as follows:

As to the agricultural features, he spoke of the changing conceptions of the functions of a university. At one time it was regarded as an institution for the finishing of a gentleman. Then came the day when it sought to produce men of the professions, experts in medicine, law, etc., until now it has come to be a place where the application of scientific principles to the occupations of the greatest number is taught. One of the most astonishing evidences of this are the universities of the western states. These are made to serve the states. A high plane of intelligence must give way to utility. They would follow this idea. The great interest of the country is agriculture. There are other interests but those of agriculture predominate and ends must be shaped with that thought in mind. It may be months, said Mr. Murray, before it is decided whether or not the agriculture college and the university are to be closely linked together or quite independent. The province itself abounds in a field of scientific development.

The university of Wisconsin said Mr. Murray, represented the new idea and because of its value to the state had been called the greatest university in the whole country. There is a more important function than giving assistance to agriculture, the speaker said, for to teach "why" so that not only the power of the body but the mental power will be used in the daily rounds of work, which do more than dollars and cents towards affecting contentment and pleasure.

There was also the girl to be looked after, but of that for lack of time he would not speak. One of the great problems to be considered, is how we can build up homes on the prairies? The west has its fascination and the aim should be to surround the homes with a spell greater than the old places. The university can do this. It will contribute to the finer tastes, literature and art, and this is one way in which it will aid the state. The speaker said there were other lines along which he might speak, but would not touch upon. "These are ideals," he said "we may make mistakes, may fail, but if we fail, others will carry the work on."

The president of the board of trade was congratulated on the manly attitude taken, an attitude, said Mr. Murray they had found in spite of the intensity of rivalry in all of the cities they had visited. Everywhere was the same manly straightforwardness. The governors are going into the matter in the right spirit and in the selection may, in the judgment of some, err. It may be some time the

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president intimated before the matter was settled. He would like to look into the policy and influences that were of a determining nature in the location of universities in the various western states. The selection of a site is a serious and heavy problem but it comes as a blessing in disguise for it has shown the varied interests of the province and brought to the governors a realization of the greatness of the task before them.

Rev. Dr. Carmichael, superintendent of Missions for the Presbyterian church, is spending the day in the city. He leaves this evening for Moose Jaw.

A quiet wedding took place at 7 o'clock last night in All Saint's church, when Miss Kathleen Guest Smith, niece of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Marler, of Montreal, was married to Mr. Robert J. Lecky of Regina, son of Mr. J. Lecky of Putney Hill, Eng. The Rev. Mr. Heathcote performed the ceremony. The slender bride was a picture in her lovely wedding gown of ivory liberty satin, fashioned on the Directoire line, and trimmed with a scroll of narrow silver braid, the draped bodice being caught in front with a cabochon of silver cord and silver tassel, and finished with yoke and sleeves of chiffon, her veil was an exquisite one of embroidered tulle and was fastened with Orange blossoms. She carried a shower bouquet of bridal roses and lilies of the valley. Miss Christina Lyall was a very dainty bridesmaid in a frock of white embroidery with pink sash and

a white hat trimmed with pink roses and she carried a bouquet of pink roses. The groom was attended by Mr. W. A. Duff. Mrs. Lyall jr. wore a beautiful Directoire gown of pale pink crepe de chine inset with gold filé lace, the underskirt being of pale pink silk; her hat was of pink chip with plumes. Mrs. Lyall of Montreal, wore a handsome gown of petunia silk with bonnet of the same shade. Mr. and Mrs. Leck left on 10.30 train for Regina, the bride travelling in a very smart suit of grey and black tweed with green velvet collar and cuffs, the coat opening over a pretty blouse of cluny lace, with a touch of gold; her hat was of brown velvet with crown of brown pelisse and brown and green pheasant feathers.—Winnipeg Free Press.

CLOSE CALL FOR ROOSEVELT.

New York, Sept. 7.—As President Roosevelt, on horseback, was nearing his Oyster Bay home after his daily gallop, a revolver shot sounded from a clump of bushes along side of the road. The bullet whistled overhead. The president and an elderly gentleman with whom he was riding, wheeled their horses and peered into the bushes, but saw no one. They couldn't tell whether the occurrence was a mere accident or whether the shot had been aimed at Roosevelt. This afternoon a detective arrested a man carrying an empty revolver and dirk. He seemed to be an ordinary crank, and described himself as St. Patrick. The prisoner was arraigned before Mr. Justice Franklin, charged with carrying firearms.

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THE POST OFFICE YEARS

How Mail Was Sent Hundred Years Ago—Was Slow and the High.

The post office is now a hundred years old. Although horses plied regularly at the Wars of the Roses, until the beginning of the 17th century, says the London Mail, that government post firmly established.

As late as the year 1621 only four posts in the United Kingdom, which started from the court headquarters to be tried letters for the continent the royal dock yard at Plymouth.

We are apt to think that hard riders in those days, matter of fact the post the scum of the people horses veritable crooks. The miles an hour was the average from London to Plymouth, days from York to Edinburgh. By the year 1640 the post an established government and in the year 1685 a profit of £85,000 which tied on the King.

For a hundred years same mode of conveyance boys on horseback, continue 1784 John Palmer, a theatrical agent, proposed to carry the coaches, with armed guards to protect them. "Quite imprudent," said the officials, "and a commerce and the revenue, plan was adopted, however speed raised from three a to six miles an hour and ten miles and the revenue many times.

Mail coaches became that they were established the kingdom. Twenty-eight doing a total distance of 5 arrived in London every morning left every evening.

And a picturesque sight have been—noblemen frequent drivers, guards dressed in ery, the cars decorated with and flowers on the occasion victories in the wars then.

But on the whole business post office remained in a condition. The collection had were slow, the charges so that the business of the country hampered.

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