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LAW-MAKING IN ALBERTA.

Three years ago Alberta was admitted into Confederation. It was received not upon the "terms of the union" but practically upon its own stipulations. The country had reached that stage of development where it was in a position to demand "better terms" and get them. The government of the day was entrusted to the Hon. A. C. Rutherford who with a strong, common-sense cabinet, began at once the enactment of such legislation as the conditions of the country called for.

The early territorial legislation may have been more or less imperfect, but such as it was, it constitutes the superstructure upon which the new provinces are to-day building for the future. With the passing of the old regime, there passed the most stirring period in the annals of the West. A new epoch opened. The old order of things had to be garbed in new raiment, and the work is not yet finished. Expansion is the keynote of Western Canada, and where there is expansion the making of laws knows no end.

To the legislators of the old territorial parliament those of the new provincial legislature must ever feel indebted. The Hon. F. G. W. Haultain, who, for eighteen years, was Premier and Attorney-General, left to his successors a monumental legacy. It was he, more than any other, that brought order out of chaos, that established peace, order and good government in a country which was almost universally believed to be only a fit home for the Indian and the buffalo.

The first consolidation of the territorial statutes was made in 1898, and the next immediately after the provinces were granted autonomy. The consolidation of 1905 shews how assiduously our early legislators had wrought for the welfare of