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C. F. HAYES,
Business Manager.

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1910.

THE MANITOBA ELECTIONS.

It is not often in Canada that a man who has led his party from the wilderness of opposition to the treasury benches, and has succeeded in keeping it there long enough to get the party policy well under way and consolidate the government in power, goes down to defeat until age or disease has depleted his powers and forced him to relegate the practical management of things to other hands. In the matter of changing governments Canadians are conservative rather than radical. They do not lightly turn out one set of ministers and put another in their places. They are essentially a people who rely on stability of government.

This tendency was in favor of the Roblin Government on Monday, and the Government so managed things as to take the fullest advantage of the tendency. The election was brought on in the busiest and hottest month of the year; a time when a large vote is impossible except under the most unusual circumstances. Naturally only those opponents who were very anxious to turn the Government out went to the polls. Those who were not over-particular, but who if they had voted would have voted against the Government, no doubt stayed at home—as it was expected they would do when the date of the election was fixed. If Mr. Roblin had been defeated under such circumstances it would have been a political phenomenon, and a sign to the world that his government had dwindled into absolute incapacity or drifted into hopeless corruption.

But there were forces on the side of Mr. Roblin beside the natural disinclination of the electorate to upset governments. There was the political administration of public affairs. The Government of Manitoba governs Manitoba incidentally, its main business is to keep itself in office. And the major object governs the minor. Where public business cannot be twisted to party ends it may be transacted as it ought to be. Elsewhere it is diverted to securing ministers in their jobs. Licenses, for instance, are said to be granted or not granted there less because the applicant has or has not complied with the requirements of the statute, than because he has or has not done useful service in an election. And so long as the service has been useful little attention is paid to the character of it. If the applicant has prevented Liberals voting who were entitled to vote, or has smuggled Conservative names onto the lists which had no business to be there, he is considered to have substantially filled the requirements of the case. The general administration of the other departments is pretty much of a piece.

Then there was the political organization which the Government has built up at the expense of the people of the Province. The civil service has been converted into an agency for the winning of elections. The men in the outside service are little more, and certainly nothing less, than political agents for the ministers. If those in the inside service fall behind them in accomplishments, it is because their sphere of opportunity is more contracted, not because their intention is any different or any less ardent. Party service is the door to appointments; and so long as that service has been rendered little heed is given to other qualifications for the position in question. The jobs, once secured, are held not by virtue of value given for wages paid by the public, but for political work done for Mr. Roblin and his associates on time the Province pays for. If ever the objectionable word "machine" was applicable to a political organization it is to that which has been made out of the civil service of the Province of Manitoba, and for which the people of that Province provide the grease.

These forces threw themselves into the recent contest to the limit of their powers. The Ministers were afraid of the people. That they made clear by calling on the election at a time when a large vote was impossible. The henchmen shared the apprehensions of their masters. They knew that if the Government went down their finish was at hand. With them it was a choice: elect the Government again or hunt for new jobs—likely more arduous and less profitable ones. It was a case of "stand together," if it be on the scaffold; if they did else they were lost.

Despite the forces arrayed against them, the Liberals went into the campaign with vigor, and apparently with hope. The public, they reasoned, must surely have come to its senses regarding the conduct of the Government. In that they were probably right, for the result of the votes polled is a poor gauge of what the public thought about it. The elections were brought on when the public would not and could not be expected to turn out to vote—and brought on at that time for that reason. Though they are defeated, the Liberals have much to be gratified about. They formulated a platform which contains many excellent planks. They elected a substantial number of members to the Legislature. They have apparently found a leader in whose support they are united. Though out of office, therefore, they are in splendid shape to give the men in office the liveliest kind of a time, and to so destroy their remaining prestige that even the forces which saved them on Monday will be useless when they again face the electors. Meantime, as balm to their disappointment the Liberals may reflect that it was better to be beaten than elected by the means that were employed against them.

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THE TIME TO ADVERTISE.

The articles which have been appearing in these columns during the past week depict a crop prospect of which our people may well be proud and for which they should be thankful. The articles have not been founded on heresay. They have been written by a member of the Bulletin staff who had been sent throughout parts of the country north and west of the city—and who will continue his investigations until the whole district has been thoroughly covered. The representative has gone into the fields, has seen and measured the grain, and has written what he saw without exaggeration in any respect or particular. For exaggeration, indeed, there is no excuse nor reason; nor is exaggeration ever wise, no matter what the necessities of the case may seem to be. The truth is sufficient. In fact so good is the truth that the difficulty will be to get people living in other and less favored parts of the country to believe that it can be the truth. That the splendid prospect presented in these articles is generally true of Central Alberta is the testimony of members of the Legislature and other prominent men from districts which the Bulletin's representative has not yet visited.

Grain crops of all kinds hereabouts are in as good condition as could be desired. Winter wheat is of splendid growth and headed out. Spring grains of all kinds are in a very satisfactory state of advancement, quite equal in many districts to the usual. Timothy and clover alone are exceptions to the rule. Hay appears likely to be a lighter crop than usual. The long, dry spring prevented early growth, and though the stalks are lengthening rapidly under the influence of rain and sun, they are farther apart than they should be, and the number of tons per acre will be proportionately fewer than ordinary. For grain, however, the situation generally is most encouraging. In some districts, indeed, the farmers are more than usually jubilant and declare that they will have not an average crop, but one far above the average, provided no unlooked-for calamity strikes them before harvest time.

This is the season above all others when an effort should be made through all available channels to make the condition of things here known, and to get people from other parts of Canada and from the United States to come here and see for themselves. "Booming" one district in a season which is everywhere favorable is like running a business in a line that is crowded. The effort necessary to produce results is out of proportion to what it would be were the competition less. This year there is less competition from other districts in soliciting attention. This offers us the opportunity of getting a maximum of attention with a minimum of effort and expense. Now is our time to tell the world about our part of it—and to get people come and see.

Not that we should go into any campaign for knocking any other part of the Canadian West. That is neither right, wise nor necessary. But we should see to it that the conditions known to exist in some localities are not mistaken as existing also here. To see that there is danger of this being done one has only to look at the copies of eastern papers coming to hand. Many of them have reports about the western crops. Invariably, the reports are that the crops will be less satisfactory than usual. But in none of them is distinction made as to Central Alberta. And because such distinction is not made, the readers of these papers will accept the picture presented as applying generally throughout the western country. This mistaken impression is what we have to correct. Central and Northern Alberta is "different," and we want the world to know it.

There is an opportunity for profitable immigration effort in those parts of the western country where things are not, this year, so satisfactory as they might be. Many new-comers to such districts are certain to get discouraged and to look about for new pastures. Unless they are given to know that the conditions which they find unsatisfactory are the very reverse of the conditions in the Edmonton district, the chances are they will return to the older Provinces or the States and the value of their enterprise and industry will be lost to the Province and the West. If by means of advertisements or photographs published in papers read in such districts the attention of these dissatisfied parties can be drawn to Central Alberta, substantial results should be achieved by securing a number of them to "come and see" before they depart. If they come and see, the rest may be left with themselves and the crops. They will stay.

We should be able, too, to get part of the immigration from Manitoba which has heretofore been going into Saskatchewan. This movement has been assuming large proportions during recent years—so large that Manitoba members of the House of Commons fought the pre-emption regulations, lest they should induce still more of the sons of Manitoba farmers to leave the home province. The appearance of this district in a season which is admitted to be unfavorable in parts of Manitoba would be even a stronger attraction to such men. And better and more desirable settlers for this district can nowhere be found than the young men who have been growing up on the farms of Manitoba.

The publicity agents which the Provincial Department of Agriculture sent east some time ago are sending along some excursions from points in the Eastern Provinces. These trains run right through to Edmonton and the travellers will have an opportunity of seeing this part of the country in comparison with others and with that they leave behind. The impression upon them cannot but be favorable and should make them enthusiastic agents for securing more settlers for his district.

The railway companies operating into this district could do a splendid service for themselves and for the West if they would concentrate immigration effort on this part of the country for the balance of the season. They should be willing to do this because a settler in the Edmonton district is worth more to them than one located nearer Winnipeg. His outgoing crop and incoming supplies have to be hauled farther over the railways, and the longer the haul the more money there is in it for the companies operating the railways. If this phase of the case were put up to them properly they should be found willing to run special excursions through from Winnipeg during the Edmonton fair, which would bring large numbers of new-comers and of Old Timers in that Province.

THE ROAD TO GRAND PRAIRIE.

With very commendable enterprise the settlers on Grand Prairie have contributed a considerable sum of money and the equivalent of a further sum in labor for the purpose of constructing a wagon road from their district to some available railway point. They are applying to the Provincial Government for assistance in the project. Their preference is said to be for a road leading directly to Edmonton, but if this be impracticable on account of the expense they would devote the time and money subscribed to a road leading to whatever railway point is easiest reached. Several routes have been suggested, but as yet no official survey of them is known to have been made. Until this is done it is impossible to judge which of them, if any, is the best route available. Speaking generally, however, the best solution of a problem of this kind is to build the road that can be built with the least amount of money or in other words to spend the money available on the route which requires the least expenditure to make a road capable of being travelled at all. A sum which would make an excellent highway over such a route would make only a poor road over a route presenting more natural obstacles. A direct road to Edmonton must be longer than one southerly to the G. T. P. or east to the C. N. R. at Athabasca Landing. If the cost of constructing a navigable road per mile is equal on all three, it would be better for the people who want the road and who are offering to contribute a substantial proportion of its cost to build to one of the nearer railway points than directly to Edmonton. For in that event the money available would be spent on fewer miles and should result in a correspondingly better roadway. So far as Edmonton's wholesale interests are concerned, they would be equally well served in either event. This city is the metropolis for the northwestern country and whether the traffic to and from the Grand Prairie goes part way by rail or altogether by wagon, the city must get the benefit. Of the two, Edmonton retail merchants would benefit rather from a shorter road connecting the Grand Prairie to a railway point than from a longer road leading directly to Edmonton. The former would make trade with Grand Prairie easy. The latter would make it difficult. Handling traffic by wagon is more expensive than handling it by railway. And the more costly it is to get goods from Edmonton, the less retail business Edmonton dealers will do with the settlers in the northern districts.

A wagon road, wherever built, would of course, be useful as a through route only until a railway is built into the northwestern country. When that is done, the wagon road would cease to be valuable as a trade route between Edmonton and the Grand Prairie and Peace River districts. Its value would then lie solely in the accommodation it gave to local business. It would cease to be a colonization road and become simply a country road. In the nature of things it cannot be many years before a railway is extended to the Peace. The capabilities of that region as an agricultural country are thoroughly established. They are well known both here and abroad. Perhaps no district in the whole Canadian West is more generally known of, or more favorably regarded, in the United States, in the Old Lands and the Eastern Provinces. Yearly, settlers are going in by the score with implements, stock and effects. And none of them are coming out to stay. Not only are they content to endure temporary isolation with patience; they do it with cheerful confidence that so goodly a land cannot long remain cut off from the world. Settlers from the district who visit the city for supplies are unanimous in sounding its praises and in declaring their intention of holding down their claims. One conclusion only is possible from this: that each succeeding year will see larger companies of pioneers going to join those who have already located there. If railways in Western Canada were built only where traffic at the time demanded them and justified the expenditure, a railway must get into the Peace River country before ten years have passed. But railway systems in this country do not wait till settlement has occurred and business has been created. They anticipate settlement, push out into untapped districts of known merit and exert their powerful influence to promote settlement along their lines, confident that the settlers they induce to locate will generate traffic for them and turn their early deficits into surplusses. So excellent a country as the Grand Prairie and Peace River districts cannot long be left without a railway. Already two companies have lines projected into the district. Whatever may be the outcome of the movement for a wagon road, this could be only a temporary accommodation. If the expenditure the Province would have to make on a wagon road would be a handicap on the chances of getting a railway constructed, the price would be too high for the result accomplished. For the result in that event would be the attainment of a temporary expedient at the cost of postponing the only real solution of the problem.

Saint Patrick is supposed to have won an imperishable place in the affections of the Irish people by abolishing snakes from Ireland. Mr. Lloyd-George seems to be, purposely or otherwise, emulating as nearly as circumstances permit, this traditional accomplishment of the Patron Saint. If there are no snakes to be abolished, there are distilleries whose product has supplied the place of real living reptiles with imaginary ones no less repulsive to the beholder, and somewhat more varied in appearance than are commonly found in countries of the latitude of Ireland. These distilleries the budget has been driving out of business. It increased the taxes on so much of their product as was shipped to England, and thereby lessened the amount of the imports to such an extent that one-third of the distilleries have closed down during the single year the new taxes have been levied. Curiously enough, the people who laud the Saint for driving out the snakes do not applaud Mr. Lloyd-George for driving out the snake factories. This, however, may not mean that they appreciate the society of imaginary snakes any more than real ones, but only that whereas the real snakes were a nuisance to Irishmen the distilleries have been chiefly engaged in creating snakes to torture the fevered imaginations of intemperate Englishmen. Irish patriotism looses no opportunity to make things interesting for the "oppressor," and the hostility shown toward the closing of the distilleries may be only a protest against freeing Englishmen from the hallucinations induced by a too free consumption of their output.

The Canadian "Who's Who," has arrived. It is published by the London Times, and edited by Mr. Fred Cook, the correspondent of that paper in the Press Gallery at Ottawa. The first edition has just been issued, and contains the names and brief biographical sketches of men and women prominent in public and professional life in this country. It will be of great service to those whose occupations require a handy reference volume of the kind and should be highly useful to all who wish to be informed as to the outstanding figures in the current of events. To teachers, public men and newspaper men, some such book is indispensable. The present volume seems well designed to meet the need.

Premier Roblin, of Manitoba, adroitly fixed the date of the Manitoba elections so as to escape any influence that might be created against his government by the visit of Sir Wilfrid Laurier to Manitoba. He waited until Sir Wilfrid's itinerary had been arranged and advertised; and then named the day of his arrival in Winnipeg as the day on which polling should take place. Remembering what the Manitoba Government have relied upon as the main plank in their platform in recent years, this is significant. Like some other provincial premiers, Mr. Roblin has for some time staked his chances of keeping himself in power on his ability to persuade the people of his province that the Federal Government was imbued with some inexplicable but maliciously hostile feeling toward them. While himself consistently blocking the way to the extension of the provincial boundaries, he has attributed the delay in the negotiations to the supposed unwillingness on the part of the Dominion Government—so far successfully, from the vote-getting viewpoint. Sir Wilfrid comes West of course to talk Federal and not Provincial politics; but in a province where the public have been told that he has done an injustice to their province it was only to be expected that he would take occasion to set right the misrepresentation; that he would allude to the boundary question in his speeches and would set forth the facts of the case which Mr. Roblin and his colleagues have secreted. This Mr. Roblin did not want. He did not intend to take any chances on the people believing his story if they heard the other side of the case from the man who was personally and chiefly accused of doing them an injustice. With all his bluffing manners the Premier of Manitoba is a coward, as has been shown a hundred times in the Legislature and out of it. That fact he has put beyond the doubt of any man by declaring that he is fighting the Dominion and by then arranging his election in such manner that the man he announces himself to be fighting has no chance of speaking during the contest.

The Canadian rifle team lost the Kolapore cup by two points, scoring 796 to 798 scored by the Old Country team. A defeat of that kind and by such competitors leaves no sting.

A few days ago the newspapers contained the somewhat doubtful information that ex-President Roosevelt would keep silence on political matters for thirty days. That he could do it was the point of doubt. The doubt was well founded. Only two-thirds of the time had passed when he gave out a statement to the press, brief, but quite as fertile in suggestions and possibilities as any speech he could well make at this time. The statement was nothing less than an announcement that he will speak in Indiana in support of Senator Beverige, one of the leaders of the Republican insurgents. Though supporting President Taft consistently in matters of general administration the Senator was a vigorous and persistent antagonist on the question of the Payne-Aldrich tariff, to which the President has given his approval in warm terms. What Mr. Roosevelt will say on behalf of Senator Beverige will be awaited with some interest by Canadians as well as by people living across the border. That he will have to say something on the tariff is pretty certain. In Canada his course will arouse interest because the degree to which he is prepared to endorse the Insurgents' demand for tariff reduction is recognized as one of the elements entering into the chances of better tariff relations between Canada and the United States. One thing is clear: if Roosevelt joins the insurgents on the tariff question the President must either discover a way to "back out" or must prepare to get out when the next election comes round. The Insurgents are in the fight in a very business-like fashion and they seem to have a substantial proportion of the Republican party with them, as well as the sympathy, and perhaps the active co-operation, of the Democrats. With Roosevelt in their fighting line the Rhode Island Senator and his trust-owning colleagues would be quickly on the run. Whether it would turn out to be a fight against Taft, or a fight to free Taft from the "interests" which have surrounded him and perhaps coerced him, is another question. That would likely be settled by the President himself. If he acceeded peaceably to the demands of the Insurgents, they in turn might consent to keep him nominally at the head. If he did not do so, his chances of being anywhere but at the tail are very remote.

The South African Government has prohibited the exhibition of moving pictures of the Johnson-Jeffries fight. South Africa's population is "mixed," and the Government does not intend to take chances of having race riots stirred up by the exhibition of pictures of a colored man besting a white man in a fisctic encounter. This is another hopeful sign that the blow that knocked out Jeffries also knocked out the prize fight. Mr. Johnson is the undisputed wearer of the belt, and it can be taken from him only by a fight. If it is considered unsafe to allow pictures of the battle in which he won the belt to be shown in a "mixed" community, it would certainly be far more dangerous to allow another fight of the kind—with the chance that Johnson would again be the winner and the resulting race disturbances proportionately serious. Perforce, therefore, the white race may be constrained to seek supremacy in some more useful and less objectionable direction. And if white men abandon the prize fight the chances are they will compel the colored people to do so.

Mr. Cy. Warman in the July "Canada Monthly" sings of Saskatoon and its future in a pleasing little rhyme, the first stanza of which follows:—

"There's a town that's coming strong,
Saskatoon,
"And it's coming right along—
"Coming soon;
"There, the summer winds are low,
"Where the summer roses blow;
"You can stand and see it grow—
"Saskatoon."

Arrangements have been made whereby British postal orders will be hereafter payable in Canada. Every facility should be given for the importation of money.

WEST OF ENGLAND DAY.

New Organization Being Formed to Promote Immigration.

Toronto, July 11—All over Canada the West of England men are getting together in a movement that promises to turn their love for the Old Land into a more effective Canadian propaganda than has ever been attempted by British people in the Dominion. They are beginning with a West of England day at the Canadian National exhibition at Toronto, on Sept. 1st, with distinctive West of England sports, attendance of representative men from the West of England, and luncheons and teas in true western style.

A little while ago Mr. Twiggs, who, as chairman of the Bristol docks committee, is at the head of the maritime enterprises of the port that was once the second in the empire, came to Canada on the boat which inaugurated the fast passenger service between Bristol and Canada, and made a flying visit to Edmonton calling at the important centres on the way. He was sent out by his city to look over the possibilities of developing trade between the West of England and Canada. He was met in Toronto by the Bristol society, and elsewhere by men from his own part of England, who set him thinking. He said to himself: "If I am an apostle of good business and good feeling between Canada and the West of England, why should not the Bristol people who have prospered in Canada also do something for Canada and for the country they left behind them? We must not only buy immense quantities of goods from Canada, but with our rapidly increasing population, we must emigrate many of our people. Why can't we make it easier for West of England people to come to Canada by securing for them the kindly offices of West of England people who emigrated before them?"

Ald. Twiggs saw the place in which the Canadian Bristol society could do excellent service to Bristol and the surrounding country—which applies, of course, to the Cornishmen's association, the Devonian society, and to any other British organizations in Canada. Said he, "Let the Bristol people throughout Canada come in touch with one another, and arrange to circulate their names and addresses in the districts they have left; so that the people who are thinking of coming to Canada may make inquiries as to conditions and prospects; and may receive a welcome."

The alderman talked the idea over with representative people all the way from Edmonton to Montreal. His idea was warmly endorsed, and in Toronto the West of England men got together and arranged for a reunion of as many West of England people as could be got together at the National exhibition at Toronto on September 1st.

There must be fifty thousand people within easy travelling distance of Toronto who themselves came from the West of England or whose parents did. If, for the building up of Canada, they can be brought into contact and by joining the association connected with their ancestral homes, a good work for Canada and for the Old Country can be done.

Incidentally, of course, one effect of such a movement will be to make the West of England, which is so rich, historically and scenically, popular among travellers. So, while immigration to Canada will be helped, and more Canadian products will be sold in the West of England, Canada will become better known through the more extensive travelling of Canadians in one of the best sections of the Old Country, for, within one hundred miles of Bristol, there are ten million people.

Mr. C. W. Gigg, of Toronto street, Toronto, is secretary of the West of England day.

General French Sails.

Quebec, July 8—General Sir John French, accompanied by Brigadier General Henderson, and Major Watt, left this afternoon by the ss. Virginian for England. When General French arrived on the wharf he was met by Major General Tacke, Col. Pelletier, D.O.C., Major Howard and Major Houliston, while a guard of honor of fifty men from the R. C. R. presented arms as the distinguished cavalry general went on board the steamer, the R. C. G. band playing the National anthem.

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