

## THE WEST

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1908

## J. T. Brown

The acceptance by J. T. Brown, M. L.A., of the government nomination for Qu'Appelle has occasioned considerable comment and there is no doubt that there is much more thought than is being at present expressed. Mr. Brown's political career began in the provincial campaign in 1905 when he broke away from the Liberal party to support Mr. Haultain in his fight for provincial rights.

It is not so long ago but what most of the people will recall the attacks made upon Mr. Brown by the government, members and their organs, and the imputations as to the lack of principle which actuated him at that time. Affidavits were published imputing to Mr. Brown ulterior motives and letters were written by Liberals stating confidential relations previous to the Liberal nomination in the local constituency of Moosemin. In spite of what was said against him Mr. Brown adhered to his alleged principles and he was accepted by the Provincial Rights party in good faith and received a united support during his election and shared the confidence of his leader and colleagues in spite of the aspirations cast upon him by those on the government side. Mr. Brown was a party to the land policy of the provincial Rights party and adopted their platform in convention.

Every effort has been made by the local government, however, working in conjunction with the government at Ottawa, to get Mr. Brown out of public life. To all the representations made to him up to a certain time he turned a deaf ear, but about two weeks before the Liberal nominations as Wolsley, Mr. Brown was called to Ottawa and there he was induced to forsake his local leader and abandon his Provincial Rights principles. It was at once arranged that Mr. Brown was to get the nomination for Qu'Appelle. He had agreed to accept. The convention met and Mr. Brown was nominated on the first vote. He accepted and in that convention became a party to a resolution approving the land policy of the Dominion government which of course was in direct contravention of the covenant he entered into in the last Provincial Rights convention. At an evening meeting Mr. Brown spoke for an hour and dealt with the lands question. He characterized Mr. Borden as insincere in his land policy and disapproved of any such attempt to set aside the provisions of the Autonomy Act.

Mr. Brown's position is therefore, so anomalous that he has no defense from the imputations made by the government and their organs in the local elections. He was the custodian of his own honor and reputation, and he alone could give his detractors the lie. It, however, Mr. Brown has in any way confirmed the imputations formerly made against him, he has only himself to blame. Either the early charges against him

were right or they were wrong, and up to the 21st of January 1908 Mr. Brown by his word and actions proved that he was sincere.

Where now, however, is his defence?

## Brown's Nomination

The political meeting here on Tuesday night in the interests of the Liberal party was not what would be termed a "howling success;" there were plenty of empty seats and the addresses given were not "heavy." Mr. Fraser's talk was on political principles with a good deal of humor and nothing much of present day politics, while Mr. Brown made a feeble attempt to knock the Halifax Platform.

Mr. Brown received such a vote of the delegates at the convention that the nomination he made unanimous. But the Tories figure out that with Mr. Brown separated from Mr. Haultain and shored under in such a sure Tory constituency as Qu'Appelle, he will be out of the way. As a Liberal-Provincial Rights Liberal Mr. Brown is, as a Liberal leader said of the Halifax Platform, very elastic and his sails are set for any breeze. In speaking of the fiscal policy of the Halifax platform Mr. Brown said the manufacturer was placed first, and the laborer and consumer second. It was the policy of the Liberal party to consider the laborer and farmer first.

They evidently do not think so Mr. Brown for at the last Labor Congress the knife was turned for the Liberal government and is being kept sharp for the next election. Labor candidates are to be nominated in opposition to both parties and in some cases the farmers are uniting with them. And the farmers' associations throughout the country are calling for independent candidates.

Mr. Brown said that the telephone business belonged to the province and not to the Dominion. He said that no one was worrying about the telegraph monopoly for very few of us ever spent a cent on it. And it was not paying under government control in Great Britain.

Neither was our post office department paying for many years and it was not handed over to private control or the rates raised. And the telegraph monopoly is worrying Mr. Brown for he wants it under government control. Why do that? "None of us spend any money on it, and we don't begrudge the little they make."

Mr. Brown showed how Mr. Borden had fouled the nest and talked of restoring the public lands to the new provinces on fair terms. He could re-open the autonomy bill to adjust the land question, but Mr. Borden never said a word about what made the pot boil during the passing of the bill, viz., the school question.

Don't you think you have done some skating around that same question Mr. Brown?

Mr. Fraser gave an illustration of how people could swallow themselves—boots and all—in Hon. Mr. Caldwell voting against compulsory education in the Manitoba legislature. Whether Mr. Fraser intended it or not his illustration somewhat fitted the man on whose behalf he was in Wolsley.

The Manufacturers Association was opposed to the Liberal party. Mr. Fraser showed, and demanded a government that would give a higher tariff.

Yes, and this same bunch of capitalists were against the Conservative party in 1896. A perusal of the Globe previous to the election of that year will show a list of names of hundreds of manufacturers who were going to support the Liberal party. But twelve years have passed since. More and more the laborer is thinking for himself and does not think it is his duty to vote the way the "boss" does, and the farmer especially of the west, is getting tired of the manufacturer getting an unequal share of his toil. The Globe sees this and it is not likely to parade such a list again.—Wolsley News.

## Editorial Notes

The Leader at the dictation of its "bosses" is endeavoring to create an impression among the farmers favorable to the cent. an acre tax. The Leader always quotes "the maximum sum provided in the supplementary revenue returnable to the rural school districts, whereas the unorganised territory in the province has been so reduced, and the collection of the tax has been so disappointing that the districts which have so far shared in that fund have been given only a small proportion of the amount stated. These are the conditions which the opponents of the measure stated would arise. The tax will be paid by the farmers of the province but the rural districts will not derive the benefits from the tax which were promised them. Even if they did, however, that would not alter the principle of the tax which is wrong and unjust.

No one will find fault with the absence of Hon. Messrs. Calder and Motherwell in Ottawa for they are on a good mission, but they should have provided that while they are away owing to the absence in Egypt of the premier, that at least Mr. Turgeon stay at home in the interest of the public business. The attorney general has been helping Mr. Adamson organise the constituency of Humboldt instead of attending to the duties for which he stole a seat to assume. The deputy attorney general, Mr. Ford, is also away being in Ottawa.

It cost the farmers of Saskatchewan nearly \$20 a day for several days recently for A. J. Adamson's organisation of Humboldt. Mr. Adamson is the brother-in-law of J. G. Turill, both of whom are now nearly millionaires at the expense of the public resources of this province. Still they are not satisfied for Mr. Turgeon while drawing nearly twenty dollars a day from the people of this province was spending his time in the Humboldt district. He ought to return his last two cheques to the provincial treasury.

## Press Comments

(Moose Jaw News)

"Politics makes strange bed-fellows" is an old saying which is being confirmed every day. The nomination of J. T. Brown M.P.P., by the Liberals of Qu'Appelle as their candidate for the house of Commons is one of these confirmatory incidents for which Mr. Brown, as a most everyone knows, has been second only to Mr. Haultain in the ranks of the provincial rights party, which is a standing protest against the policy of the Laurier government towards Saskatchewan.

That Mr. Brown has accepted the nomination occasions no great surprise among the members of the Provincial Rights party, for he has not made a secret of his accord with the general policy of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. To them the more interesting subject will be: How will the Liberal leaders and the Liberal press

take him? It requires but a short memory to run back to the provincial campaign of 1905 to recall the malignity with which Mr. Brown was assailed by the rank and file of the government's party. Nothing too bad could be said of him. He was a traitor, whose identification with the Provincial Rights party was the result of disappointment ambition of his own. The idea that he was actuated by motives other than regard for his own interests was laughed to scorn. It was alleged that Mr. Brown was a follower of Mr. Haultain because the people seemed to follow the ex-premier.

The Regina Leader led the attack of the Liberal press. To it, Mr. Brown was the object of especial displeasure. From day to day, from week to week it lashed him in the stocks of its columns, and so reviled him that to its readers it seemed that the name of J. T. Brown was almost synonymous with evil. But times have changed, and Mr. Brown is now a Liberal candidate for the Commons. And the Leader MUST support him: so must the other members of the party press. To use a familiar provincial phrase they must "swallow" him. That the dose must "swallow" him. That the dose will go down with a wry face is not difficult to imagine, but the Liberal press has "swallowed" so many bitter doses that at this time it will be prepared to down even Mr. Brown. The public will, with extreme interest, watch the process.

## FATAL CAROUSE

Men take Wood Alcohol to have a good time with fatal results

Glen Ewen, Sask., Jan. 23.—On Saturday evening a bottle of wood alcohol was stolen from a doctor's office here by one of the four men, Frank Cooney, Harry Cooney, Dave Cooney and James Gunn. On Sunday unaware of the fatal nature of the contents of the bottle, the quartette proceeded to have a good time, with the result that three men are dead and the fourth lies at death's door. The three men who lost their lives are Frank and Harry Cooney and James Gunn. Dave Cooney may possibly recover. It is not yet decided whether an inquest will be held.

## INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION

Conference held in Chicago to further the Movement

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 24.—The important problem of industrial education was taken up for discussion at a conference opened here today under the auspices of the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education. Delegates to this meeting had been appointed from a majority of the states, and prominent statesmen, labor and religious leaders, scholars and business men were present at the opening. The conference is to remain in session three days.

The conference marks the formal opening of a widespread campaign to arouse public interest in the subject of industrial training, and to work for legislative action in support of industrial schools where such action seemed desirable. Through this campaign the national society hopes to bring about a broad discussion of the whole matter, and to influence the establishment of local and state schools that will materially assist in the thorough training of skilled workmen for the industries. The society hopes, through the medium of agents

already established in the various states, to bring out the defects of the public school system, under which hundreds of thousands of children annually leave school for undesirable employment before they have reached an age where they can enter a trade. In the opinion of the promoters of the present movement, these conditions are such as to constitute a serious menace to the American industrial supremacy, which it is imperative to remove.

## WORK AT SASKATOON

Saskatoon, Jan. 23.—Material for the G.T.P. has arrived and every precaution is being made for an early start. Only a few miles of steel are needed to complete the first division point from Saskatoon. Three spans of the new bridge are completed.

## Capital City Lodge No. 3

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