

**POLITICS
AT COAST**

Province May Send Seven Conservatives to Support Hon. R. L. Borden—Feel that it is Time for a Change.

Vancouver, Aug. 27.—Both sides are rapidly lining up for the final fight, and within a couple of weeks practically every candidate will be in the field. It is going to be a strenuous contest. That the present Liberal members recognize the way the tide is running in British Columbia is evident from the way they are scrambling to shelter.

R. McPherson has joined the ranks of the numerous Liberal members who have become office holders, and has accepted the position of post-master of Vancouver. Ralph Smith, in Nanaimo, is also in no humor to face the people again, and would like a government position. It is said he has been promised a position on the new civil service commission board and is now patiently waiting for the announcement. W. Galihier, for the Kootenay, has also had enough of public life, and is expecting the usual government pap.

Vancouver is almost a certain seat for the Conservatives, especially since McPherson's cool desertion. W. McInnis, former governor of the Yukon, is the Liberal candidate, but his reputation as an office holder and political self-seeker are too well known in Vancouver to make him a strong candidate. Joseph Martin also, it is understood, has announced himself as in the field as an Independent Liberal candidate. The Conservative candidate will likely be C. E. Tisdale, an able man. In Victoria City the Conservatives have not yet selected their candidate against Hon. Wm. Templeman. Whoever he is he will give the cabinet minister a hard run as the sentiment there, as in Vancouver, is running high against the present federal administration.

In New Westminster it was recognized that the present member, J. B. Kennedy, was absolutely sure of defeat and he was given a cold turn down at the convention. Kennedy however, is not satisfied and has not taken the convention's decision philosophically. As a result he has announced that he will again be in the field. The two Liberal candidates will make doubly sure the election of a Conservative.

The only thing that can save Duncan Ross in the Yale-Cariboo is that the election may be held a week la-

ter. However, that is rather a slim hope and the Conservatives believe that Ross after the next election will no longer draw that Ottawa indemnity. As for Sloan in Comox Atlin, he has not proved a success as a politician and has been decidedly a backbencher at Ottawa—very much so. His constituents realize it and Sloan has a very slim chance of election.

Altogether the prospects for the Conservatives in British Columbia look very bright. The whole province is dissatisfied with the present federal regime and the feeling is strong for a change. There are optimistic Conservatives who are predicting that the solid seven will be in the other column. However, that may be there is no doubt that the Conservatives will make big gains in the coast province.

The Wheat Situation

The position of the crop today over western Canada as well as we are able to put it is about as follows: We have approximately 6,000,000 acres of wheat, all but about 200,000 acres being hard spring wheat, mostly Red Fyfe, the balance being winter wheat in Alberta, mostly the wheat called Turkey Red, but by grade called No. 1 and No. 2 Alberta Red Winter. This group is spread over a length of 850 miles between the eastern boundary of Manitoba and the Rocky Mountains, and a breadth of 350 miles from the International boundary lines northward. In that area it can be easily understood there will be much diversity of soil, and also of weather conditions throughout the season. Last year, 1907, we had all over the country one of the worst seasons experienced. A late spring was followed by a cold ungenial summer and unseasonable autumn, the result being the killing of a good deal of the crop by frost and the deterioration in quality of a great deal that was harvested. But for all that there was considerable grain of the higher grades, and the crop yielded somewhere about seventy million bushels, grading from No. 1 hard down to feed wheat, and owing to the market situation of the world everything in the shape of wheat sold at good prices, and at this date the crop of 1907 had been cleaned out to nearly the last bushel; the stocks at Fort William and Port Arthur at the end of last week being only 568,647 bushels, against 7,133,297 bushels same date last year, while interior stocks are absolutely swept clean. This it will be seen leaves the new crop to come forward to absolutely empty bins and store houses. The season of 1908, while not ideal throughout, has been

one of the most favorable this country has had in the 27 years since wheat began to be grown for more than local consumption. Spring was early and seedtime favorable, May and June seemed to be fairly well supplied with the showers and rains deemed essential at that period, but July proved too warm and dry, and lowered the larger prospect of the previous month. After the first week in August lower temperature, an increase in dull cloudy weather and occasional light showers caused a slackening in the process of maturing. This has given a good deal of the crop a chance to fill out better than it otherwise might have done, but at the same time it allowed a lowering of the temperature on some nights to below the frost line, and thus in some districts there is more or less deterioration in quality on account of frost damage, but we are not aware that there has been anywhere any wheat destroyed by frost, the crop being everywhere too far ahead for that. Much yet of the ultimate result depends on the weather during the ensuing six weeks. No further harm is likely to occur from frost, because while some farmers in the later districts have only begun to cut, early this week we estimate at least seventy-five per cent of the crop is cut now, and therefore, quantity is assured. There is little new to report this week as regards general world's conditions. World's shipments continue very moderate and below European requirements. The American Visible Supply decreased 634,000 bushels last week, against an increase of 565,000 bushels same date last year, and is now only 16,839,000 bushels, against 51,518,000 bushels a year ago. There is no change in the crop reports over the world.—Commercial.

There was a binder twine famine in town for a few days this week. Only a few farmers gave their orders early in the season, therefore the local dealers did not stock up heavily, and when cutting commenced two or three days cleared out all the available twine. Many of the farmers were without a pound to tie sheaves, and many thousands of pounds could yet be sold. The Massey-Harris agency received 5,000 lbs on Saturday, and the Naismith Implement Co. 2,000 lbs. this (Thursday) morning, which will help out some. Other towns along this branch appear to have the same difficulty with the twine situation and there is a possibility that some of the grain will have to be threshed loose.—Herald Chronicle.

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GENERAL NEWS
Ottawa, Aug. 27.—It is probable that the announcement will soon be made of the allocation of the Boer field guns sent to Canada as trophies by the Imperial authorities. It is expected that these souvenirs will be assigned one to Montreal and Toronto, while the rest will be retained at Ottawa. Mauseur rifles are being assigned to the various corps represented in the war.

Edmonton, Aug. 27.—The Alberta Pork Commission will leave for the east on Sept. 3, and will be in Winnipeg, Sept. 5. From there the commission will proceed to Ontario and visit the packing plants at Collingwood, Ingersoll and Toronto. The return to Winnipeg will be made by way of Chicago where an inspection will be made of the famous "Packing town." The commission is composed of A. G. Harrison, Edmonton; W. Bower, Red Deer; and Mr. Wallace, High River.

Montreal, Aug. 26.—Ten thousand dollars' worth of rings and diamonds which were picked up at Windsor station of the C.P.R., and will become the property of the finder Augustus V. Cooper, a porter, who was discharged from custody a few days ago on a charge of stealing them. Mr. and Mrs. Burrows, of England, the supposed owners of the diamonds refused to give evidence to Ulric Lafontaine, who was sent to London for the purpose and waived all claim to the jewelry. The valuables are at present in the hands of the police.

Winnipeg, Aug. 27.—The task of double tracking the C.P.R. line between here and Port William which has been occupying the attention of the C.P.R. for the past three years, will be practically completed this fall, the major portion of it will be used to facilitate the quick transportation of the present wheat crop. By the end of another month, the line which is over 400 miles long, will have been doubled tracked with the possible exception of about 25 miles, which has not yet been finished, and upon which work can proceed in the winter. General Manager Bury who left here last night for Port William, will make an official inspection of the road today and return tomorrow.

Vancouver, B.C., Aug. 27.—Joseph Martin, K.C., has arrived at Seattle on his way home from England. He says he will positively run as an Independent Liberal candidate in Van-

couver. In view of the fact that the World newspaper has not taken up the McInnis nomination with any enthusiasm, and from other circumstances, it is reported that L. D. Taylor, editor of the World, will run as an independent labor candidate, perhaps assisted by the Anti-Asiatic league. It is regarded as practically certain that C. E. Tisdale will be the Conservative candidate. Hon. W. J. Bowers the attorney general, has declined to run in the Conservative interests and will take little part in the federal campaign.

Port Arthur, Ont., Aug. 27.—Two boys named White and Hansen aged about twelve years confessed to the starting of a fire which did damage to the extent of nearly \$15,000. The burned building was that on Cumberland street known as the old Toronto House and was used as a boarding house with a pool room and photographic gallery down stairs. The boys had been out during the night, and entered W. A. Burrows' furnishing store and opened the till, but found nothing in it. They went to the Toronto house and took shelter in a shed. Early this morning it got cold and the boys lighted a fire on the floor which connected with the building. They were caught by Chief Constables who had been called to the Burrows' store to investigate the robbery and who found them back there to see what was being done about their breaking in. When taken in hand they made a full confession.

Ottawa, Aug. 27.—The N. T. Railway Commission has taken steps to cancel the contract with the Reynolds Construction Co. for the building of the National Transcontinental. The contract for construction was awarded to the G.T.P. and was subject to the Reynolds Co., an American concern. They have done a good deal of the preliminary work, but have failed to make adequate progress with the road.

The National Transcontinental Railway Commission have been kept informed by their engineers of the progress of the work, and recently served notice on the G.T.P. that there would have to be 3,500 men put on the work in September, or the contract would be taken off their hands and the commission would do the work itself while the \$280,000 guarantee of the G.T.P. would be forfeited.

This notice was in turn served by the G.T.P. on the sub-contractor, who does not seem to be able to go farther with the work. The G.T.P. will now have to secure another sub-contractor or undertake the work itself. The commissioners are deter-

Some Indian Names

So many places in the west bear the historical Indian names, both eloquently descriptive of some marked natural condition which impressed itself upon the notice of the red men and at the same time euphonical, that the interpretation of some of the more prominent may be interesting:

- Winnipeg—The muddy water.
- Minnesota—Slightly whitish water.
- Minneapolis—City of waters.
- Minnetonka—Big water.
- Minnesota—To be drowned, or to drown.
- Mendota—The mouth of the mouth of a river.
- Manitoba—Spirit, ghost or anything unnatural.
- Omaha—Up stream.
- Chicago—The wild onion or leek.
- Montana—Mountains.
- Idaho—The light of the mountains.
- Manitou—The spirit bow.
- Minnehaha—Laughing water.
- Qu'Appelle—Who calls.
- Saskatchewan—Fast running water.

The Souls of Anecdotes

"The Souls of Anecdotes" is a rather odd title for an article. Under that caption Mr. A. Wylie Mahon contributes an article to the September Canadian Magazine. He calls those who misuse anecdotes to serve their own ends, and writes in part as follows:

"Some difficulty has been experienced in answering the question: Where do the lost souls of anecdotes go? Good anecdotes seldom lose their souls, but when they do shuffle off this mortal coil it is a reasonable presumption that they haunt the people who killed them by telling them too often, or murdered them by the way they told them. "I know a clergyman who, in a dream, found himself in a strange land, where every worn and wasted form had a laughable suggestion about it of better days, where every tearful voice had a faint far off echo of mirth or merriment, and every groan was the ghost of a laugh. Some of these strange forms cast a reproachful look of blame at the dreamer. At length he discovered that he was in a weird ghostland of anecdote, and that the weary wasted ones who looked blame upon him were the ghosts of stories he had worn the life out of by telling them so often in his sermons."

STRENGTH OF THE PARTIES

How the Parties Stand by Provinces in the Federal House—Six Per Cent of Vote to Turn Tables.

Some people imagine that the task of ousting Laurier is a tremendous one; but an examination of the returns of the 1904 election does not convey that impression. In that year the Conservatives polled 47 per cent of the total vote, or 468,199 against 536,280 by the Liberals. On the other hand they had only 34 per cent of the representatives in the House of Commons, which, after all is the great matter. But it can be readily seen that an increase of six per cent in the vote may make a big change in the representation of the two parties. Even Liberals concede that their opponents will make a much better showing than they did four years ago. The new house will have 221 against 214 members as at present.

The present standing of the parties in the federal parliament is as follows:

ONTARIO:	
Liberals	.....39
Conservatives	.....47
QUEBEC:	
Liberals	.....54
Conservatives	.....11
NOVA SCOTIA:	
Liberals	.....17
Conservatives	.....1
NEW BRUNSWICK:	
Liberals	.....8
Conservatives	.....5
MANITOBA:	
Liberals	.....8
Conservatives	.....8
SASKATCHEWAN:	
Liberals	.....5
Conservatives	.....1
ALBERTA:	
Liberals	.....2
Conservatives	.....2
BRITISH COLUMBIA:	
Liberals	.....7
Conservatives	.....0
P. E. ISLAND:	
Liberals	.....1
Conservatives	.....8
YUKON:	
Conservative	.....1
This gives 140 Liberals and 74 Conservatives.	

Liberal P

As Enunciated at H Borden, Lea Opposition

1. Honest appointments in the public.
2. Appointment capacity and personal alone.
3. More effective at elections, to ensure by political organization campaign funds for tributes thereto by to expediate hearing collusive arrangements thereof, to provide practices and if necessary securing officer to en
4. A thorough relating to the Civil S be made by an independent of examiners aff
5. Such reform i as will make that ch body.
6. A more care immigration shall immigrants and the under very special obtaining particular
7. The management main (in which are t for the public benefit respectable proportion from shall inure to t
8. The operation railways by an inde control or interferen
9. Development ways, the equipment transportation facilities rates between the pl at home or abroad system of cold storag
10. The re-organ mission as a public and more extended and effective control ing public utilities o character.
11. The establish of national telegraph shall be just to capit
12. The improv specially in newly d inauguration, after free rural mail deliv
13. A fiscal pol within Canada of all manufactured from having due regard to the just claims of
14. The promoti means of a system empire.
15. The restora of Alberta and Sask
16. The unimp government which of Canada under the

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