

The CANADIAN COURIER

A National Weekly.

Vol. XI.

December 16, 1911

No. 3

MEN OF

TO-DAY

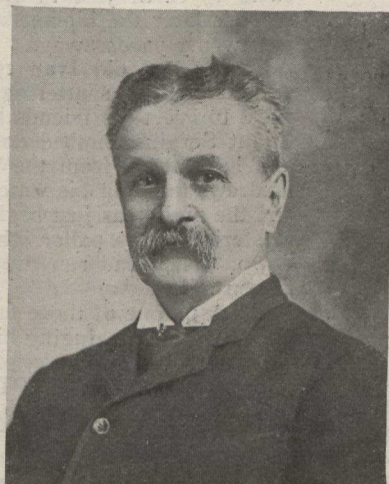
Mr. C. A. Magrath to the Chair.

MR. CHARLES A. MAGRATH is again a public figure—appointed chairman of the Canadian section of the International Waterways Commission. The gigantic well-poised man from Medicine Hat did not share in his party's triumph last September. When Mr. Magrath failed to carry his constituency, both Conservatives and Liberals agreed that the big, brainy Westerner had left a gap in Ottawa. Mr. Magrath, while in Parliament, had been one of the elect at Leader Borden's elbow, helping him steer the Opposition ship to the goal reached on September 21st. Had he been returned, Mr. Magrath would have been a Western representative in the Cabinet. But though the fates seemed unkind in barring him from the titular prefix "Honourable," Mr. Magrath has not failed to come into his own. As chairman of the Canadian section of an international body like the Waterways Commission, he holds an office quite as important as membership in the Cabinet, with great opportunities for public service. The last chairman, Sir George Gibbons, was knighted; Mr. Magrath may not escape the King's honours. Mr. Magrath will not find his experiences on the Ottawa benches amiss when he comes to arbitrating with Uncle Sam and other powers about fishing rights and like matters. His new position is, essentially, a diplomatic one, requiring governmental training. Mr. Magrath has the diplomatic air—a deep-chested, sociable manner, which subtly dominates. He has accumulated a fortune in Medicine Hat sufficient to grace any position with eclat; and, so, unfettered by monetary worries, he can give his whole time to sharpening his natural diplomatic wit and to learning the details of his post.

The new chairman was born at Augusta, Ont., in 1860. He trekked West in the reign of the half-breed, whiskey smugglers, and remittance men on the prairie. For two terms he served in the Northwest Legislative Assembly. Last term was his first in Ottawa. Before the elections this autumn, he was permanent chairman of the Conservative caucus. Mr. Magrath is the author of a readable book on immigration problems.

Speaker Landry's Irish Accent.

IT has been remarked that Speaker Auguste Charles Philippe Landry of the Dominion Senate is a better linguist than Speaker Sproule of the Commons, because the genial French-Canadian Senator is eloquent in both French and English, whereas yet the Orange Doctor has only a schoolboy knowledge of the Gallic tongue. But Hon. Mr. Landry goes Dr. Sproule even one better in linguistic attainments. He, a French-Canadian, actually speaks English with an Irish accent! Those who heard Colonel Landry on opening day read from the Speaker's throne the high flown official documents, noticed that he referred to His Royal High-



HON. MR. LANDRY

Quebec City

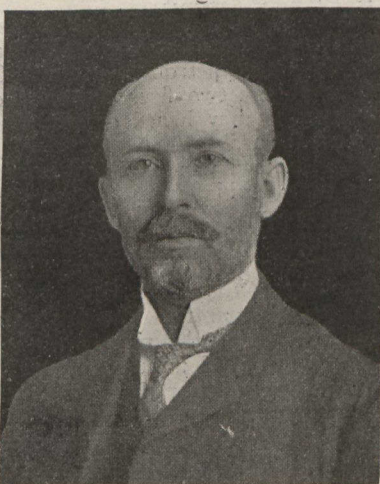
Who presides over the Red Chamber.



MR. CHARLES A. MAGRATH

Medicine Hat

Chairman, International Waterways Commission.



JUDGE HUGH T. KELLY

Toronto

Who succeeds the late Mr. Justice Macmahon in the Ontario High Court.

of age. Away from the Senate, his chief interests are agriculture and the militia. Farmer, soldier and Senator, there is something Romanesque about Speaker Landry, as well as Irish. He has been President of the Council of Agriculture of Quebec; for seventeen years commandant of the 61st "Montmagny" Regiment, and a Senator since 1892.

Hugh T. Kelly, Lawyer.

THE other day at Owen Sound, Ont., a judge held his first court and was presented with white gloves and an address. The novice on the bench was His Lordship Judge Hugh T. Kelly, of Toronto, who was appointed a few days ago to succeed the late Mr. Justice Macmahon in the Ontario High Court. Hugh T. Kelly has for years been an unique figure at the Ontario Bar. He is a quick moving, taciturn man, who looks like Mr. J. W. Flavelle. He possesses the distinction of having grown up in the law in one office from student to judge. To make the climb it has taken him thirty-one years. They have been years of steady, progressive legal development. Judge Kelly may seem somewhat old-fashioned in his professional ideals in these days, when many lawyers forsake the court for the real estate market and mining exchange; he confines himself strictly to legal practice, believing that a lawyer should be first a lawyer. He has never even got off on a political tangent, though his partner, Attorney-General Hon. J. J. Foy, is one of the best known politicians in Ontario. By sticking strictly to the law, Mr. Kelly has made money incidentally and a legal career, which is always on the ascendent. Judge Kelly's citizenship is quiet, inspiring earnestness. Without fuss, he has held several prominent offices in Toronto. For two years he was President of the York County Bar Association. In 1896 and 1909 he was chairman of the Toronto Library Board. When Mr. Andrew Carnegie handed Toronto a check for a new library, the city chose Mr. Kelly to spend the money; and, owing to his shrewdness, the magnificent Reference Library was constructed within a cent of the estimates. Judge Kelly is a member of the Board of Governors of the University of Toronto.

A Broker in Politics.

MR. F. B. McCURDY, M.P. for Queen's and Shelburne, is another of those young Canadians of sudden financial eminence, like Sir Max Aitken and Hon. W. T. White, who have elected to devote their new-found leisure to a legislative career. This Haligonian is quite as much a meteor financially and politically as the Canadian-Imperialist, and the Finance Minister. With a jaw like a steel trap, and eyes which only take in the essentials, since he was twenty, he has bothered merely with big things. Until reciprocity became an obsession, Mr. McCurdy sat on the Montreal Stock Exchange, and was known also on the Rialto at St. John's, Charlottetown, and Sydney, as a cool young broker with the distinction of having amassed a million at thirty-five. It was his youthful lance which worsted that veteran of the stock tournament, Hon. Rodolphe Forget, for control of the Nova Scotia Steel Company. He now sits on a bench at Ottawa in Premier Borden's following, and is pointed out by gallery spectators as "The Man who beat Fielding."



MR. F. B. McCURDY, M.P.

Halifax

"The Man who Beat Fielding."