# GREATEST POLITICAL MEETING IN THE HISTORY OF EDMONTON

## Five Thousand People Crowd Thistle Rink to Hear Liberal and Conservative Speakers.

## RESPECTIVE POLICIES OF PARTIES ARE PRESENTED

## J. D. Hyndman Makes Brazen Attempt to Misrepresent Telegram From Hon. Frank Oliver.

**By Reading Only Portion of Telegram He Thought To Give Impression Mr. Oliver Feared To Meet Him on Public Platform—Audience Demands the Whole Contents of the Telegram, and in Confusion He Finally Gives It—Senator Talbot Delivers Strong Fighting Speech—Duncan Marshall Closes With Eloquent Exposition of the Policy of Expansion and Progress of the Liberal Government, and of the Legislation Enacted For the Benefit of the People of Canada.**

(From Saturday's Bulletin.)

Never in the history of Edmonton and probably never in the history of Western Canada has a larger and more enthusiastic political gathering taken place than was held last night in the Thistle rink. From the footlights to the rear of the hall every seat was filled and hundreds were unable to obtain better than standing room just inside the doors. From eight till after eleven o'clock an audience of between four and five thousand people, a large part of whom were worked to the highest pitch of enthusiasm by the eloquent addresses of Senator Talbot and Duncan Marshall, listened to the discussion of the political questions of the campaign, while from time to time thunderous applause greeted the telling points of the speakers.

The chair was occupied by Senator Roy, and upon the platform besides the speakers of the evening were P. E. Lessard, president of the Liberal association, Hon. W. T. Finlay, minister of agriculture, and John A. McPherson, M.P.P., Stony Plain.

The first speaker was Senator Talbot, of Lacombe, and the old war horse of western Liberalism was never in finer fighting form. From the start a number of the Conservatives present undertook to harrow him by questions and expressions of disapproval. But the senator met the disturbers on their own ground and more than one was compelled to hide his head in shame as the ridicule or quick retort of the speaker held him up to the ridicule even of his own political friends. Senator Talbot forced the fighting from start to finish and his speech ended amid prolonged applause.

### Good Hearing for Mr. Hyndman.

Mr. Hyndman, the Conservative candidate, followed and at first met with some interruptions by those who endeavored to retaliate for the interruptions to the previous speaker. The chairman, however, made an appeal for better order and for the remainder of the address Mr. Hyndman was given a good hearing. The most important statement of his address was that the issues of the campaign were not the great national ones, but the scandal charges of the Conservative policy. Adhering to his statement in this regard he avoided the tariff policy, the Hudson Bay railway and the other big political issues of the election of 1908. Incidentally referring to the Hudson Bay railway, Mr. Hyndman made the remarkable assertion that if the Conservatives were returned to power that railway would be built, but if the Liberals were returned he believed it would not be built.

### Suppressed Part of Telegram.

The most reprehensible incident of the meeting was Mr. Hyndman's attempt to suppress a part of a telegram from Mr. Oliver. It was with reference to a joint meeting of the candidates. Mr. Hyndman had wired Mr. Oliver at Moose Jaw and the reply came that the minister of the interior regretted that previous engagements prevented the meeting at the time named by Mr. Hyndman, but he would meet him at Riviere Qui Barre on the 22nd and Edmonton on the 24th.

Mr. Hyndman read the telegram in endeavoring to show that the minister of the interior was afraid to meet him in joint debate, but he deliberately slurred the words "**at Edmonton on the 24th,**" making it appear as if a joint meeting was wanted at Riviere Qui Barre alone.

The deliberate misrepresentation by the preacher of political honesty at first brought applause by the Conservatives, but hundreds of voices cried out, "Read it all; read it all."

For a time Mr. Hyndman endeavored to proceed with his speech, but continued cries of "Read it all," drowned his voice. He then offered to give the telegram to any member of the audience to read, but finally read it out himself.

When the audience saw the deliberate misrepresentation a burst of applause broke out which clearly showed that the people of Edmonton were antagonistic to such tactics. The speaker's humiliation was complete.

Mr. Hyndman closed with a pronounced exhibition of petulance and bitter complaint at the hearing accorded him which was far more courteous and attentive than had been given Senator Talbot.

Mr. Marshall was the last speaker and although the hour was late the vast audience listened attentively to his telling arraignment of the stagnation of Conservative administration as compared with the progress and prosperity under Liberal rule. He pointed out with marked effect that Mr. Hyndman and other Conservative candidates in Alberta have ignored the tariff policy of the party because they know that western people would not swallow it. He also arraigned Mr. Hyndman for failing to point out when discussing the timber question that Hon. Mr. Oliver had changed the old regulations of Conservative rule and now the administration of the interior department was not criticised even by the most ardent opponent of the government.

Senator Roy occupied the chair. He said that it would be learned with pleasure that the Liberal committee had extended an invitation to the Conservative speakers to be present. He introduced the three speakers, Senator Talbot, of Lacombe, J. D. Hyndman, the Conservative candidate, and Duncan Marshall. He was unable to make any lengthy reference, the crowd being in certain sections somewhat noisy and impatient to hear the speakers of the evening.

### Senator Talbot.

Senator Talbot, upon rising to speak expressed his great pleasure at coming to the constituency represented by Hon. Frank Oliver, the minister of the interior. At two elections he had the pleasure of voting for him and later of being his associate in the Dominion House of Commons. For these reasons it was an especial pleasure to be present and address such a large meeting.

"This political contest," he said, "is different from those in the past; the time was when the Conservatives would discuss the tariff policies of themselves and their opponents, and the other great questions related to the political life of the time. They don't do it to-day. The time was when they would discuss the railway question in Western Canada. They don't do it to-day! The time was when they would discuss the Hudson's Bay railway, but they don't do it to-day!

### Opposition Cannot Prove Charges.

"The Opposition of the Laurier government are criticizing harshly some of the Liberal candidates in the present campaign, and Mr. Sifton, Mr. Burrows and others come in for considerable abuse. But if the charges made against them be true, there is an easy way of getting them all out of political life.

He then read an extract from the Election law, which subjected any member of Parliament guilty of misuse of his office to heavy fines and disqualification, and continued:

"Let our Conservative friends bring on their charges and they can get rid of the whole bunch if they can prove that any one of the charges made against them is true. But they don't make the charges in Parliament or in the courts, for they know they can't prove them.

"Three years ago a Liberal local government was elected in the Province of Alberta on the school question. The Conservatives tried to raise race against race and creed against creed in that election campaign. They misrepresented facts on that occasion, and they are doing so now. The Liberals said the schools would go on as they did before, and they have done so. To-day there are over two hundred more schools in Alberta than in 1905, and peace now reigns where discord was threatened.

### Federal Control of Lands.

"One of the questions then raised was the land question. When autonomy was granted to Alberta and Saskatchewan it was agreed that the public lands should be administered by the Federal government. Some of the Conservatives thought differently, and this was one of the great questions of the campaign."

Senator Talbot explained the vesting of the Western lands in the Federal government in return for the government undertaking their administration, the care of the Indians of the West. Who would look after these Indians if the lands were taken over by the Dominion. If the control of the red men were left with the Provincial governments, what would be the result. An enormous expense; and should trouble arise among the Indians, then the militia controlled by the Federal government would be called out to put down western trouble over, which the provinces were supposed to have control.

"But there are other reasons why the Western lands should be administered by the Dominion."

### A Disturber Silenced.

At this point some one in the rear of the hall interrupted with the question: "But what about the fisheries?"

"We'll let suckers like that one go!" was the instant retort.

The audience was convulsed with laughter and quiet could not be restored for some time.

"The prosperity of Canada depends upon the development of the West," continued Senator Talbot, and he pointed out, from a provincial standpoint, how unfair that western provincial enterprise should be used to benefit the Eastern Provinces. Rather should the West be controlled by the Federal authorities, and money expended to develop the West come out of a Dominion rather than provincial treasury.

"There is another reason. The Dominion Government for the past twelve years has been engaged in peopling the prairie provinces with settlers which they have brought out from the British Isles and other European countries.

"If the lands were handed over to the Provinces, then the Dominion would have to stop its immigration policy, for there would be no inducements to offer in the shape of free land to the settler. But a member of the audience says that the immigration should be carried out by each province. What would be the result? Each would have its own literature and a rivalry would spring up which would be detrimental to every part of the West. I have always thought that immigration literature should be Canadian not provincial, and that the incoming people should be Canadians not provincialists. (Cheers.)

### Quotes Some Precedent.

"How can the Dominion government afford to give the land when the provincial government can't? someone may ask. Here is the answer. Every settler is a source of revenue to the Dominion government while he is an expense to the province. He buys goods which have been imported into the country, and on them he pays duties which go into the Dominion treasury. On the other hand the province in which he lives has to pay for bridges, roads, etc., in each district and this grows larger and larger as the settlers increase.

"If the lands were owned by the Dominion there would be no provincial subsidies, there would be no money for public buildings that Alberta and Saskatchewan are now planning to build with the money paid over by the Federal government. Where would the money come from? The province, if it owned the lands, would have to sell them, and who would buy them? —the C.P.R., the pet of the Conservative party, and that gigantic corporation would raise the price from $3 to $25, as it has done in the lands it now owns, and the money would be wrung from the farmers of the country. (Great applause.)

"But lawyers look for precedents," continued Senator Talbot, "and a precedent will be satisfactory to Mr. Hyndman. Sir John Macdonald when asked by the provinces for the lands twice refused to hand them over, on each occasion saying that the lands were purchased by Canada for the benefit of Canada as a whole. In the United States another precedent can be seen. The thirteen states of the union vested the control of the lands in the Federal government, and in its control they have remained ever since. And never a Republican, nor a Democrat, nor a Populist, not even a mugwump, has suggested a change. It remained for the Conservative party in Canada to make such a suggestion. (Great Laughter.)

"Because the province of Alberta doesn't administer the public lands it gets from $350,000 at the present time to a maximum of $1,250,000, as population increases, for all time to come in lieu of the lands. And in the United States the Federal authorities don't pay a cent towards the states in return for the public lands there.

### Province Gets the Land.

"And the province gets the land, itself ultimately gets the land, for when a settlers locates on a homestead it passes to the control of the province, and is afterwards altogether beyond the control of the Federal authorities. (Applause.)

"Some twenty odd years ago the people of Alberta elected Frank Oliver as their representative at Regina, what did he find there? Nothing but not responsible, but irresponsible government. He found the money in the control, not of the representatives, but of the lieutenant governor. But he fought this condition and at last had it remedied. When the few hoodlums at the rear of the hall were rocking in their cradles he was fighting the battle of the West. Frank Oliver continued the struggle until responsible government in Western Canada had been secured.

"Then he was elected to Ottawa—and we'll do it again (cheers)—and what did he find there. Nothing but railway monopoly with one line of railway running across the West, and with one branch line running up to what was then South Edmonton. And were it not for Frank Oliver there would be no Edmonton to-day. It was Frank Oliver that did more to get the G. T. P. than any other Western member. Where was he when the question of the capital was being fought? He was looking after the interests of his constituency, and it was mainly to him that credit is due. I am surprised that there are to be found five men in Edmonton who would raise their voice in opposition to Frank Oliver. (Great applause.)

### No Fault With Expenditure.

The Conservatives were now talking of expenditures. Last year Senator Talbot was on the public accounts committee at Ottawa, and what objection did the Conservatives raise to the voting of public money? They objected to but $4 in every $800 voted, or in other words fifty cents on every one hundred dollars. And any man who can only question fifty cents in every one hundred dollars that he spends is handling his money pretty carefully. (Applause.)

This brought the Senator's speech to a conclusion as his voice was beginning to grow hoarse, and it required a great effort to make himself heard in the immense audience. He resumed his seat after jocularly thanking the audience for the excellent hearing that he had been given. His humor was appreciated in view of the continued attempted interruptions of several members of the Conservative association.

### The Conservative Candidate.

Mr. Hyndman was given a good reception when he rose to speak. "I am sure," he ironically said at the outset, "that we were all very much pleased with Senator Talbot's interesting discussion of the land question. I do not know from what part of the United States Senator Talbot comes, but his address and his references to that country were decidedly entertaining. But what he said does not change the minds of the people of this province to the fact that the administration of its own lands should be in its own hands. After Oct. 26, under the policy of the Conservative party, which is the recognition of provincial rights, the people of the province will be in a fair way to getting control of their own lands."

Proceeding, Mr. Hyndman said the Liberal party would have the country believe that the great issues of the present campaign were the railways, the lands, the Hudson Bay railway and the G. T. P. These were not the issues. It was honesty and decency in administration that was the issue.

This acknowledgment on Mr. Hyndman's part of the scandal campaign of the Conservative party evoked marked disapproval and for some minutes Mr. Hyndman was not permitted to proceed. He drew his watch from his pocket during the storm of interruption, and in a lull declared he intended to have his hour.

"I'm going to get a hearing," he said, "and if I don't someone else who is to follow me will not be heard."

The chairman interposed in Mr. Hyndman's behalf, saying the speaker was entitled to an attentive hearing. At this the audience settled back, and until the end of his speech Mr. Hyndman was not subjected to serious interruptions.

### Hudson Bay Railway Project a Bluff.

When Hon. Frank Oliver, continued the speaker, made the threat at the meeting he held in this rink recently, that if the Liberals were not returned to power Canada would not get the Hudson Bay railway, he was bluffing you. In 1895 the Conservative party declared it would build a railway to Hudson Bay, and in Belleville last week Mr. Borden placed this beyond being an issue when he said the Conservative party had promised to build this railway, and build it as a government enterprise.

"If the Conservative party is returned to power," Mr. Hyndman affirmed, amid the smiles of the audience, "the road will be built, but, I believe, if the Liberal government is returned the railway will not be constructed."

Senator Talbot, the speaker said, had referred to the purchase by the government of Indian reserves, but he did not tell of the sale of the Algonia reserve, for which the government received $9,000, the purchasers being two or three ardent Liberals, who subsequently sold the land for $101,000. Senator Talbot had also said if the province owned its own lands they would be a burden to us.

"That's silly, arrant rot. We want these lands. There are about 60 million acres of available lands in the province of Alberta which could be pre-empted for $3 an acre, giving us this immense revenue. Any man who gives away his magnificent heritage for a paltry subsidy of $375,000 annually is either a fool or he has an axe to grind."

### The Real Conservative Issue.

Dealing with the subject of honest administration of the country, the speaker stated that Senator Talbot had made the statement that the only expenditures objected to in the public accounts committee by the Conservative members in the House was $4. The senator must have been wide awake the morning he discovered that.

"He didn't say $4," declared a man in the audience. "He said the total expended in the expenditures to which objection was taken was $4 in $800."

This Mr. Hyndman admitted, and then he turned his attention to the marine and fisheries department investigation in which it had been shown that one, Merwin, whom the speaker declared was picked up by Liberal money raisers to aid in their graft, had bought a million dollars worth of goods for that department. It had been shown that on a purchase of $11,000 this Merwin as a middleman had made $6,173. What then did he make in commission on the purchase of a million dollars worth of goods for the department? He would leave this to the imagination of his audience. As for himself, he thought Merwin must have made three or four hundred thousand dollars.

### "What is Your Policy?"

At this point a man in the audience demanded that the speaker enunciate the policy of the Conservative party, a demand which met with the response, which Mr. Hyndman intended as a choice bit of repartee, if that man would talk something besides Japanese he might be understood and answered.

The speaker then turned his attention to what he claimed was the development of the west by the construction of the C. P. R. He said Sir John A. Macdonald had met strenuous opposition at the hands of the Liberals to the C. P. R. scheme when he first propounded it, but the people had endorsed him. Then a scandal in the Conservative party had been unearthed and Sir John A. was not able to put through the scheme at once. The government of "Sir" Alex. Mackenzie was returned to power. Previous to this "Sir" Alexander Mackenzie had offered to give the C. P. R. 52,000,000 acres of land to build the railway and a cash subsidy of $10,000,000 beside. But the deal fell through. The Mackenzie government hadn't sufficient faith in the western country to carry the project to a successful conclusion, and it remained for Sir John A. to do so, and he did so by giving the C. P. R. 25,000,000 acres of land and $25,000,000.

Having undertaken this great scheme the first effort of the Conservative government was to settle the country, and besides introducing the tree homestead principle of securing immigration, the Conservative government decided that it should, in order to induce settlement, which was not then so readily attracted as now, to make it possible for the settler to get the lumber for building his shack, cheap.

When Hon. Frank Oliver made the statement that the Conservative government had disposed of 29,000 square miles of timber he made a statement which was misleading. The 29,000 square miles of timber were disposed of by one year leases, revocable at the end of any one year, and no lease was granted for a limit in excess of 50 square miles. The bonus paid for these leases was merely an incident.

The Liberals of the province had undertaken to severely censure the Conservative government for having disposed of 29,000 square miles of timber in this way, terming it a looting of the public domain.

"I am grieved," Mr. Hyndman continued, "that the Bulletin and the Liberals of this province include in their condemnation of this system Hon. Mr. Rutherford, premier of this province, and one of the finest of men. He is a looter, according to them, for Mr. Rutherford is one of the men who secured a timber lease. As a matter of fact, however, Mr. Rutherford is not a looter; he was perfectly entitled to the lease he secured."

Mr. Hyndman claimed that the party which had twelve years ago usurped the seats of the Conservative government at Ottawa, had changed the timber regulations in order that the friends of the party might benefit. The change was to abolish the lease system and to sell the limit outright to the highest bidder. Under this changed system we found the Imperial Pulp Co. bidding nine times and securing nine limits. Who composed this company? T. A. Burrows and Sir Daniel McMillan, of Manitoba.

### His Scandal Talk.

Mr. Hyndman, proceeding, took up the Prince Albert timber limit sale, a limit which was secured for $6,000 in the name of Wm. Cowan, of Prince Albert, a strong Conservative, by A. W. Fraser on instructions from T. A. Burrows. In handling this Mr. Hyndman adopted the inferential tactics introduced by Mr. H. B. Ames, of Montreal. The celebrated Cedar Lake limit also dealt with a la Ames.

The speaker then turned his attention to the contention of the Liberals that the twelve years they had been in power had seen twelve years of prudent administration. He questioned this, asking the audience if it liked to see the revenues of the country falling off and the immigration decreasing.

"I hope," he said with a lamentably weak attempt at sarcasm, "that before Mr. Marshall is finished with his address he will make you feel that when you go down to business tomorrow morning, you have only to ask your banker how much money you have to your credit, the money having found its way into the bank overnight."

This sentiment was received with groans from the audience.

### "Read it All."

Before concluding Mr. Hyndman took occasion to say: "A report is current in this city that I was invited to Mr. Oliver's meeting two weeks ago to-night, and that I refused to meet him. I want to say this is untrue. I was not only not invited to the meeting, but I asked permission to speak and was refused through Mr. Geo. B. McLeod, vice-president of the Young Men's Liberal club."

Mr. McLeod, who was in the audience, was asked to endorse this statement.

"Did you not tell Mr. Harold Brunton that Mr. Oliver did not want any opposition speakers at his meeting?" asked Mr. Hyndman.

"Certainly, not in the manner you present it. Mr. Brunton came to me and asked if a Conservative speaker were to be invited to the meeting. I told him I had not seen Mr. Oliver, but that on my own responsibility I would say that since Mr. Oliver had not had an opportunity to address his constituents for many months, I presumed he would prefer to present his case without opposition. In the afternoon I saw Mr. Brunton and was told Mr. Hyndman had arranged meetings for the country and would not be in the city on the night of Mr. Oliver's meeting. Mr. Hyndman was not refused an opportunity to speak at Mr. Oliver's meeting, but I said that, on my own responsibility, if Mr. Hyndman desired to speak at the meeting I would extend him an invitation."

This statement from Mr. McLeod was received with a roar of applause.

Mr. Hyndman then proceeded to read two telegrams, one from himself to Mr. Oliver, and the other from Mr. Oliver to himself. The telegrams referred to a meeting which Mr. Hyndman purposes holding in Edmonton on Oct. 19. The first telegram was an invitation to Mr. Oliver to speak at this meeting, and the second was Mr. Oliver's reply.

The reply was dated "from Moose Jaw. It stated: "Regret prior engagements make it impossible for me to speak at your meeting on 19th. Will be pleased to hold joint meetings at Qui Barre, Oct. 22, and Edmonton Oct. 24.—Frank Oliver."

In reading this telegram Mr. Hyndman deliberately attempted to conceal the fact that Mr. Oliver expressed his willingness to meet Mr. Hyndman in Edmonton. He attempted to have the audience believe Mr. Oliver was only willing to meet him at Qui Barre.

A few of the people caught the whispered last clause of the telegram, and cries of "Read the rest of it," sounded through the rink.

Finally, in conclusion, Mr. Hyndman held up the two telegrams before the audience and said: "Here it is, read it."

This was met with a chorus of jeers. It was hardly possible for the audience to read the telegrams in Mr. Hyndman's hands. Finally Mr. Hyndman was forced to read the telegram.

He closed his address by thanking the audience for the hearing he had received. He said it was certainly the spiciest meeting we had had for a long time.

### Mr. Marshall's Address.

Duncan Marshall was the final speaker of the evening, and his address of over an hour was punctuated with hearty applause at frequent intervals. Upon rising to speak he was given a warm reception, and some time elapsed before the applause subsided. He first expressed his pleasure at being present and hearing the address of the Conservative candidate, Mr. Hyndman.

"You have heard him speak," he said, "and your have heard him enunciate the policy of the great Conservative party. And I think you will agree with me that that policy is fearfully and wonderfully made. (Laughter.) I will first discuss for a short time the remarks of Mr. Hyndman and then take up the greater national issues that are before the country.

"Mr. Hyndman talked of the land question, but he did not tell you that Mr. Borden, his leader, travelled recently over the whole of Ontario with Mr. Roblin, the premier of Manitoba, and he did not mention the land question at all. Why? Because Mr. Roblin had before gone down to Ottawa when the bounds of Manitoba were being extended, and he had asked for a cash subsidy instead of the control of the lands of the province.

### Mr. Borden Sat Silent.

"When Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in the House, moved the resolution to enlarge the boundaries of Ontario and give a cash subsidy to the province, where was Mr. Borden? He sat still on the floor of the House and swallowed his western principles. Where would Mr. Hyndman be with Mr. Roblin, the premier of Manitoba, against him?

"We are told this is a battle for honest, decent and clean public life. Will not Sir Wilfrid Laurier compare with Mr. Borden? will not the life of Hon. W. S. Fielding compare with that of Mr. Foster? (Applause.) Will not Hon. Mr. Paterson compare in honesty and in decency with Mr. G. W. Fowler? With all due respect to Mr. Hyndmann, is not Hon. Frank Oliver as decent a candidate as the Conservative candidate in this constituency?

"Mr. Hyndman has said it was the policy of the Conservative party to build the Hudson Bay railway. He did not say what they had done to build it. He did not tell that the Tory government gave 2,560,000 acres of land to build 400 miles of railway from Erwood to the Pass, which now the Conservatives admit are absolutely worthless.

### Conservatives Forced to Purchase.

"Mr. Hyndman had waded into anti-diluvian politics in his attack on Alexander Mackenzie, and had gone so far back that he even called the old gentleman "Sir" Alexander Mackenzie. He speaks of the purchase of the Northwest lands by the Conservatives, but he did not tell that it was not till after years of thundering by Hon. George E. Brown, the editor of the Toronto Globe, that the Conservatives were forced to make the purchase."

Dealing with the C.P.R., for the construction of which the Conservative candidate claimed credit to his party, Mr. Marshall pointed out that Alex. Mackenzie had begun the building of the railway for the people of Canada with the people's money and had built it from Fort William to Winnipeg. And when the Conservatives had come into power they had made this completed work a present to the C.P.R. Company. And besides, by their enormous land grants and cash subsidies, gave them practical control of the West and the people of the West. Now the C.P.R. own all the best of the odd-numbered sections, not alone on both sides of their own line, but on both sides of the C.N.R. and G.T.P. as well.

"And if you try to buy this land near the Canadian Northern or the Grand Trunk Pacific, you will find that it is not on sale. It is being held up by the Canadian Pacific until the settlers come in and increase the value of what the company are holding up from settlement. Then they will put it on the market at a big price. But the Conservatives also gave the C.P.R. exemption from taxation on their lands for twenty years, and that is construed by C.P.R. law to mean forty years. And they were granted exemption on their road-bed for all time to come. But the Conservatives gave them more. They gave the C.P.R. the exclusive privilege of building railway lines between their main line and the international boundary.

### Railways Are Held Up.

"And when a company wanted to build a railway from Winnipeg to Duluth their charter granted by the Manitoba government was cancelled by the Conservative government at Ottawa. Then the Manitoba government endeavored to build the line themselves over their own lands to haul their own grain. But the C.P.R. again intervened when the line came to the C.P.R. main line, and box cars were backed across the branch and they were torn up. Last year the Dominion government intervened, and they went to the C.P.R. and said: 'Please Mr. C.P.R., allow the Manitoba government to build a railway across their own country to haul their own grain, and if you do so we will give you a further cash subsidy of $15,000,000.'

"This was the condition of the country when the Liberals came into power in 1896. In the charter which the C.P.R. were given by the Tory government they could charge what rates they wished till their dividends reached 10 per cent., and they have never reached 10 per cent. The C.P.R. have a magnificent irrigation ditch at Calgary, but it is as nothing when it comes to the watering of their stock. (Laughter.)

"And the Conservatives will tell you that the C.P.R. has no connection with the Conservative party. You want to go down to Calgary to see how many officials of the company are now out canvassing for the Conservative candidate. If the Conservatives are returned to power, who will be the next minister to the leader of the government? It will be the leader of the Senate ,Senator Lougheed, of Calgary, the paid solicitor of the C.P.R. Who else would be in a Conservative cabinet? The senior Tory member of the Tory stronghold of Toronto, E. B. Osler, a director of the C.P.R. Another member of the Conservative government would be the leader of the Senator of Quebec, Senator Drummond, another director of the C.P.R. So when the Conservatives form a cabinet of C.P.R. solicitors and C.P.R. directors, how the two will dwell together in unity. You cannot separate those Siamese twins. They have always hunted together and the Conservatives have fought the charters of the G.T.P. Railway and the V. V. & E. Railway with all their might.

### Under Liberals a Change.

"What about the Liberal party? When they came into power they have given competing railways, and their policy is in this way to continue the development of the West.

"We didn't hear a word from Mr. Hyndman about the tariff question. The Conservatives are afraid to discuss the tariff question in the West. But if you will read the Conservative speeches delivered in the East you will learn where they stand. Conservative candidates in Alberta are not discussing the tariff yesterday, because they know that protection does not go down with the people of the West.

### Liberal Fiscal Policy.

The exposition of the fiscal policy of the present government was the most effective portion of the speaker's address.

"If a Government," he said, "can bring about the development of a country by its fiscal policy, it deserves credit. Has not the Liberal government's fiscal policy resulted in the development of Canada? It has.

"I was not in the West in the high protective tariff days, but I can distinctly recall the effect of that policy on the farmers in Ontario. The farmers were unable to eke out more than a mere existence. There was no such thing as a hired man. A farmer who undertook to engage help would have been forced to mortgage his farm. The farmers of Ontario lived only because they had sons to assist in working their farms. It wasn't because they couldn't raise the wheat, the horses and the cattle. No, but it was because they had no market for their produce.

"The effect of the fiscal policy of Canada prior to 1896, was disastrous to immigration. Not only did it raise insurmountable barriers to immigrations near Lacombe for a team of ponies. This land is now worth many thousand dollars, but the Senator Talbot informs me that he was offered one of the best quarter sections near Lacombe for a team of unbroken colts. This quarter section is now worth $50 an acre, but the Senator at that time was afraid to make the trade, for he believed he might need the team to carry him out of the country. He afterwards discovered that it was for this very purpose the other man desired to make the exchange. That was the condition of the west before 1896.

### Did It Build Up Industries?

"The Conservative party, in introducing its high protection policy declared its effect would be to develop great industrial cities and towns. The country would be happy and prosperous under the national policy. There would be tall smoke-stacks belching forth the smoke of prosperity. The farmers' sons and the farmers' daughters would be given employment in these industries; the population of the cities and towns would so greatly increase that there would be a great home market for the farmers' produce. The industries were built up, and they bled the farmer white by the high prices which the protective tariff made it possible for the manufacturer to secure for his produce. But the soil of Canada was too rich for such a policy. The farmer produced more than that for which he could secure a market, and as a result prices for farm produce decreased to such an extent the farmer faced poverty.

"In a country like Canada, whose wealth is its soil, if the farmer has money, if he can secure a fair return for what he produces, he will pay for what he needs, and this money will eventually find its way to the industries and towns and cities will grow as they should from the only right basis. What was the effect of the National Policy on Canada? In 1896 there was not a single manufacturing establishment but was working half time, and the farmers could get no money for their products.

"When the Liberal party attained power, the government passed the British preferential tariff by which 25 per cent. of the whole tariff between Canada and Great Britain was wiped out. Prior to that time there was practically no trade whatever between Canada and the motherland. There was no exchange of products, and it is the exchange of goods that represents a country's trade, not the exchange of gold. The proof of this is that Canada's trade with Great Britain last year was $208,000,000, while the exchange of bullion and gold was only $19,000,000.

### World's Greatest Workshop.

"Great Britain is the workshop of the world, and she doesn't begin to produce enough to feed herself. The Canadian government wanted to get this market for the farmers of Canada, and she got it. The British manufacturer saw the market opened up by the preference in Canada, and was not slow to take advantage of it. One of the effects of this was to give Canadians cheaper goods, but the great effect of it was that every ship carrying British goods to Canada returned with the produce of Canadian firms to the British market.

"In the year before 1896 Canada sent $1,896,000 worth of dairy produce to Great Britain, and last year $7,860,000. In the same year Canada sent $4,000,000 worth of hams and bacon, and last year $12,000,000. In 1896, Canada sent 5,000,000 bushels of

(Continued on Page Three.)

To quickly check a cold, druggists are dispensing everywhere, a clever Candy Cold Cure Tablet called Preventics. Preventics are also fine for feverish children. Take Preventics at the sneeze stage, to head off all colds. Box of 18—25c. Sold by all dealers.

## THE LOCAL IMPROVEMENT ACT, VILLAGE ACT AND SCHOOL ASSESSMENT ORDINANCE.

Notice is hereby given that under the provisions of the Local Improvement Act, Village Act and School Assessment Ordinance, the Honourable Mr. Justice Beck has appointed Monday, the 23rd, day of November, 1908, at ten o'clock a.m. at the Court House in the City of Edmonton for the holding of a Court for confirmation of the Returns made under the provisions of Section 91 of The Local Improvement Act in respect of the following Local Improvement Districts.

Local Improvement District 28-M-4., 29-M-4., 30-M-4., 25-N-4., 26-N-4., 27-N-4., 28-N-4., 29-N-4., 30-N-4., 25-P-4., 27-P-4., 28-P-4., 25-R-4., 26-R-4., 27-R-4., 28-R-4., 25-S-4., 26-S-4., 27-S-4., 28-S-4., 29-S-4., 25-T-4., 26-T-4., 27-T-4., 28-T-4., 29-T-4., 30-T-4., 25-A-5., 26-A-5., 27-A-5., 26-B-5., 27-B-5., and Nos. 617, 602, 621 and 622.

And of Section 67 of The Village Act in respect of the following Villages, viz.:

The Village of Athabasca Landing and the Village of Millet.

And of Section 19 of The School Assessment Ordinance in respect of the following School Districts, viz.:—

School Districts Nos. 382, 1438, 1204, 393, 222, 979, 1416, 926, 1074, 1457, 1156, 528, 234, 370, 1326, 978, 799, 1016, 1474, 1433, 737, 401, 371, 412, 521, 841, 1465, 937, 716, 537, 367, 660, 925, 719, 523, 571, 280, 296, 1099, 611, 663, 246, 1001, 1241, 478, 530, 350, 23, 212, 305, 324, 399, 452, 749, 774, 645, 622, 711, 24, 355, 386, 427, 416, 438, 847, 1443, 672, 509, 479, 475, 525, 369, 1029, 626, 322, 415, 459, 418, 384, 470, 429, 1500, 1358, 532, 529, 683, 508, 400, 456, 1319, 381, 1009, 315, 881, 391, 1444, 850, 1397, 29, R.C.P., 2, R.C.P. 4, R.C.P. 6, R.C.P. 34, R.C.P. 42, R.C.P. 45, R.C.P. 47, R.C.P. 51.

Dated at Edmonton this 18th day of September, 1908.

JNO. STOCKS,
Deputy Minister of Public Works.