EDMONTON BULLETIN

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BULLETIN CO., Ltd., DUNCAN MARSHALL, Manager.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1907.

THEN AND NOW

The Ottawa Citizen is persuaded that it is the imperative duty of the government to subsidize Mackenzie and Mann to build a line of railway from Sudbury to Port Arthur. Possibly so, but if so the Conservative press is remarkably slow in recognizing the necessity or advisability of the course.

It is not so long since the opposition organs found occupation for their talents in filling gaps in the denunciatory eloquence with which their friends in Parliament sought to discredit the country through which this proposed line would run. When the G.T.P. project was before Parliament the opposition members made organized and deliberate onslaught day after day, not only on the enterprise and the method proposed for its accomplishment, but as well on the country which the road was designed to traverse. And of all sections to be traversed by the G.T.P. that portion lying in the northern part of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec was singled out as the target for the most persistent and wholesale condemnation. And whatever in discredit to this section of Canada the opposition member of Parliament may have forgotten to say or may not have found opportunity to say, was said and re-said for them by the newspaper organs of their political faith.

The net result of this campaign of detraction and defamation was to publish to Canada and to the world that practically all of Ontario that lay north of the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway was a region so absolutely useless commercially and presenting engineering difficulties so great that to construct a line of railway through it would be to court disaster to the foolhardy government or corporation who undertook the enterprise. One railway line, we were assured, would, if double tracked, be able to handle all the through traffic across this useless region for generations, while owing to the character of the country the local traffic need never be expected to amount to anything.

Three years have passed, however, the present line through this district is being double tracked, arrangements have been made to construct a second line, and now the Citizen leads the way in emphasizing the necessity of government assistance for a third line.

This is an age of enlightenment. Apparently our opposition friends are becoming enlightened on the resources and requirements of their country, or the country is becoming enlightened on the relations between the Conservative press and the Canadian Northern Railway Company.

HIS TROUBLES

Mr. Armand Lavergne, member for Montmagny, took the opportunity a few days since to inform the House of Commons and whosoever else it might concern, that he was at outs with the government. The announcement was scarcely important enough or new enough to merit the attention it has received from the Conservative press. Since the member for Montmagny appeared in the bye-election in support of an opponent of the government, the country has been laboring under no painful uncertainty as to what were the relations and sentiments of that gentleman toward the government. By way of settling the uncertainty that may have existed and establishing the grounds of his disagreement Mr. Lavergne recounted the instances on which he had opposed the government. These were four in number. The first was the North-West school question when he considered that Mr. Bourassa and himself alone represented the constitutional rights of the minority. The second was regarding the immigration policy of the government, which he considered did not secure the quality of settlers he desired; the third was on the Sunday bill which he considered "the most unfair measure" ever passed by the House and undermining the liberty of the citizen; the fourth was on the question of whether or not the revised statutes should be published in the French language. This should make clear enough the degree of responsibility which the government bears for the nationalistic propaganda carried on by Mr. Lavergne and Mr. Bourassa.

THE KIRCHOFFER LEASE

A return was presented to the House yesterday by the minister of the interior regarding the proposed lease of Manitoba swamp lands to Senator Kirchhoffer as a duck shooting preserve.

Among the papers were the letters of application for the lease in which the applicant advances as a reason why the lease should be granted the fact that he had secured a lease for similar lands from the Manitoba government and had also been allowed to purchase certain of the lands at $3 per acre. The propositions of the senator are two: First that the land be turned over to Manitoba where he would have no trouble in leasing it from the provincial government; and second, that the land be leased to him direct by the Dominion government.

An order in council was gazetted granting the lease, but on representations being made that this would not be in the public interest the order was withdrawn and the lease was not granted. Premier Roblin announces that he has followed suit and cancelled the senator's lease obtained from the province though he said nothing about the possibility or desirability of recovering the lands sold to the senator.

The Conservative press of Manitoba of course, found nothing wrong with the lease granted by the Manitoba government, but took the war path when the Dominion government proposed to follow Mr. Roblin's precedent. In the discussion, however, the fact that Premier Roblin had made such lease became known to the public with the result that the lease had to be cancelled. Another incidental result also was that the Conservative press of Manitoba found themselves condemning a proposal which had as precedent the bargain of the Roblin government. Under the circumstances the Conservative press experienced a sudden loss of interest in the shooting preserve of Senator Kirchhoffer.

THE TELEPHONE LISTENERS

Murder will out. The strike of the telephone girls in Toronto may have been an inconvenience to the girls but it has caused exposures that will do more to convince the public and crystallize public opinion on the question of public ownership of telephones than years of persistent education and dissemination of literature. The public hitherto have been ignorant of the system of espionage maintained by the management of the Bell Telephone Company. Now it transpires that the company keeps an officer, called a listener, to determine if subscribers are using their phones for business or social purposes. A case, it is said, has been exposed where the listener was employed to spy upon a phone where there was no doubt about the use for which the phone was used. Such a state of affairs is extremely serious and marks the limits of presumption of the company, and illustrates in a very direct way the conscienceless methods of corporations generally. This charge, if proven, will hasten the end of private telephone companies. The public mind will, by such tactics as these, soon be as pronounced for government ownership in the matter of telephones as they are today in the matter of the postal service. Public opinion would not tolerate for a day a private company operating the postal service who might open their letters and record the contents. There is no doubt that the exposure of such a contemptible system of espionage will henceforth impair the utility of the telephone business under private management. It is urged in defence by the company that the practice is necessary to prevent the use of the telephone for questionable purposes, but the men who use such questionable tactics are not likely to be actuated by any high moral motives or to manifest any laudable activity in preventing wrong for the good of the community. Such practice, taken into consideration with the demoralizing effect upon the empolyees engaged in prying, cannot be too closely scrutinized and severely condemned. The sacredness and inviolability of speech is a privilege the public will never permit to be impugned. The people of Alberta are to be congratulated that the provincial government is taking such steps as to give the province a complete system of publicly owned telephones.

NOTES AND COMMENT.

Recent events have proved Japan's policy too Pacific.

The ethics of corporate management have been thrown pretty well into the limelight during the last twelve months, and the revelations show that the corporations have just about swallowed the law and the gospel.

The Bell telephone girls in Toronto are forced to work an additional of 78 hours per month at three and one half cents per hour. Bob Edwards is the only editor we know to adequately express denunciation of this shameful treatment. Keep the octopus out of Alberta.

TELEPHONE POLICY.

Hats off to the Alberta government! Hats off to the Hon. W. H. Cushing! The telephone policy enunciated by the Minister of Public Works in the legislature yesterday marks an epoch in the history of Alberta. It is the most important step in public ownership ever taken by any government in Canada, and is a knock-out blow to the Bell Telephone monopoly in this province. There is no proposition to buy the Bell company out or to do business with them in any way, the government policy is a clear cut business proposition to build and operate telephones for the public. If the Bell has anything for sale or feels like selling they must come forward of their own accord.

The system of rural phones proposed by the government is in keeping with the principles of democracy underlying all their legislation. To serve the whole people of Alberta is the aim of our provincial administration, and they are working it out in a practical and satisfactory manner.

The policy of the Bell telephone has always been to serve only the towns and cities and very few rural lines have been built by this company, and most of those which have been constructed were only built when the farmers would supply the poles or in some way assist the corporation to construct its own line. To make dividends was their first care, to serve the public has been but a secondary consideration with them. To give efficient service at a minimum rate will be the policy of the public-owned system.

In this legislation the government has shown the courage and the initiative necessary to the successful conduct of the business of the province, and in his speech introducing the policy the Minister of Public Works has made a name for himself among the successful public men of Canada. He discussed the question with the confidence of a man who knows whereof he speaks, and who has the conscientious conviction that he is serving his country, and there is very decided evidence that Hon. W. H. Cushing is serving the province of Alberta with very conspicuous ability. There is no half-way measure in this proposal, it deals with the whole question of phones for the farmer and the business man, the rancher and the merchant, the rural communities and the towns and cities; it is government by the people, for the people and of the people. Is it any wonder that the whole province of Alberta has confidence in this government?

NO FIGHTING OVER FISH.

In his recent speech on the Atlantic fisheries question Sir Wilfrid Laurier showed himself far above the common braggadocia politician who is seeking cheap notoriety by boasting of what he or his country would do to other countries or nations in case of disputes.

The Prime Minister of Canada is above petty squabbles over diplomatic matters. He pointed out that the home market for Canadian fish would be ample to make the fishermen independent of the United States market the moment the problem of transporting fresh fish in cold storage to the big centres like Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa and Quebec was solved. He added: "When the day comes to which I look forward the problem of Newfoundland and Canada will be solved. We shall be able to offer to our brothers in Newfoundland a market in our own country. It is true that that day is yet at some distance. But in the meantime the difficulty that they have at present is in the hands of the diplomatists. The Right Hon. James Bryce has instructions to deal with this matter, and he is sailing on the 13th of this month for the United States. He will deal with the question, I hope, in a manner satisfactory to the people of Newfoundland. Now we have come to this position in our relations with the people of the United States: We never can conceive of war between us, or of war between Great Britain and the United States. We mean to settle all our difficulties with that nation by peaceful means, by diplomatic action, by negotition, but never by war. That is the condition. I have only to say, and I believe that in this I voice the feeling of every citizen of Canada, that toward the solution of their difficulty we desire to help the people of Newfoundland as far as in our power lies."

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Hello Mr. Cushing.

We hear the ring of the rural telephone.

There will be no listening boards in Alberta.

John T. Moore talks in terms of war, but it is war upon monopoly.

The sun shines on Alberta in spite of Foster, the weather prophet.

Even the Opposition are satisfied with the government policy upon telephones.

The Alberta legislature leads all the Canadian provinces in progressive legislation.

F. A. Walker knows of soulless corporations other than railway and telephone companies.

Foster, Fowler and Lefurgy are discussing land deals in the House of Commons. Ye gods!

Edmonton's treatment of Fort Saskatchewan in the telephone matter was too small for a city this size.

John T. Moore would add a suffix to the name of the Bell Telephone company and call it "Bell-shazzar."

The new member for Gleichen is already showing his strength in the legislature as a clear, incisive debator.

Mayor Clement, of Vegreville, is wearing the "smile that won't come off" since the telephone policy of the government has been announced.

Strathcona

DEAL IN WHYTE AVE. PROPERTY

(Thursday's Daily)

Through the agency of Mr. B. Whyte & Co., lot No. 9, block 66 (Whyte avenue) was purchased this week by Mr. J. J. McKenzie and Mr. A. Benson. The business of the Great West Saddlery Co., and the Ladies outfitter shop known as Raffo are situated on the property. It is stated the price paid was in the neighborhood of $10,500. A year ago the same property was sold for about $6,000.

McGrath-Hart & Co. of Edmonton are the venders. They have held the property for only a few months and realize a handsome profit on their turn over.

OPTION FOR TOWN HALL SITE.

An important announcement of the options secured for the new city hall site in Strathcona was made last night by Councillor Elliott, charman of the town hall committee. He intimated that three options had been secured in block 79, facing west. This is the block on which the present fire hall is situated and faces the Baptist church, parsonage and Dr. Crang's residence. The options are:—

Three lots from Oddfellows for $5,500.

Three lots from Robt. Ritchie for $6,000.

Two lots from John J. McKenzie for $5,000.

The Oddfellows asked for $1,500 to retain the option, to be returned if purchase was not made and the others asked an optional sum. Agreements were authorized to be executed with the three owners pending the final selection of the property. The agreements are to be made returnable should any of the properties not be purchased.

THE EARLY CLOSING BYLAW.

The by-law and license committee of the Strathcona town council have recommended the repeal of the recent early closing by-law. The law has worked satisfactorily except in the cases of a number of the smaller dealers who want to keep their places of business open at night to accommodate Edmonton laborers who return after 6.30 p.m. and farmers who come late in the day to town. This view was set out by Messrs. Baxter and Wensell at the council meeting Tuesday night and after some discussion the report was referred back to the committee for further consideration.

THE NEW HOSPITAL.

The hospital committee who have been considering the new hispital question have recommended that the building be two stories high, with basement, basement to be of brick trimmed with cement blocks or stone. They further recommend that there be not less than 60 beds and the cost be not more than $45,000.

It is suggested that competitive plans be asked for, the first prize to be $200, the second $150 and the third $100. The optional agreement for John Walter's property on No. 172, S.W. R.L.9, the block bounded by Walter, Rouleau, Anderson and Anthony, has been signed.

BOARD OF TRADE.

The annual meeting of the board of trade will take place next Thursday Feb. 21st in the city hall. It is expected that the special committee of the board appointed some time ago will have a very satisfactory report to present to the board on the question of local markets. Some important tests have been made with Edmonton flour to compare it with the best imported brands and it is said the results are eminently satisfactory and will give Edmonton wheat the premier place as is already given to Edmonton oats.

TOWN COUNCIL.

There was the largest attendance of spectators of the winter at the meeting of the town council Tuesday night. A number were made up of delegations to appearb efore the municipal body and others were present out of mere curiosity. The first item of business was the reading of minutes of last two sessions which were adopted.

J. W. Blain of the Edmonton Cartage Co. was granted permission to close Ritchie's grade for a day to take a down boiler. Jeremiah Daly and Robt. McKernan spoke of several matters that had come to their notice and Messrs. Banter and Wensell asked that the early closing by-law be repealed.

Communications followed.

Francis W. Hobson, Engineer at the light and power house tendered his resignation to take effect at the end of the month. It was referred to the light and fire committee to make arrangements.

E. Manchester wrote asking a raise in salary to $100 per month. The water and sewer committee took the matter in charge.

Wood-Gundy & Co., Toronto, offered to place the debentures of the town in the most advantageous market. The letter was handed over to the Finance committee.

Communications from the Canadian Rubber Co., Winnipeg regarding an order from the town; from the Canadian General Electric Co. asking for a remittance and from several other firms on minor matters were ordered to be filed.

The accounts were read and referred to the various committies.

The by-law and license committee recommended that the pound-keeper have fees as prescribed by the by-law and when expenses are over he should stand the loss, also that the by-law be enforced in business and residential sections. The matter was referred to the committee for further report.

With reference to rigs being allowed to remain on the streets as a nuisance the police were instructed to enforce the by-law, under the instructions of the committee.

The tentative agreement with reference to telephone franchise was read and then left over till after the public meeting.

Northern Hardware Company Opening Announcement

The Northern Hardware Company will open for business on and after

FE \ Y, 4th, 1907

in John Sommerville & Sons Old Stand, Opposite the Northern Bank.

Full lines of Shelf and Heavy Hardware, Mechanics Tools, Graniteware and Tinware, Paints, Varnishes, Oils, Glass, Stoves and Ranges will be carried.

We have been appointed sole agents for

The Famous McClary Stoves and anges and Sherwin Williams Paints and Varnishes--the best made.

We will pay particular attention to

The Farmer's equirements

and with this in view particular attention has been taken in ordering our large stock.

We cordially invite each and all to visit our new store, inspect our stock and judge us for further business by the quality and price of our goods and the treatment you receive at our hands. We will be open for business on and after Monday, February 4th, 1907.

WILSON, DEWAR & McKINNON

25¢ That Cough which ordinary remedies have not reached, will quickly yield to

GRAY'S SYRUP OF RED SPRUCE GUM

It cures those heavy, deep-seated coughs—takes away the soreness—heals the throat—strengthens the lungs. None the less effective because it is pleasant to take. Just try one bottle and see how quickly you get rid of that cough. At your druggists 25c. bottle.

25¢

A VALENTINE

that would be appreciated by your lady friend

A Box of Flowers

from

Ramsay's Greenhouse

Corner Victoria Avenue and Eleventh Street.

Prompt and careful delivery to all parts of the city

'Phone 523.

The Sommerville Hardware Co., Ltd.

Begs to announce: We are settled in our temporary quarters immediately adjoining our new brick block on First Street, looking down Rice Street. Our stock is much more convenient to handle and to display and we assure you of our desire to serve you.

Street Nos. 630-636. First Street

Phone 109

USE EDDY'S MATCHES

Ask your Grocer for one of the following Brands—
In Sulphurs—"Telegraph," and "Telephone."
In Parlors—"King Edward," "Headlight," "Eagle," "Victoria," "Little Comet."

A BULLETIN WANT AD.

IS A SURE WINNER

APPLICATIONS ADDRESSED TO undersigned for the position of secretary of Strathcona Board of Trade will be received up to March 9th, 1907; salary $1,000 per annum. J. W. Blain, secretary, Strathcona, Feb. 14th, 1907.

FARMS—IMPROVED AND UNIMproved; all kinds city and farm property; easy terms and right prices. W. D. Jones & Sons., opp. C. N. R. Station. Box 314, Edmonton, Alta.

FOR SALE—A BINDER AND SULKY plough. Apply to A. R. Bland N.E. 1-4, Sec. 33, T. 55 R. 24.

STRAYED—ONTO MY PREMISES, ONE large red cow, legs mostly white, top of horns cut off. Apply John Meneely, Poplar Lake.

LOST—NEAR ST. ALBERT A BLACK buffalo robe with green lining. Finder will please leave at Dawson's store, St. Albert and be rewarded.

TEACHER WANTED—MALE OR FEmale, holding first or second class certificate. Duties to commence about March 4th. Apply with references to Arthur McQuillam, Vegreville, Alta.

LOST—BAY HORSE, FOUR WHITE feet, star on forehead, light mane and tale, small ears, very long and leggy. Weighing about 1300 pounds. Lost about a year ago. Ten dollars reward for any information of same. Finlay McDonald, St. Albert.

ESTRAY—CAME TO THE PREMISES of undersigned, light bay cayuse, star on face, heart on right hip. Owner can have same by paying expenses and proving property. P. L. Provance, 5 miles north west of St. Albert.

WANTED—1,000 TAMARACK FENCE posts, 14 feet long, not smaller than 5 inches at top. Apply D. R. Fraser & Co., Limited, town office, Edmonton.

STRAYED—TO MY PREMISES, TOWNship 53, Range 27, Section 18, three miles north of Stony Plain, a red cow, one horn missing. Owner can have same by paying expenses. Conrad Beckor.

CAME TO THE PREMISES OF MICHael Steke, Stony Plain, about first first of year, six year old mare, dark brown, both right feet and nose white, no visible brand, shod and halter on when found.

STOCKMEN—WE CAN USE YOUR ability selling Jacques' Samson Liniment; strongest on earth; open territory in Alberta. Jacques' Western Distributor, Edmonton.

Cheap Teleph

(Continued from Pag

the corporation away fro inces. Due to the disput habitually arising about of poles, and the result ment investigation in 190 the Dominion governme the telephone companies control of the railway Now the company must sent of the municipality or get an order from commission."

He urged that as the Be had only one line in Alb the time for the governme for a system of publi and operation. It was Bell company refused to lines that the governme cided to move in this pointed out that two mill Bell stock was held by and the users of the Bell Canada were paying year for over capitalization

JOHN T. MOORE

The member for Red-Deer eloquent tribute to the g The day was an epoch would live in the history He quoted from the Mail that Alberta leads the What would the people of think of the announcement It would bring satisfaction home in Alberta and most the lonely abode of the man. The loneliness of the farmer which sometimes ca insanity and suicide had invaded. It was a day of which would be flashed to ern town and city and when ed the Atlantic seaboard shot from the Marconi tow the sea. He recited the diff people of Red Deer had with company. The service was and miserable where the generated by the elbow of tomer.

The speaker concluded wi quent peroration describing efits and positive blessing of telephone.

Opposition Men

(Continued from Page T

that speculation took place. cry comes up again against ernment for making such that money could be made But the main object to be kep it seems to me, with regar Northwest country is that it improved and made habitable people shall be able to go live contented and prosperou Whether men make money by tion in land or not is quite ent matter. In that connectio to call attention to the fact ex-Minister of the Interior to session that where the Sask Valley land deal was in its he was criticised by the oppos such lands. In the same w gentlemen opposite may nowticising something in its infa the day may come when th at $20 or $30 or even $50 an a be considered cheap; so that regard their criticism in that ar as of any value whatever. tion that may be debatable is tion of alienating that land the purpose of irrigation. subject the opposition have ta stand and the government to h on the principle that this land improved and made fit for set Having gone through the distr times on the train, I know miles you will not see a soli bitation. As the Minister of terior has pointed out, that remained open from 1882 to 19 llyet during all that time pe settled upon it. It is evid som extraordinary means are to bring it under cultivation. I wish to go any futher into the I have stated the case as I se plainly as I can. We in the we stand for advancement of the we must favor every undertaki brings into cultivation that ar and we will do so, notwith the criticism of the opposition.

The debate was adjourned on of R. S. Lake of Qu'Appelle.

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News of the Dist

(Thursday's Daily)

LAMONT

Last Thursday night the bo tra e held its usual monthly m with the President, F. C. Sm the chair. Quite a bit of busines transacted. As a number think it would be advisable to have th ernment trunk telephone line from Fort Saskatchewan b shorter route instead of followi Victoria trail, the secretary o board of trade was instructed to up a petition to present to the vincial Government praying that should be done. The next item o iness was discussed quite fully a secretary of the board was inst to write to our member, the Frank Oliver, asking him to pr petition to the government pr them not to introduce the C.O.D tem into our post offices Those who are familiar with the ings of the system in the United say that it but makes the post ters clerks to the large depar