

THE NOR-WESTER.

CALGARY, TUESDAY, OCT. 7, 1894.

TO OUR PATRONS:

We have already announced to the readers of the NOR-WESTER that certain changes which we hope to be improvements will shortly be made in the publication of this journal. There is always room for improvements in every newspaper, no matter how well conducted a publication it may be. In coming to this field, our journal has not only had a duty to perform but it has had a policy from the beginning. It has not been afraid to unfold its colors so that all who might read it would understand that it was not afraid to express its political faith with any uncertain sound. We have a right to our political opinions, whether they are in harmony with the majority or the minority, and we concede the same right to those who differ from our line of political thought. In entering this field we can assure such aspiring journalists as our local contemporary and its very amiable admirer the McLeod Gazette that we have as much right to publish a journal here as the respective proprietors of these journals have. Their expressions towards us of the start did not square with their pretensions in other respects. The McLeod Gazette people were endeavoring to remove to Calgary about the time of the advent of the NOR-WESTER here, and the celestial organ that has struck out a line of lofty neutrality for itself, quite novel in journalism, was in the worst of humor when the NOR-WESTER was launched. Both these journals forget that we are enabled to read between the lines, so that we have not been disappointed in their attitude towards us. They will bear this in mind with our compliments. We know whereof we write and therefore the NOR-WESTER seeks nothing at their hands—except opposition, and this we shall readily welcome because we expect it, and know that we would be very blind indeed if we did not see it, and would be of little account if we were afraid of it.

In the course we have mapped out we can assure our readers we have not struck out blindly. To please has not been our aim. We expect to displease a good many irate persons who think they know all about it and so forth. Journalistic popularity is a very fickle mistress, and we do not seek her. What the NOR-WESTER will seek is to broaden the trail, not to narrow it; to guide, not to misguide; to avoid hasty conclusions and to look at every public question with the eye of the materialist, rather than with the spectacles of a theorist who is in his own comfortable home, and having no practical experience with the world, writes as a missionary rather than as a writer who would endeavor to harmonize practice with theory. The mistakes we make will, of course, be charged to us, and we are sure they will; but we hope that the modicum of good we may do will be credited to us. We have never expected smooth sailing in this portion of the country more than in any other, but we hope at least to receive fair play and a fair hearing. The ideal journal is always published in some far away place and the local paper is too often looked upon as of no use except to send away. Very often this estimate is just enough, but sometimes it is very unjust and ungenerous. We have been led to offer these ideas to our readers because we think some explanation is due them. The accusation of our local rural that we are taking pains to defame the country we can assure our readers is a spiteful falsehood of a piece with a journal in which inanity, cowardice and cant comprise its essential features.

THE MEMORANDUM:

What the people of the north-west, more especially those of the district of Alberta, particularly require just now of the parent Government at Ottawa is fully set forth in the Memorandum of Complaints to which we give space in another column. This memorandum has been drawn up by a special committee of our citizens whose names are attached to it. Sir Hector Langevin on the occasion of his recent visit to this town, specially asked for a memorandum of the people's grievances to be forwarded to him, and he promised the special committee who waited upon him in reference to another matter that he would take especial pains to see that the complaints would be duly presented and considered, even though they did not

belong to his own department. Incidentally various grievances which have been pressing on our pioneer population more or less heavily for some time were mentioned, and the deep interest and astonishment with which the distinguished Minister of Public Works met the complaints that were so mentioned to him by the special committee was remarked at the time by more than one present. Sir Hector enjoined upon the committee to place these complaints in the form of a memorandum and transmit it to him. That pleasant duty the special committee have accomplished. It will be seen from a perusal of the memorandum that moderation and common sense characterized it throughout. There is no agitation in this country such as the typical Manitoban delights in—nothing of that nature; there is, however, an earnest wish upon the part of the people, especially those who are most friendly to the Government, that all, if not nearly all of the disabilities complained of should be removed. One of the salient points which has been omitted in the memorandum is the absolute necessity there is for the creation of an Executive to aid His Honor the Lieutenant Governor. This has been doubtless overlooked, but we think it well deserves the prompt and earnest attention of the Federal Government. We have already advocated the creation of a Cabinet for the Northwest Territories. Indeed we think this of more necessity than the shady territorial representation which the memorandum asks for, though in asking for even that the people are merely seeking for a voice in the Councils of the country in accordance with our responsible and enlightened system of Government. With whatever favor or disfavor the memorandum may be received we think that it will be conceded that it is moderate in tone, and worthy of a people who are seeking an enlargement of their liberties in a quiet and constitutional manner.

NOR-WESTERS.

McLeod Gazette.

The new store being built on the new town site by the N. W. & N. Co. for I. G. Baker & Co., is going ahead very fast. Last week Mr. D. W. Davis kindly drove us up there, and we had a look through it. The store is 90 feet long, the full length of the lot, by 40 wide, with high ceiling, the whole being finished off with smooth plaster. The windows are large glass, and either end of the store is the front, both being exactly alike. The carpenter work inside was being pushed forward while we were there, but we shall reserve a full description until the whole is finished. The store will be a very handsome one, the finest west of Winnipeg, and if any further proof were required than now exists of the great importance of McLeod as a business centre, it is found in this one building, which is being erected by a firm which is not only one of the most enterprising in Canada, but which do not go into everything with their eyes shut, and never get left. No one will congratulate I. G. Baker & Co. and Mr. D. W. Davis more heartily on the completion of their splendid store, than will the Gazette.

It is very seldom that the Gazette refers to the little speck which sometimes takes place in the town other than a joking way, because as a rule they are harmless, and have until lately only occurred at intervals. There is a time, however, when patience ceases to be a virtue, and we confess that the present state of McLeod is enough to disgust any law abiding and respectable citizen. Such being the case it is about time that the law stepped in and put a stop to the existing state of affairs. It is with deep regret that we refer to perfectly disgraceful performances of the past week, coupled as they are with insults to ladies, whose very sex should make them sacred in the eyes of the veriest ruffian. Why the present time should be as it is compared with two or three years ago, we do not know. It is enough that it is so without going into any further particulars. Whiskey is being sold at McLeod almost publicly and the police appear to be the only ones who don't know it, and the results of the sale of this vile concoction are drunken rows and unseemly orgies, more particularly at night. Hard working men spend their last cent for drink, and the town has become demoralized. Last Sunday the conduct of some parties was disgraceful. Furliture was broken and language used in the presence of women which one can scarcely think of without shuddering. Last night capped the climax, when a lady well known in McLeod, and regarded with genuine respect by every man in the country, was obliged to leave her room, and seek protection in a neighbors house, by the vile language and hideous uproar near by. Can anyone be found who will justify such conduct, and should such men be given a place in decent, respectable society? If men want to get drunk, let them do it by themselves, and leave other people alone. Men who when drunk lose all control of themselves, and especially so far as to insult women, are only fit for an insane or inebriate asylum, or the common jail. Hitherto, we have not published names. We give fair warning that in future, when men so far forget themselves as to insult ladies or anyone else, we shall publish their names in full, and anyone who thinks we haven't got the sand to do it, has just got hold of the wrong end of the stick.

INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

OTTAWA, June 5th, 1894. Attention is called to Section 4, of chapter 36, 47 Vic., "An Act to amend the Weights and Measures Act of 1879, which reads as follows:— "4. The following is added to the said section twenty-six as sub-section two thereof: "Every hermetically sealed package of canned goods, such as fruit, vegetables, fish and the like, shall have the weight of the contents of the tin, can or package containing the same, legibly marked on it; and any packer or other person found guilty of selling or exposing for sale such goods in any such tin, can or package, on which the weight of the contents is not marked, or on which such weight is misrepresnted, shall for the first offence incur a penalty of two dollars for each such tin, can or package, and for each subsequent offence a penalty of not less than three nor more than twenty dollars for each such tin, can or package." This section shall only come into force on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five." E. McALL, Commissioner.

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FROM THE PROHIBITION... The Editor of This... Myself... on much amusement... (Methodist... above, in last we... controversy is now... apology for using the... name, and also... letter. I may add... in the decision of... The Rev. J. D. Dyl... of intoxi... prohibited, and the... way he assures me... licensed... obligation is certain... merely shows "st... thought." The statistics for... Kentucky, &c.,... late residents in... little faith in pe... heard of twin-b... by their beloved g... sanction of an en... district is include... one, clear out... I cannot think... had much experie... radical changes, a... rarely stand the... Parliament, say I... men, will ever ma... sustainers, or at... society: as the ol... drive a horse to t... make him drink... Take for instanc... a late Winnipeg p... usefulness is gon... bubble is about t... the promoters... too strong, and t... pond all the pare... similar manner a... forming, they wou... way of thinking... all the servers, d... happens into obli... wives and familie... generous advice... then offer them w... bank seat and cry... I have every res... and think every p... to become one o... respect for "the h... consider there shou... here, spiritual o... If we could be w... powers that be, co... rate towns or distr... for sale and manu... manufacture," and... world, often visit... am not so sure of... the License town... I would recomen... to obtain particula... made in England... various classes... Parks, Flower Gar... and Coffee Fal... the people, and n...hibition fanaticism... There is an old s... sweet, and this i... enjoy, and to rob... a sugar beer, or h... when he wishes... make him break... somewhere on his... In Dr. Chase's r... home-brewed; Ho... certain quantities... and he then state... taken each meal... amount by women... coffee during the... ing that I firmly b... health." Having drunk... thirty years I ca... statement. If our Legislature... on all adulterated b... would be the bet... drinks would dimi... The Blue Ribbon... Church Temperance... Society, which p... to take stimulants... This seems to me... those who get too... In conclusion, if... run this district... up and doing, and... I am, Y... Elbow Bridge Sa... Sept. 25th, \$ BANK... Dry Good... Boots and S... Hardware... are now op... CALGARY HOLT... And COLUM... And will be clear... have heard of in... A fine lot of... Sugars, an... Gro... A. FERL... \$10... For information w... convey of the add... the 29th. Enquir...