

## THE WEST

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1908

## A Statesman

Here are some of the statements made by Mr. R. L. Borden in his speeches during his recent tour:

"If, when elected to power, we do not fulfill the promises that we have made, then it shall be the duty of every good Conservative to assist in casting us from power."

"We set no standards for our opponents, that we are not ready to be judged by in the fullest sense."

"If we deceive you, turn us out, and show every politician in Canada that he dare not outrage public opinion."

"I do not believe that the people of Canada will care to have the greatest of charges of maladministration supported by strong proof, dismissed by the premier with simply a shrug of the shoulders."

"Why do I denounce the ministry of Sir Wilfrid Laurier?"

"Because they, when acting as trustees for you, have handed over public domain to party friends, have allowed your money to be squandered by party friends, have shown a greater desire to please these parasites than to do public service."

"They denounce us as scandal mongers."

"What is more patriotic than to show the people of Canada how their money is being misappropriated by their trustees?"

"They can only cry 'muck-raking,' is that any answer?"

"Is it an answer that the people of Canada will stand for?"

## Shall This Continue?

In 1902 the Laurier government conceived the idea of paying \$5 per head to "The North Atlantic Trading Company" for every immigrant coming to Canada from the continent of Europe.

The following sums were paid out under this policy:

1902	\$35,482	1905	\$77,884
1903	34,552	1906	56,287
1904	38,938	1907	61,234

These sums, with others subsequently paid, make a total, as acknowledged by Mr. Frank Oliver in parliament, of \$367,245.

Enquiry in parliament disclosed the fact that "The North Atlantic Trading Company" rendered no service for the money received by it.

Further enquiry indicated that there was no such company as "The North Atlantic Trading Company."

The government was called upon to name the president, the directors and the shareholders, and it pleaded inability to do so, because these names were "confidential."

Mr. A. F. Jury, emigration agent at Liverpool, and formerly a leading Toronto Liberal, charged that the company was a fraud. He wrote Preston, satirically describing it as one of his gold mines.

To the parliamentary committee he said that in his opinion Mr. Preston was "doing this thing for himself."

The government defended the whole thing, and in order to stop further enquiry sent Preston off to Japan, where he is now.

Is it likely that if Preston had drawn all this money for himself the government would have defended him or have continued him in the public service?

The \$367,000 did not go to any "North Atlantic Trading Company," for there was no such company, and Preston could not have retained it or the government would not have protected him.

Some big politicians must have divided this plunder.

If the people don't want this sort of thing to go on, their ballots can end it on Oct. 26th.

## Time for a Change

The following reasons advanced by the Chatham, (N.B.) World in favor of a change of government at Ottawa are certainly valid reasons:

"The electors of Canada are going to turn the Laurier government out for exactly the same reasons that New Brunswick turned the Robinson government out."

"It has OUTLIVED ITS HONESTY."

"It has become corrupt."

"Its members, several of them, have become ENORMOUSLY RICH IN OFFICE."

"Some members of the government are NOTORIOUS FOR IMMORALITY and looseness of life."

"Some heads of departments have grown callous, shameless, unafraid boodlers, confident of finding protection under the cloak of Liberalism."

"The departments are ROTTEN TO THE CORE."

"Contractors and others who give liberally to the party funds are allowed to ROB THE PEOPLE."

"One Pearson, who runs three or four newspapers in the government interest, has been allowed to pocket THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS on purchases of land for railway purposes, and is given 25 per cent. commission on several thousand dollars worth of job printing that is not done in his office, but by other printers."

"The public expenditure has INCREASED AT A RUINOUS RATE and is still increasing."

"It is time for a change."

"A NEW BROOM SWEEPS CLEAN, and the oftener the broom is changed the cleaner will be the house. No government should be allowed to remain in power more than two terms. The ministers learn to think that they own the country and that pocketing the contents of its treasury is patriotism and not theft."

## Editorial Notes

Premier Scott told the people during the provincial campaign that if they voted for him they would secure the Hudson's Bay railway. Now he says IF the people vote for Laurier they will get the road. What a frank admission that he was humbugging the people before.

Mayor Morash, of Lumberton, N. S., a former Liberal member of the provincial legislature in that province has announced himself as a supporter of Mr. R. L. Borden. He stated that he could no longer remain a member of the party that had disgraced the name of Liberalism. He preferred to call them Laurierites rather than Liberals.

"IN MY OPINION THE HUDSON BAY RAILROAD SHOULD BE BUILT BY THE GOVERNMENT IMMEDIATELY AND UNDER SUCH CONDITIONS AS WOULD INSURE ABSOLUTE AND THOROUGH CONTROL OF THE RATES TO BE PAID BY THE FARMERS OF THE WEST." (Extract from speech delivered by R. L. Borden.)

Liberal campaign pamphlets are going through the mails without postage. These parcels are franked by Liberal ministers, and the country is being robbed of a vast amount of revenue. One that we have seen was franked by Sir Richard Cartwright. Is the ordinary voter allowed to send mail through the post office free? Of course not; then why should the Liberal party be allowed to send campaign literature free?

Outside of the statements that there is no truth in the charges about grafting in western resources, "I am a Grit," said Sir Wilfrid

the Liberal speakers and the Liberal press hold out the prosperity of the country as a reason why the Laurier administration should be returned. They claim that Laurier is responsible for this prosperity. Now if Laurier is responsible for the prosperity he must also be responsible for the depression in business which has been prevalent this year. Let any Liberal speaker who claims for Laurier the country's prosperity attribute any other cause for the depression and his consistency is gone.

The local Scott organ says W. M. Martin's friends cannot detect that he is discouraged. But then the sheet has the nerve to report Mr. Martin's slimly attended meetings as being grand and enthusiastic affairs.

We have nothing to say about the personal character of Mr. Martin, though he is no better than Mr. Wilkinson, but we do say that he is Walter Scott's candidate, and at the dictation of Walter Scott the Liberal machine forced Mr. Martin's candidature. John R. Bunn of Milestone is one that cannot consistently deny this, neither can many other Liberals who attended the convention.

If W. M. Martin does not show that he is discouraged, the credit is due to the ginger supplied by the machine which must have some dark ways and means ready to spring before the ballots are counted.

## Press Comment

(Windspe Tribune)

If Theodore Burrows, Clifford Sifton and J. G. Turf were candidates in an English, Scotch or Irish constituency, what would happen?

They would not be re-elected by every party of decency?

They would not receive one hundred votes apiece in the most populous districts in any of those countries.

If the trio lived in the United States and declared themselves Republicans and friends of President Roosevelt, what would happen?

Mr. Roosevelt would repudiate them in the name of decency of government.

William Jennings Bryan, Democratic candidate for president, would not only repudiate them if they posed as Democrats; he would denounce them.

He had fired out men of much greater talent, and more respectability during the past few days because some suspicion was attached to their conduct in matters not half so serious as those in which this western trio has been implicated.

Why are Canadians so blind to quality in public men?

(Toronto News)

Recently Mr. Brodeur attended a Liberal meeting in Sault Ste. Marie. In reporting the meeting the Montreal Gazette attributed to Mr. Brodeur the remark that if more than ten seats were won by the opposition in Quebec, the Conservatives would come into power. Mr. Brodeur promptly denied that he made any such statement. But Le Nationaliste is not prepared to accept the denial, and in its last issue printed a stenographic report of Mr. Brodeur's words which it is ready to support by affidavit. Here is a translation:

"Let there be peace amongst you. This year more than ever it is necessary that all the friends of the Liberal cause walk hand in hand. The fight which we are entering will be most arduous. Still I hope that we can maintain our position, but in order to do that, our friends of Sault Ste. Marie must unite like those in other counties. The New Brunswick election was another Mercer affair, and, under the circumstances, may be infinitely prejudicial to us. The elections this year can be compared to a horse race, the Conservatives have as good a chance of getting there as we. It is not necessary that our supporters should take more than ten seats in the province of Quebec. If they do we run the greatest risk of going out of power."

There is not much doubt as to the accuracy of this forecast. If Mr. Brodeur did not say it, he and his colleagues undoubtedly believe it. There is an awakening in Canada. It extends also to Quebec, and present indications are that the opposition will take more than ten seats in the neighboring province.

(Toronto Weekly Sun)

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been charged with flippancy in his treatment of serious public questions during his Ontario tour. The charge is not altogether without foundation. While at times the premier has risen to something like his old-time eloquence at others he has shown lack of seriousness in dealing with subjects of greatest concern.

In his speech at Cornwall, the premier was, however, guilty of a grave offence that charged against him by his opponents. This was when he abandoned the language and attitude of a statesman, and appealed to the partisanship of those whom he was addressing.

"I am a Grit," said Sir Wilfrid

on that occasion, "not an Independent Grit, but a Grit out and out. The man who is nearest my heart is a man who is a Grit like myself, and it is as a Grit I ask you all to give your support to my friend, Mr. Smith."

That is the sort of language which might be looked for from a ward politician in the city of Toronto; it is not the sort of appeal that comes well from the first minister of the Dominion. From one in that position, the country expects, in appeal to its best aspirations and sentiments, and not one that is calculated to intensify the spirit of mere factionism.

## PUBLIC LIBRARY NOTES

In the selection of books for the Regina public library, the committee of the board on whom the task of selection fell, have kept prominently before them the necessity for catering to the intellectual wants of a city rapidly growing, not only in population but in culture, already the educational centre of the province and the possible site of a great university with all the institutions that are usually allied to it. It has therefore been decided to spare no expense in the equipment of the library with such works as would be valuable not only to the student and teacher, but also to the intelligent general reader, and therefore, while the wants of those who confine their reading to the lighter order of literature are by no means overlooked, the student of history, science, philosophy, religion, or that most modern science sociology, will be able to find on the shelves of the Regina library the very latest and best books procurable under these heads.

The system of classification adopted is what is known as the Dewey Decimal Classification which was invented and worked out by Prof. Melvil Dewey, A.M., formerly director of the New York State library, and which has been adopted by nearly all the leading libraries of the United States and Canada. Without going into details of the system which are not of general interest, I may say that under it the field of human knowledge is divided into the following general classes: General works, i.e., works of reference, dealing with a number of subjects, such as encyclopedias, philosophy, religion, sociology, philosophy, natural science, useful arts, fine arts, literature and history. These are again subdivided as often as may be necessary; the system permitting of an infinite subdivision. For instance, useful arts includes, medicine, engineering, domestic economy, commerce, chemical technology, manufacturers, mechanical trades and building, literature includes poetry, drama, fiction, essays, oratory, etc., while history includes such branches as geography and travel and biography.

Under every one of the above mentioned sub-divisions and many others not mentioned, the patron of the Regina Public Library will find much at least of the best that is to be had. Under biography and literature we have the lives of prominent men like W. E. Gladstone, Abraham Lincoln, Sir John A. Macdonald, of the great soldiers of the past and present day, like William the Conqueror, Richard Coeur de Lion, Gustavus Adolphus, Napoleon, John Duke of Marlborough, Lord Nelson, etc., of poets, novelists, literary men, saints, scientists and others.

Realizing the great interest that is now being taken by thinking people everywhere in the many important social problems, which seem to be characteristic of the present age, special attention has been devoted to this section, and accordingly we will find it in works by eminent authorities on such subjects as Temperance and Social Reform; Christianity and the Social Crisis; Labor Problems; Socialism; Practice of Charity; Monopolies and Trusts; Municipal Administration; Capitalism; Trades Unions; Government Regulation of Railway Rates; Woman Suffrage; Universities, etc., etc., in all some 200 volumes, many of them just lately of the press.

Nearly one thousand volumes of fiction are being provided. These will comprise not only the old favorite standard authors, but all the best novels published during the past year, a careful selection having been made so that nothing of a purely vicious tendency will be found on our shelves.

Under useful arts, the busy housewife looking for new ideas will find much to interest her. There will be books on building a home, furnishing and decorating it, keeping it clean and its inmates healthy. Books on cooking, serving meals, candy making, dressmaking, needlework, care of children, while the builder and me-

chanic will be able to consult the most up-to-date works relating to his trade.

Our German friends, too, have not been forgotten, and a very nice little library of standard German works has been provided for them. This will also be useful to the student of that language, who may wish to improve himself in that most philosophical of languages by studying the works of Schiller, Goethe and other great German writers in their own tongue.

One of the sections which the board expect will be largely taken advantage of is the juvenile section which is practically a separate library of some 600 volumes. These books will be arranged so far as possible in accordance with the grades of the public schools, in which work, Mr. Hutcherson, the superintendent of city schools, has very kindly promised his assistance. In this way the young people will be able, without trouble, to get books suitable to their state of knowledge.

It is quite impossible within the limits of one article to give more than a mere outline of the good things in store for the reading public of the city when the library is opened. I hope, therefore, from time to time, to be able to deal more particularly with each section. In the meantime enough has been said, I think, to show that the Regina public library will be no mere village institution, and with the large additions which it is intended to make rapidly become one of the largest and most important institutions of the sort in Canada.

I regret that, owing to unforeseen circumstances the board is not yet in a position to make a definite announcement as to the date of opening, but arrangements are being made which it is hoped will permit of the reading room being opened at a comparatively early date. This will be supplied with the leading magazines, newspapers and illustrated weeklies and should prove a very popular place of resort during the coming long evenings.

J. R. C. HONEYMAN,  
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