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MEN OF TO-DAY

The Bisley Commandant

LT.-COL. ALEXANDER BERTRAM, of Dundas, brigadier of the 3rd brigade and former officer commanding the 77th Wentworth Regiment, has been offered and accepted the post of commandant of the Canadian Bisley team, and will have associated with him as adjutant Major Mercer, of Toronto. Col. Bertram is a member of the firm of John Bertram, Sons & Co., being the general superintendent of this well-known and old established firm of Canadian manufacturers. He has been a military man all his life, having joined No. 7 Company, 13th Batt.—this being the Dundas detachment—as a bugler in 1869. In 1872, when the 77th Batt. was organised, he became a junior officer, and advanced step by step to the regimental command. In 1905 he was appointed to the command of the 3rd Brigade and has now received the highest honour, the post of Bisley commandant, being the first rural commanding officer to be so honoured. He is one of the most genial and popular officers in Western Ontario command, and as enthusiastic in military matters to-day as when he first sounded the bugle notes as a boy recruit forty years ago.

The Bertram family are famous for their marksmanship, Lieut. T. A. Bertram having, a few years ago, won the largest number of prizes ever taken from Bisley by a Colonial officer, and Col. Bertram has been untiring in his efforts to promote rifle shooting in his district. Military ardour runs in the Bertram blood. The colonel's three sons are all soldiers and marksmen. One is an officer in the 91st Regt., and the youngest son is captain in command of the old company in which the new Bisley officer enlisted long ago, and the Bertrams can upon occasion furnish a ten-man rifle team of the one name, which is a record unique in Canada.

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A Legal Playwright

A MAN who is able to write a play, see its first performance in his home town, where everybody knows him, and at the close of the performance come before the curtain and make a tactful speech without falling dead of heart failure, has in him more than the average degree of moral courage. Such a man is Mr. C. W. Bell, of Hamilton. He is a lawyer by shingle; but by real profession he is a playwright. He has written several plays. The one produced in Hamilton had not even a name. It was put on to a crowded house in which were several critics. It aroused enthusiasm—some of which plainly meant "Rah for us," but much of it was discerning appreciation. The critics took it seriously. They devoted columns to its analysis. Mr. Bell is a member of the firm Crerar, Crerar and Bell. He was born in Hamilton thirty-two years ago. At the High school he manifested the cacoethes scribendi, by becoming editor of the school paper. He went to Trinity College, Toronto. There also he did journalistic work. He graduated and studied law at Osgoode, was called to the Bar in 1899. He wrote an early play—a farce called "The Prince of Zanzibar." It was side-tracked because farces were going out of date in favour of musical comedy. Other plays of Mr. Bell have been sidetracked in a similar way. It may have been a good thing for Mr. Bell that they have been. At present he is under contract to write two more plays. Mr. Bell will yet make his mark, but not in law. His senior partners will look after the clients while he writes the play. No doubt being a lawyer he is



Lt.-Col. Bertram
Commandant Bisley Team

able to see comedy and tragedy and farce enough every week to make a play.

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A Railway Minister

THE prospective new Minister of Railways in Alberta is one of those men who usually find a way or make it. Mr. Duncan Marshall is not one of the Ontario sort that would have been a dub round home and struck out west to discover that somebody needed him. He was something of a whirlwind in Ontario. Originally he was an editor; also publisher of a paper called the *Thornbury Standard* which was a strong Liberal sheet, as may be surmised. Mr. Marshall had positive opinions of his own and he had a way of expressing them with his pen. But he was also a natural orator. He went on the stump. He liked politics. He became one of the Liberal organisers in Ontario. In that capacity he met Hon. Frank Oliver, who was sufficiently charmed with Mr. Marshall's address to offer him a job out West—with a chance of making himself felt in rather a big way if he had a mind to take hold and get into the push. Mr. Marshall went on the *Edmonton Bulletin* as business manager. He succeeded. The *Bulletin* is a go-ahead sheet and much of its progressiveness has been demonstrated since Mr. Marshall went on. It was not always progressive. Time was when the *Bulletin* had things all its own way in the town which its proprietors almost discovered. But nowadays it has to hustle like all the rest. Mr. Marshall is part of the hustle. In the recent Alberta election campaign he was a Liberal member down at a town called Olds, which is a thriving community south of Edmonton. Mr. Marshall was elected. It seems likely that he will become the first Provincial Minister of Railways in Canada.

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Another Newspaper Celebrity

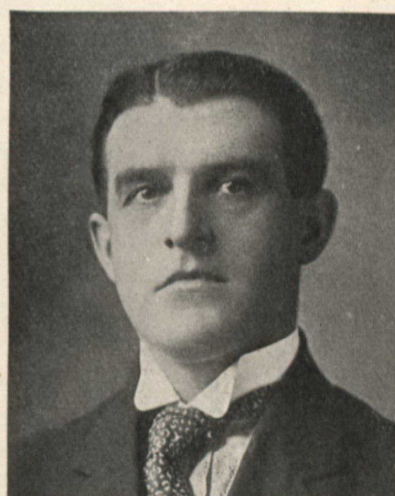
ONE of the brightest and most progressive newspapers in the West is the *Lethbridge Herald*. This paper is one of the real readables—as a western paper should be. It is breezy and optimistic and sane. The man that founded it and that still edits and publishes it is the son of a Methodist minister, and is by no means a black sheep, but a real constructive and brainy man who has a mission in life and has already accomplished a good part of it. Mr. Buchanan is a young man. He was born in Peterborough County in 1876 when his father was preaching down that way. He was educated in Trenton, Norwood and Brighton—which is equivalent to saying that his father went the rounds of those towns while his



Mr. Duncan Marshall,
New Alberta Legislator.



Mr. Chas. W. Bell,
Playwright.



Mr. W. A. Buchanan,
New Alberta Legislator.

son was growing up. In 1893 he went on the *Peterborough Review* which is a Conservative paper. He spent seven good years on that sheet till he got into the editorial department; from which he went to Toronto as news editor of a newspaper called the *Toronto Telegram*. Not long afterwards he migrated to St. Thomas to manage the *Journal* of that town for Mr. Brierly, of the *Montreal Herald*. The *Journal* is a Liberal paper. But when Mr. Brierly disposed of that paper Mr. Buchanan hit the trail for the West. That was in the fall of 1905 when the trails were busy with folk getting out to the unoccupied places where fortune and fame were to be made. He went to Lethbridge, which in that year had about 2,500 population, but now—thanks to Mr. Buchanan and the *Lethbridge Herald*, which he established in the interests of progress—the number of souls is not less than 8,000. Lethbridge became so big under his management that it had to have a member and Mr. Buchanan became that member.