

FROM
ER BOYS

Eastend, Sask.,
growing valuable
from his son
with the 29th
Ross and his
known to many

May 6, '17.

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Charlie.

TIPSY

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CANADA A NATION
FOR FIFTY YEARS

Meaning of Confederation to Our
Young Nation.

GROWTH OF THE DOMINION

Establishment of the Various Colonies That Made Up British North America, Finally Federating in 1867 to Form a Country, July the First, Being Its Birthday.

ALTHOUGH a man is considered to be passing his prime when he reaches the age of fifty years, a nation that has arrived at the half-century mark is looked upon as a mere infant among the powers. On July 1st, 1917, the Dominion of Canada completes the first half century of its life, and the record of the country has justified the men who foresaw that the formation of the federation of Provinces would lift Canada to the dignity of nationhood. The British Empire is the most unique experiment in imperialism that the



SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD

world has ever seen. It consists, not of a central power, nursing and developing colonies so that it may reap a profit through ultimate exploitation. That was the old imperial idea. With the British it has been otherwise. The empire consists of a number of self-governing nations, each one free to make for itself its own destiny and bound to the Motherland with the strong ties that come from common ideas, common language, and common laws. They are also held together by the belief that it is for the good of the world that this highly civilized empire of free nations, grouped round the land from which they came, should exert its influence for freedom in all parts of the globe.

Canada was the first of the overseas dominions to mature into a nation. British America, before 1867, had been a loose series of small colonies scattered across the continent, the Provinces and Territories having come into the Empire at different times and under varying circumstances. The Province of Nova Scotia, first colonized by the French in 1604, was taken by the British in 1713, but rose to the dignity of a separate province in 1820. Ontario and Quebec are the two largest provinces, the original Old Canada. Quebec was founded by the French in 1608, and the city fell to the British in 1759, being formally ceded to our Empire in 1763. In 1791 an Imperial Act was passed dividing Canada into two Provinces, Upper and Lower Canada, with a separate constitution for each. These two Provinces were again united in 1841, but at the time of the Union they were divided, Upper Canada becoming Ontario and Lower Canada taking the historic name of Quebec. The Eastern Colonies, with the exception of Prince Edward Island, were the original Provinces to enter confederation in 1867.

British Columbia, on the shores of the Pacific, was granted a colonial government in 1858. In 1859 Vancouver Island became a separate colony, but the two portions of the Province were joined when they entered the federal union. In 1871, that vast region lying between Old Canada and British Columbia was taken over by the new Dominion in 1871, and out of the territory the present Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta were carved. Manitoba in 1870 and the others in 1905.

Previous to 1867, many suggestions for the union of the British Provinces in North America had been put forward, but the first legislative action looking to this end was taken by the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia in 1861 under the leadership of Sir Charles Tupper. Early in 1864 delegates from the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island assembled at Charlottetown, authorized by their governments to confer in reference to the union of these Provinces. Nothing, however, was at that time accomplished, except that as a result of certain conferences another con-

vention was called by the Governor-General to meet in Quebec on October 10th, 1864, and at this meeting, Upper and Lower Canada and the Maritime Provinces were all represented. Seventy-two resolutions, afterwards formulated as the "British North America Act 1867" were adopted by this convention, and these were taken back to the different legislative bodies for consideration. The Canadian Parliament adopted the resolutions at its meeting in the following March, but the scheme met with a great deal of opposition in the Maritime Provinces. There was a bitter general election in New Brunswick, and the forces of union won. The Legislature of Nova Scotia adopted the measure without referring it to the electorate. The Bill for the Union was presented in the Imperial Parliament in February, 1867, and passed the two houses on March 29th of that year. The Act came into force by proclamation on July 1st of that year, and Dominion Day will remain our most distinctive national holiday down through posterity, so long as Canada remains a nation, which, all Canadians will say resolutely, means forever.

Those great days, full of meaning for the men of this land for all time, are still remembered by many of our citizens. Old people can recall the birthday of Canada and the celebration in all parts of the Dominion though few of them dreamed that in less than fifty years the new nation would become strong enough to engage in a great world war and to be an important factor in the struggle. When the proclamation of the British North America Act was made, Right Hon. Charles Stanley, Viscount Monck happened to be the Governor of Canada, so that it fell to his lot automatically to be the first Governor-General of the new Dominion.

Some National Characteristics That Canada Possesses.

Sometimes men come to Canada tell Canadians that a young country cannot call itself a nation until it is old enough to have a little individuality. There must be things about it that people all over the world associate only with that country. A nation, possessing a national consciousness, cannot be created in fifty years, they will tell you. Then they may ask, "What is there in Canada that is peculiarly your own?"

It is true that we are very young, and that we have never received much world-wide advertisement until the war came along. Still the annals of brave men in the world, from the story of King Arthur and the Round Table right down through history contain nothing more thrilling than the story of the Royal North-West Mounted Police. If anyone thinks that a young country cannot possess anything of romance in its story he ought to read something about this wonderful force of men who kept order in the newly-opened West as it has never been maintained in any other pioneer country in the history of new lands. They helped to make Canada's name of being particularly free from crime. The outside world will learn more and more of the pride we take in the record of our Mounted Police.

We are the only country in the world with a national game acquired from the aborigines. Our forefathers found lacrosse being played by the Indians when they came here. They took the game and adapted it to the tastes of Anglo-Saxons with their love of sport. The game with its vigor and virility, its speed and its manliness, makes a fitting symbol for the new country. Lacrosse may never be as popular as some other sports because of the skill and discipline required to play it. It is, however, the one game in which Canadian supremacy has never been challenged. It gives individuality to the sporting life of our country. Lacrosse is something typically Canadian.

Sometimes we have objected to Kipling's name for us "Our Lady of the Snows." People who visit us in July and August learn that we also know something about heat. Still Canadian have a wide and practical knowledge of how to enjoy winter. Skating and snow-shoeing, hockey and tobogganing give a zest to life in cold weather. If an Englishman sees a picture of an ice palace surrounded by people in blanket suits, he will immediately identify it as a scene in Canada—the land where they know how to enjoy winter.

Some of our natural beauties and our natural resources, such as the lumbering industry, also help to give Canada character. We have been a little over-awed in the past by our hustling and conspicuous neighbor, and it is a healthy sign that the people of the Dominion are commencing to think along these lines. They are beginning to realize what it means to have national ideas and also to feel that "The twentieth century belongs to Canada."

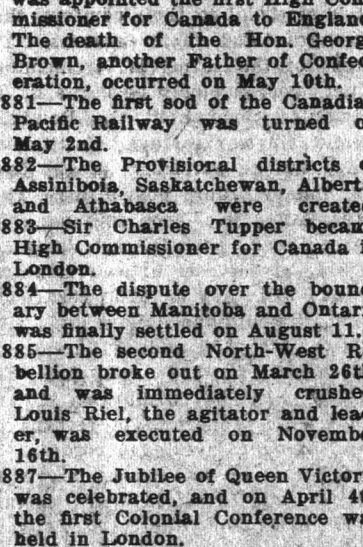
Half a Century
Told in Brief

1867—British North America Act passed. The Dominion of Canada became a nation, and Dominion Day was established on July 1st. 1868—The assassination of D'Arcy McGee, one of the Fathers of Confederation, occurred at Ottawa on April 7th. 1869—The young Dominion had to face the anxieties of the First Red River Rebellion in the North-West. 1870—On May 11th the Dominion purchased the Hudson Bay Company's rights in Rupert's Land for \$300,000, and on July 15th the new Province of Manitoba and the North-West Territories were created. On September 24th Colonel Wolseley's expedition arrived at Fort Garry and the Riel Rebellion collapsed. 1871—British Columbia was admitted into Confederation on July 20th, so that the young nation reached from coast to coast. 1873—Prince Edward Island was admitted to the Dominion on July 1st. 1874—Alexander Mackenzie became Prime Minister of Canada. 1875—The first Lieutenant-Governor was appointed for Rupert's Land and the North-West Territories.



SIR OLIVER MOWAT

was appointed for Rupert's Land and the North-West Territories. 1876—This year saw the opening of the Intercolonial Railway from Quebec to Halifax, and the establishment of the Royal Military College at Kingston. 1877—A vital event took place this year, though it was not considered important at the time. The first exportation of wheat was made from Manitoba to Great Britain. 1878—In November, the Marquis of Lorne arrived as Governor-General, accompanied by H.R.H. Princess Louise. The Mackenzie Government was defeated, and Sir John A. Macdonald became once more Prime Minister of Canada, an office that he held until his death. 1879—The National Policy was adopted, its purpose being to strengthen the industries and finances of Canada. 1880—On May 11th, Sir A. T. Galt was appointed the first High Commissioner for Canada to England. The death of the Hon. George Brown, another Father of Confederation, occurred on May 16th. 1881—The first sod of the Canadian Pacific Railway was turned on May 2nd. 1882—The Provisional districts of Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Athabasca were created. 1883—Sir Charles Tupper became High Commissioner for Canada in London. 1884—The dispute over the boundary between Manitoba and Ontario was finally settled on August 11th. 1885—The second North-West Rebellion broke out on March 26th, and was immediately crushed. Louis Riel, the agitator and leader, was executed on November 16th. 1887—The Jubilee of Queen Victoria was celebrated, and on April 4th the first Colonial Conference was held in London. 1888—The Fisheries Treaty was signed at Washington on April 16th, only to be rejected later by the United States Senate as not sufficiently favorable to their country. 1890—The Legislature of the North-West Territories was given control of all territorial expenditures. 1891—On June 6th, Sir John A. Macdonald died. 1892—The Treaty of Washington (Behring Sea) was signed providing for arbitration over the boundary line between Canada and the United States. 1893—Sir John Thompson died suddenly in London. Sir Mackenzie Bowell became Prime Minister of Canada. 1894—The Colonial Conference met at Ottawa on June 28th. 1895—A Proclamation was issued naming the unnamed portions of the North-West Territories, Ungava, Franklin, Mackenzie, and Yukon Districts. 1896—On April 24th Lord Strathcona was appointed High Commissioner for Canada. He gave the place of Sir Charles Tupper who returned to Ottawa from London to become Prime Minister and lead the Conservative party. The Government was defeated at the polls, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier became Prime Minister, holding that office until defeated by Sir Robert Borden in 1911. On July 6th the boundaries of Quebec were extended to the shores of Hudson Bay. 1897—The Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria was celebrated on June 26th. The second Colonial Conference opened in London during the following month. 1899—One thing happened in this year that indicated the growth of



HON. GEORGE BROWN

the modern imperial spirit. On August 1st, the preferential tariff came into force which gave a reduction of 25 per cent. in favor of British goods. The Joint High Commission met at Quebec for the adjustment of questions between Canada and the United States. 1899—Another event of imperial importance marked this year. The Boer War broke out on October 11th, and on the 30th of the month the first Canadian contingent for service in South Africa embarked at Quebec. This was the first time that Canadians had decided for themselves to take part in a foreign war. Empire Day was celebrated for the first time on May 23rd of this year. 1900—Fire destroyed a large part of Ottawa and Hull on April 26th. The British Preferential Tariff was reduced to two-thirds the General Canadian Customs Tariff on July 7th. 1901—On January 22nd, Queen Victoria died, and King Edward ascended the throne. In September, Lord Wolseley, the Duke of Devon and Duchess of York made a tour of the Dominion of Canada. This was the first visit of King George and Queen Mary to our country. 1902—The Boer War came to an end. 1903—The Alaska Boundary dispute was partially settled between Canada and the United States. 1905—The new Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta were created on September 1st. 1907—March 22nd, The Industrial Disputes Investigation Act was passed. The New Customs Tariff, including the introduction of Imperial Tariff, was introduced. Matters of imperial importance were the Third Colonial Conference held in London during the months of April and May, and the New Commercial Convention with France signed in Paris on September 18th. 1908—The Ottawa Branch of the Royal Mint was established on January 2nd. On May 4th, the final Treaty was ratified marking out the boundary between Canada and the United States. The Quebec Tercentary Celebrations took place commencing July 20th, continuing to the 31st. 1909—The Canadian Commission of Conservation was appointed on May 13th. During the month of July the Conference on Imperial Defence took place in London. 1910—The first Naval Service Bill passed Parliament on May 4th. The death of King Edward VII. occurred on May 6th, and George V. ascended the throne. On June 7th, Goldwin Smith, who had been recognized as the intellectual leader of Canada for many years, died at his home in the Grange, Toronto. 1911—The Laurier Government submitted the reciprocity proposals which have been framed with the United States to the Canadian Parliament on January 21st. On March 21st the Duke of Connaught was appointed Governor-General of Canada. From May 20th the first of the Imperial Conferences met in London. On October 11th electrical energy generated by Niagara Falls was first used in Canada. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught landed at Quebec on October 13th. During the month of September the Laurier Government went to the

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OUR INFANT ARTS
CONTAIN PROMISE

Music and Literature are Bound
to Develop.

BEGINNINGS ARE SMALL

A Few Novelists and Poets Who Represent This Young Country Have Won International Fame and Our Musicians are Making Progress, But We Have No Drama.

IT is almost too much to expect that a young nation will have developed in less than a half century many signs of artistic self expression, but already Canadians are beginning to look for indications of artistic endeavor in the Dominion. We are a country without a great deal of tradition. Even the Provinces that had existed for a century or two before Confederation are really new in the sense of having any feeling of national consciousness. They were considered colonies for so many years, and the struggle for existence was all that filled the mind of the pioneers. Then came nationhood, and Canadians became slowly more conscious that they needed literature and music. They were content for many years to import those beautifying influences of life, and were rather inclined to discourage local effort. In this respect things have changed greatly of late, and every Canadian is looking for the time when we shall have novels and poetry, music and drama, pictures and similar forms of national self expression that the world will recognize and honor.

Canada has not been without poets. Indeed it is in this branch of literature that our country has been richest. There are men like Archibald Lampman who have pictured and interpreted our life and our Canadian scenes in their verse in a manner that has made them classics in our land. Bliss Carman, Wilfred Campbell, and Duncan Campbell Scott have given the world many beautiful lyrics, and there are poets of verse like Pauline Johnson, the gifted Indian poetess, who will be long remembered because they belonged so peculiarly to this land. Robert W. Service is the man who has won for himself an international fame as a poet, being known in England as "the Canadian Kipling."

Our novelists have not been as numerous as our poets, and they have done no work as fine as the exquisite poetry of Lampman, but several of them stand high in the estimation of the general reading public. Sir Gilbert Parker is well established as a careful and painstaking novelist, and his brilliant work has made the life of the Quebec habitant known to people in England and the United States. Though not greatly inspired, he has nevertheless won a considerable reputation. Ralph Connor has made for himself a public only a little less extensive than that possessed by Sir Gilbert Parker. The Winnipeg clergyman who first attracted attention with his novel, "The Sky Pilot," undertook to describe primitive life and primitive conflicts as they appear to the minister, and he immediately made for himself a large following. There has never been a more characteristic Canadian novelist than Judge Helliwell, and though he is not widely known now, it is generally believed that time will make him as great a classic as Washington Irving is among American writers. In this respect, his fame is a little like that of Dr. Drummond, whose habitant poetry is perhaps the most purely Canadian thing we possess in the way of literature. We have in Stephen Leacock a humorist whose work by no means lags. Perhaps he will become the Canadian Mark Twain.

There is no drama in Canada as yet. Not a single play exists that has been produced on the Canadian stage, and though he is not widely known now, it is generally believed that time will make him as great a classic as Washington Irving is among American writers. In this respect, his fame is a little like that of Dr. Drummond, whose habitant poetry is perhaps the most purely Canadian thing we possess in the way of literature. We have in Stephen Leacock a humorist whose work by no means lags. Perhaps he will become the Canadian Mark Twain.