

**The Alberta Star**  
(SPECIAL EDITION)

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL, Devoted to Politics, Education, Literature and the Presentation of Current News and the Diffusion of Useful Information.

Published every Friday at  
CARDSTON, ALBERTA

FRED BURTON  
EDITOR AND MANAGER

SUBSCRIPTION:  
\$1.50 per annum in advance,  
Six months 75 cts in advance.

ADVERTISING:  
Column . . . \$12.50 per month  
Half-column . . . 7.50 " "  
Quarter-column . . . 5.00 " "

Special reading notices in local column 10c. per line in advance.

TRANSIENT ADS.  
\$1.00 per inch per month  
Contract advertising paid for monthly.

The Alberta Star Job Department is well stocked with all the latest and newest designs in plain and fancy type, first-class presses, and will be supplied with the finest stationery and printing material of all descriptions.

MARCH 18, 1909.

We cannot recall an election in which the government making an appeal for endorsement of its work and policy had better grounds for anticipating re-election than the government which has conducted affairs in this province for the past five years.

Rutherford Government has been good Government.

The optimistic spirit is infectious. Once you give people the idea that all is well with you, that business is lively, that customers are buying most liberally, then you improve business. Human nature is peculiar, and one of its peculiarities is to be attracted by the successful. Success wins great success. The successful man finds it easier to sell goods than his less successful rival who may have even better values. Be optimistic. Let your presence breathe the air—good will towards all, malice towards none. The optimistic spirit will drive away many a weary load.

That nothing can check Canada's growth at the present time is shown by the increase last year of \$9,000,000 in her exports, while those of Great Britain and the United States showed very considerable fallings off during the same period, due to the disturbance in industrial conditions.

Of the two members of the Opposition in the Alberta legislature, one has resigned the leadership of the party and the other has endorsed the record of the Rutherford government. The outlook of the Conservative party in Alberta must, therefore, be particularly bright.

It looks as if spring had come, to stay.

One of the most encouraging features of the opening of the present short campaign is the great number of people who are not confounding Dominion and Provincial issues together, and who are not being misguided through partizanship into confusing the one issue—approval or disapproval of the Rutherford administration.

It is predicted that this spring and summer will witness another big rush of new settlers into the western provinces. The success of last season's crop has had effect outside, and the better feeling throughout the world generally is causing people to wake up and look around them for new chances.

**TO-DAY.**

The earth hath felt the breath of spring,  
Though yet on her deliverer's wing  
The lingering frosts of winter cling.

**What Our Legislature Is Doing To Develop The Country**

(Continued from Page one)

Surplus	283,373	one year in fees from the registry offices is notable, being \$122,886.
Of the receipts \$1,030,375 was derived from the Dominion subsidy under the Alberta Act of 1905; \$50,000 was received from Registry Offices and \$250,000 from the sales of creamery butter.		The expenditures included:
The expenditures included:—		Civil Government \$147,825.53
Civil Government \$127,806		Legislation \$32,532.14
Legislation 29,425		Administration of Justice 205,847.46
Administration of Justice 205,847.46		Public Works \$1,271,437.47
Public Works 996,000		(Of this item \$262,282 was expended on telephones.)
Education 209,000		Education 159,725.89
		Agriculture 314,946.00
		Hospitals, Charities and Public Health 38,187.47
		Miscellaneous 99,167.99



**HON. A. C. RUTHERFORD**  
Premier of Alberta

Agriculture	315,000	1908.
Hospitals, Charities & Public Health	20,975	For 1908 the estimated receipts are \$2,624,038, expenditure \$2,602,746 and the surplus \$21,292.
Miscellaneous	43,265	The items of expenditure are:—
OUTLAY 1907.		Civil Government \$192,065
Receipts \$2,520,025.34		Legislation 37,700
Expenditure 2,460,375.29		Administration of Justice 366,920
Surplus 69,650.05		Public Works 1,110,500
Of the receipts \$1,053,708.34 was derived from the Dominion subsidy; \$175,006 from creameries \$172,886 from registry offices and \$121,000 from railway taxation (two years). The large increase in		Education 270,900
		Agriculture 470,675
		Hospitals, Charities and Public Health 51,750
		Miscellaneous 102,200

**How Farmers Have Benefited**

It is not too much to say of the Rutherford Government that it has carried out in letter and spirit every fraction of the splendid agricultural adopted by the big Liberal Convention in 1905. They promised the country then—

"That inasmuch as the progress and prosperity of the province will depend almost entirely upon the development of the agricultural and ranching industries, the provincial government should assist in every possible way, and particularly by the establishment of a system of dairy instruction, by encouraging cheese factories, creameries, forestry and fruit growing, by assisting the farmers and farmer's associations to improve the breed of live stock of all kinds, by assisting agricultural fairs, by encouraging the full utilization of all farm products, and the preparation of such products for the market in the most condensed and remunerative form, by the collection and dissemination among the farmers and ranchers of the latest and fullest information as to the best available markets, and by extending to them every legitimate assistance in reaching those markets with the least possible loss of profit through excessive freight rates or the intervention of middlemen."

How honorably he has filled that responsible place, how sympathetic his direction of the department has been is a matter of common and very pleasant knowledge throughout the province. He has commanded in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of the whole people as he has for many years enjoyed the respect and trust of people in the southern districts where for so many years his work has been before the people.

Mr. Finlay set to work to organize a department of agriculture which for effectiveness is second to none in America. It is more than a branch of the civil service devoted to agricultural interests. It is rather a group of trained men working in daily co-operation with the farmers of the province to advance their interests. The programme along which their work was evolved from these questions directed by the government

**EFFECTIVE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZED**

In 1905 Premier Rutherford from long residence and careful study was well aware of Alberta's

to the men placed in charge of the department:

"How can you best teach the thousands of men coming in here who have not yet had actual experience of farming?"

"How can you best assist and encourage the farmers coming here from other conditions, where the rainfall was greater and the soil different, for even the best of farmers settling in a new country have to unlearn much that they knew before?"

Out of this has grown the many admirable features of the department's workings.

Well managed creameries, travelling dairies, stock-judging schools, poultry-fattening schools and stations, grain judging schools, weed inspection, farmers' institute work, fruit-growing stations; hail insurance, bounties on coyotes.

**GENEROUS AIDS TO AGRICULTURE.**

The estimated expenditure for 1908 to meet the needs of the agricultural community offers a striking comparison to the sum of \$31,799, which was the entire outlay on agriculture of the Territorial government during its last year of office. The items are: Expense of operating loans and advance payments to creameries \$286,511

Advance payments to poultry stations	10,000
Destruction of weeds	10,000
Coyote and wolf bounty	20,000
Stock inspection	3,000
Promotion of dairy work	11,000
Promotion of sugar beet industry	21,461
Vital, agricultural and other statistics	4,600
Brands	2,900
Expenditure under agricultural Society Ordinance	19,300
Scholarship to Agricultural Colleges	1,000
Poultry industry	4,500
Grant Dominion Fair Calgary	25,000
Investigation into meat industry	5,000
Immigration & colonization	9,000
Provincial laboratory	5,000
Game protection	5,000
Various grants to fairs	12,000
Extension of markets	500
Fruit experimental stations	500
Grants to stock associations	2,400
Experiments and investigations re crops	2,000

An item of \$1,000 provides scholarships for the sons of farmers who may be desirous of attending agricultural college. This will be continued and increased if necessary from year to year until Alberta has its own agricultural college.

**Big Bounty For Coyotes**

The bounty on coyotes & timber wolves according to the foregoing statistics amounted to \$20,000. This was the estimate, but it was found inadequate to meet the needs, and a further \$6,700 was expended before the bounty was removed. This expenditure in the stockmen & farmers interest shows a vast increase upon the amount paid under the Territorial regime. From an outlay of a couple of thousand dollars the coyote bounty increased in three years under the wise supervision of the Alberta government to \$26,700 in 1908 and this season it will probably total an even higher amount. The bounty payments were resumed in January and will be continued on so that this year there will be even more security from coyotes than there was last year.

work the department has from the start devoted close attention to the development of the grain industry, so important in Alberta.

To this end Premier Rutherford called a Grain Conference in Calgary last week, and the outcome cannot fail to be highly beneficial to the grain-grower. Railwaymen, grain-growers and grain-shippers and elevator owners were brought together in one large harmonious conference and the Vancouver route via the Pacific to Europe was found to largely solve the problem of transportation for Alberta grain. In this way it can be placed on the Liverpool market more quickly and more cheaply than by the old route via Winnipeg, and this is of the greatest importance—twice as much grain can be shipped from the country in the same period of time as formerly. This will do away with the congestion of the elevators and the deplorable delays in marketing grain.

**STOCK AND GRAIN INTERESTS.**

If as it may truly be said there are enthusiasts in charge of the poultry and creamery branches of the department of agriculture these are also experts and enthusiasts looking after the stockmen's interests in the province. With liberal grants to associations, of horses, sheep and cattle and swine breeders; with stock-judging schools the good work is carried on. The range is bound to disappear in time, but with the improved systems of fattening stock, with the winter feeding and care, more and better stock will eventually be raised by farmers in the aggregate than formerly. Then, too, the supply can be maintained the whole year round, and shipments will not have to be rushed in the autumn when prices are low. The department with its real foresight for the farmer's interest is helping forward the grading up of stock and proper care of them. Out of the commission appointed to investigate into the conditions of the meat industry and an alleged beef combine there has proceeded the unique and important appointment of a Live Stock Commissioner, whose sole duties consist in forwarding the interests of stock-breeders in the province and in securing for them the best possible facilities for marketing the products of their farm or range. W. F. Stevens, a successful and active farmer, was appointed to the position and the new branch of the work is already showing good results.

Taking warning from Manitoba where in many places valuable farms have been overrun with weeds an active campaign is carried on yearly by the Alberta Government against noxious weeds as well as the steps taken for the improvement of grain seed.

Equally active campaigns are carried on by the department to destroy noxious weeds and to improve the grain seed for upon these depend the future of the grain growing of this province. The dry western climate is particularly favourable to the germination of weeds in spring, when it is most dangerous and nowhere in the world is there so active a battle as here against the weeds which have done so much harm in Manitoba. A chief weed inspector and staff of local inspectors have instructions to keep a vigilant watch for weeds in each district; to notify farmers of the existence of noxious weeds and to insist upon their destruction. The statute in regard to this is carried out effectively, but with special regard that no hardship shall ensue to new or poor settlers because of it.

The chief grain inspector of Canada declared in 1906 that 12 1-2 per cent. of all the grain passing under his inspection consisted of weed seeds. Alberta's department of agriculture asks, can farmers afford to cultivate, thresh and transport to market 12 1-2 per cent. of weeds in their grain and give an emphatic answer in the negative. Consequently it

**THE GRAIN CONFERENCE.**

Through grants to agricultural fairs with itinerant grain-judging schools and Farmer's Institute

Grain-judging schools are carried on at agricultural fairs and also in an itinerant school in a railway car, taken from point to point during the winter. In this way the department endeavors to help the farmer choose better seed and understand thoroughly the grading of his grain.

**POULTRY AND STOCK**

One of the newest features, and also one of the most successful, of this department's work is the attention given to poultry raising. The demand of the province for poultry is very large and hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of poultry and eggs have been yearly imported in the past. The department wants to change this and make the local supply almost meet the demand. Hon. Mr. Finlay has given this matter his most sympathetic supervision and an expert has been placed in charge and so excellent was the poultry bulletin published by the latter this year that an American agricultural college has ordered a large number to be used in their classes. Poultry fattening stations are established at various points, thousands of birds are fattened there yearly, and demonstration classes are conducted at all fairs with excellent results.

**HAIL INSURANCE.**

Hail Insurance has been undertaken by the government to protect the interests of those who have the misfortune to lose their crop by hail-storms. Last year over \$45,000 were paid out in excess to the premiums paid in by the farmer. To protect the farmers as fully as possible, but to determine in what way this large deficit can be minimized will be one of the pieces of work before the Legislature this session.

**CREAMERIES HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL.**

The work done by the creameries or dairy branch of the department is so successful that now Alberta butter has secured an established reputation in British Columbia and Japan, while it practically controls the Yukon market, being the most popular there where men are willing to pay well and get the best. The price of butter during the past season at the creameries averaged something over 25 cents per pound in the factory; which is said on good authority to be the highest price yet received by any Canadian factory. In addition to carrying on the operation of over 20 creameries and general instruction work the government sent travelling dairies to a number of districts, where the farmers were not within reach of creameries or cheese factories. Lectures and practical demonstrations were given, by the instructors in charge, dealing with approved methods of farm butter making.

**KEPT THEIR WORD.**

In the administration of this department the men who were given power by the Alberta electorate in 1905 have conclusively proved themselves capable of the task, and conscientious in the fulfilment of their new duties. Premier Rutherford and his colleagues felt the imperative need existing to make now at the very beginning a solid basis for farm work, which will always be the dominant industry of Alberta. The province is rich beyond compare in agricultural wealth. The future of Alberta lies mainly with the farmer, and recognizing this the Rutherford government has made of its department of agriculture practically the most important branch of the civil administration

Has Mr. Woolf been a good representative for Cardston in the Alberta Legislature? Look around you. There is only one answer to that. Will Mr. Woolf make a valuable representative for us in the next Parliament—the most valuable man we could send to represent us at the provincial capital? There is only one answer to that?