

THE ALBERTAN

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PARTYISM AT CITY HALL

Complaints have been made that one leading official and other members of the public works department at the city hall used their positions to advance the interests of one political party at the last elections. The complaint has been backed up by a number of affidavits which seem convincing. The commissioners have decided to investigate. They should investigate to the very limit and when convinced, take the most drastic action.

We have proceeded thus far without introducing party politics into municipal affairs very much. It is true that ex-Commissioner Clarke tried to organize a Tammany hall and succeeded fairly well, and this seems to be a sequel to his efforts.

Mayor Sinnott, in private life, is an ardent partisan, but in public life knows no party. Commissioner Samis in private life is also an ardent politician, though of a different party, and in public life is quite as non-partisan. It is for them to say at this time whether there is to be party politics of the worst kind at the city hall.

Some of the commissioners say they have complaints about a foreman of different politics taking the same active part in elections. It makes no difference who the partisan, or what the party, the commissioners must act in the most decisive manner if they are to keep partyism out of municipal affairs. Now is the time to act and act decisively. With our numerous public utilities, the introduction of party politics would be disastrous.

ABOLITION OF WARDS

In the committee in the city council which discussed the question of the abolition of the wards, it is very interesting to notice that the supporters of the antiquated system of representation were the three representatives of Ward III. That is an argument in favor of the abolition of the ward system, if all the conditions are taken into consideration.

Ward III is much the smallest ward in the city. In area and population it is not half as large as any of the other three wards. The vote polled in the last election showed that the ward is much over-represented. One man in Ward III has the voting power of about three in Wards II or IV. That is not fair, but that is the present condition of affairs.

There is no sound argument in favor of the ward system. We do not want representatives in the city council who represent any district or sections of the city. We want men who are big enough to represent the entire city. We shall have them if they abolish the wards. We are liable at any time to have little men if we continue the present system. The entire wards should be abolished.

The present system is antiquated and out of date.

CHANCELLOR STUART'S SUGGESTION

Chancellor Stuart of the University of Alberta, in the commencement address deploring the indifference which the 75,000 Calgary people show to the provincial university, but admitted that the university was getting on very nicely despite that indifference, and then proposed in a very guarded way something which, he seemed to believe, would be the beginning of better relations between the university and the citizens of Calgary. He referred casually to the desire in Calgary for a university and intimated that the wish was inspired largely by commercial reasons. He suggested as a campaign to break down the indifference that the university might permit at its expense, one of its professors to give a course of lectures at Calgary College.

We doubt very much if this crusade will be successful. Chancellor Stuart evidently holds that there is to be but one university in the province, that there is to be but one degree-conferring institution, that there is to be but one centre for such an institution, that the institution of which he is the head shall be the trunk of the educational tree in the province, and there must be but one tree in the orchard and that all others must be regarded as improper upshoots, and that Calgary, however desirous its citizens may be, however zealous its young men and young women may desire university advantages, must not have a university of

its own, or any such educational institution which is not directly under the control of the Provincial University.

Chancellor Stuart insisted that though speaking as the chancellor of the provincial university, he was speaking merely for the chancellor and in his radical departure was not stating the policy of the university. We are informed, however, that the ideas of other university authorities are not so very different. It makes but little difference whether they are or not. The suggestion that the indifference of Calgary people to the fate of the university would be overcome by the hallowed influence of an Alberta university professor in full regalia in some institution in this city, is somewhat ridiculous. It is surprising that any person should suggest it.

The people of Calgary want a university. Chancellor Stuart and his Edmonton friends may scoffingly suggest that we need it in our real estate business. But the fact remains that despite all the limitations and difficulties that the Calgary institution has encountered, 150 students attended lectures in the first year of our university. These students were not particularly interested in real estate. Few Calgary students have ever attended the Edmonton institution. The people of Calgary are prepared to support the Calgary institution. As it is doing the work of a university they ask that it have the powers of a university, just as they insist on giving it the name of a university. Chancellor Stuart suggests that Alberta University with great liberality should, at its own expense, mark you, permit a university professor to give lectures occasionally in the Calgary College. That, he believes, would solve the whole difficulty.

KING OF ALBANIA

Now that the powers are casting about for a good man to fill the position of king of the newly formed nation of Albania, we beg to nominate R. B. Bennett for the position. We believe that he has many, if not all, of the qualifications for the position and it seems that we can spare him very well from Alberta at this time. The recent elections seemed to indicate that the people of the province were prepared to get along without him. If the thing were to be put to a vote, Mr. Bennett we are quite confident, would get the Alberta support in the king contest.

This is one of the positions for which Mr. Bennett has not nominated himself. But the job has not been open for very long and the public should give a man time to accommodate himself to new surroundings and to take advantage of new opportunities. A position like that would be much more important than a seat in the provincial legislature, a seat in the Dominion house of commons, with the chance of a cabinet position if one carried Alberta in the provincial election, or even a chance in the imperial house of commons, provided that one had to go in under the patronage of Sir Maxcemet Aitkin and sit at that learned gentleman's feet after he got in.

Mr. Bennett has manifold qualifications. In the first place he is of the right politics. The Albanians have been accustomed to the rule of the Sultan, which one might imagine was not so very different in some respects from railway rule or domination, in which Mr. Bennett has had an admirable experience. Mr. Bennett is a Tory of the most ancient school, who has a distinct dislike for these popular movements. That is the kind of man for the job in Albania, where he would be a credit to his colleagues, the Sultan of Turkey, the Czar of Russia and the King of Spain, and other strong forces in international politics.

There is more or less of the comic opera about the wee kingdoms of that part of Europe. The smaller the kingdom the more grandiloquent its officials and the more gaudy the uniforms of the members of the police force. Albania may never cut much of a figure at the real thing, but unless we are much mistaken, it will have more pomp and demonstration than any other popinjay kingdom in the world. Who would be more fitted to preside over such a kingdom than the Dominion member for Calgary, who, in addition to being most expert in comic opera stunts, in an artistic vaudevilian as well?

In small kingdoms like Albania the standing army makes a gaudy performance, but would be somewhat muddled up in real trouble. But in the Dominion campaign here, Mr. Bennett referred to a certain wind instrument which he could use with deadly effect if it ever became necessary. If a fighting force came in from the south, he informed his public, he would go out on the highest hill and make a speech to it, and if that didn't prove fatal to the enemy, the case would be hopeless. One who could do stunts like that would be invaluable in a kingdom like Albania. That would mean money in the coffers of the kingdom and safety for the Albanians.

There are other qualifications which our nominee possesses. He would be known as the boy orator among the crowned heads, which would bring the new kingdom to the front ranks. He would give some class to the new realm. He would make a first-class king for a country like that. We beg to nominate him.

Editorial Notes

Another day has passed, and yet Premier Borden has not thought of the promise he made about the transfer of the natural resources, and Alberta Conservatives declare that promise breaking is great business and the proof of real statesmanship.

If the industrial bureau had really brought more industries to the city and turned a larger number of promises into the real thing, the ratepayers would be more inclined to support the bylaw to vote on this month. Dr. Clark declares that he is a man of peace and did not mess with Col. Sam Hughes, whose daily diet, we are informed, is gunpowder with a torpedo destroyer as a chaser. That is too strong food for a Western farmer.

Medicine Hat, now being tempted by the capitalists who desire to grab the street railway franchise, does not have far to go to find out just how disastrous to the welfare of a city private-owned street cars really are. We are spending thousands of dollars in city planning and city beautifying, which is right, but at the same time it is necessary for the city to take a strong stand to keep public bodies, such as the industrial bureau, from demoralizing our streets with billboards.

The committee of the city council that decided that ministers of the gospel should not be eligible for aldermanic positions surely are living in the past. We should not exclude from our city a class of men merely because they are intelligent, educated and high minded.

There are some Conservatives who are boasting because Premier Borden has carried out in a kind of a way ten per cent of his promises, and only left about ninety per cent unfulfilled.

A London, Eng., paper refers to Calgary as a city with a population of 22,000, and speaks of our mayor as a person. It will be proper for some of our contemporaries to retaliate by speaking of "that London village" referring to the lord mayor as "the deputy reeve."

The removal of the United States to upon wool would mean much to Alberta, if not had any sheep, and we cannot stock up with sheep to any advantage with any speed unless we take off the duty upon sheep, and there is no sign of Canada doing that. And there was a time when this southern part of the province was mentioned in the reports as a dry country. Mistakes have been made in describing this province.

One swallow does not make a summer any more than one university professor would satisfy the university of Calgary, even if that professor should have his expenses met by the Alberta University.

Letters to The Editor

Bringing the Kingdom into Human Life

Editor, Albertan: I do not wish to entirely protest against your editorial of Wednesday on the closed church. With western frankness the press in general frequently criticizes the church. We may need it and we are quite able to take it; also we are quite aware that debating your criticism will give us further currency. Your editorial allows the enthusiasm for what is being burning in the writer's bones to run into over-emphasis. But hyperbole evidently is the condition, of course being human, like preachers and like the church, the writer of the editorial feels the difference between having something to say and having to say something. And it must be hard to say something each morning. On the whole, I am glad you got that editorial out of your system even though your zeal was not just according to knowledge. The Albertan is not antagonistic to the church. You use us decently in regard to our notices of Sunday services.

The thing you are trying to say, however, and the thing the whole modern cry is about, is that the Kingdom of God is the Kingdom of Human Life, and that our life is a unity—a unity rich in all its complexity. As each individual discovers this, youthful ardor is apt to make him feel that he is first to see, and that the rest of the world is benighted still. This is human, and it is worth while seeing for it begets humility in the discoverer and patience in the initiated and it all helps to make the world go round. There is an eternal youth in things and our convictions are missionary if they are real.

That the church can improve and should, we all believe, that it is asleep is another matter. And after the writer of the editorial has put in his hard work in the office and has refreshed himself with sleep in the day, it would be interesting and cheering for him to take a little journey to St. Andrews in East Calgary and to Hillhurst in Calgary northwest, as well as to other places mentioned in the letters of Thursday's issue. The call of the outdoor life is just now, but in the time when indoor life is leading a seven-day-a-week church. And we have no prejudice against going as far as the people make possible. Our faith is now away ahead of our collection plate.

I am glad you have raised the question. The omniscience of the preacher is gone and that of the editor is gone. As you think of this you will see that it is the complexity of our life as well as its unity that is the rub in the whole matter. The function of the church may have to be enlarged. It all looks so simple till you try it. But what is the church? Certainly not its officials. It is just mankind in its best way. In the church we confess our belief in ourselves as well as in God. The five or six hours you speak of may easily be the best hours. If worship and bible study become secondary the

Kingdom of God in human life may have to be re-discovered. The gospel of Jesus is the real lantern. Worship is a reality. All our springs are still in God. If The Albertan and the university will help to bring the kingdom into human life, as one of the church, I shall welcome help. Yours sincerely, PETER A. WALKER, Hillhurst Presbyterian church.

The Poet Philosopher

SUMMER COMES
Spring is passing, and once more summer is at the door. Soon the winds will round us slide, hot as though they had been fired, and we'll get up in the morn'ning with our heads not been born, mithering, with grievous frowns, as we don our hand-me-downs. "Not a minute have we slept!" Men and women, we'll be kept busy till the summer dies, boiling germs and swatting flies. Soon we'll languish in the shade drinking pale pink lemonade, and the more that we consume, deeper will become our gloom; summer drinks, already yet, but increase the flow of sweat; they reduce the victim's vim, bringing lassitude to him, so he's feeble when he tries boiling germs and swatting flies. Summer comes when men repeat, time-worn lies about the heat. "It was worse in '84," says the Gulliver next door; "our thermometer then made 70° in the shade; you could fry an egg real nice on a block of river ice. It is well to tell such tales in the scorching summer sales, if we work while telling lies, boiling germs and swatting flies. Summer comes, so let us all take our sweaters from the wall, and send forth our battle cries, boiling germs and swatting flies."

BE A WEATHER SHARP.

The following formulae of weather signs has been found to give satisfaction:
1. When the temperature falls suddenly there is a storm forming south of you.
2. When the temperature rises suddenly there is a storm forming north of you.
3. The wind always blows from a region of fair weather towards a point where a storm is forming.
4. Cirrus clouds always move from a region where a storm is in progress to one of fair weather.
5. Cumulus clouds always come from a region where a storm is forming.
6. When cirrus clouds are moving rapidly from the north or northeast, no matter how high it is, there will be rain within twenty-four hours.
7. When cirrus clouds are moving rapidly from south to southeast there will be a hailstorm on the morrow, if it be in the summer, and if it be in the winter there will be snow.
8. The wind always blows about a storm in a circle; when it blows from the north, the heaviest rain is east of you; if it blows from the south the heaviest rain is west of you; if it blows from the east, the heaviest rain is south.
9. The wind never blows, even moderately, unless rain or snow is falling within a radius of 1,000 miles.
10. Whenever heavy white frost occurs a storm is forming within 1,000 miles north or northwest of you.

A "Mimic" Disease.

Illness among some people has become almost popular since the coming of the insurance act (says The Glasgow News). A certain domestic had gone to her doctor, her mistress having taken the precaution to insist that her mother should accompany her. The mother returned in the time, and reported that according to the diagnosis her daughter was "a mimic and in a very bad way." "A mimic!" said her mistress, in astonishment, "that's easily cured, for it means that she is just taking her father off us, and that there is nothing wrong with her."

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"Oh, no," said the mother, "that can't be, for the doctor said that she is a mimic, and that she hadn't enough blood and was very ill indeed." It subsequently transpired that the girl was anemic, a much more serious trouble.
The Springfield Republican wonders whether Mrs. Belmont, who has gone abroad "to study suffragette warfare" at close range, has stopped to remember what usually happens to the innocent bystander.
Says the Nevada Evening Post: "Only graceful women to take part in processions hereafter and will exclude fat ones. The announcement is equivalent to making a new date for the biggest place with four letters to break loose."

Crowds Stream In Boots Pour Out
Below we name five extra specials that will be an incentive for you to come here today
Richardson's \$75,000 NEW GOODS SALE 216 8th Avenue E.
Ten minutes after our doors opened yesterday morning our salespeople were working like beavers, making out sales checks, whose figures stand for but a fraction of the value of the Boots and Shoes. Despite the speediest selling this store has ever known, the closing bell tonight will find more than half the special stocks left that were over for Saturday. And they are the best half, for many of the choicest lots were kept out of sight yesterday to crowd the second day even fuller of value-giving extraordinary.
Misses' \$2.00 and \$2.50 Boots, of various leathers, all stylish, lace or button. \$1.45 In One Big Bargain Bin
Children's \$2.00 and \$2.25 Boots, button and lace; easy foot form last. \$1.45 In One Big Bargain Bin
\$1.00 Children's Boots, in black and tan, button or lace; all good makes. \$1.00 In One Big Bargain Bin
We have hundreds more at never-again prices
Men's \$5.00 Boots—Congress boots, best oak tan soles; all in one big lot at \$1.90
FREE—Tomorrow we will give a cube of Kimo Shoe Polish and fine wool polish with every purchase of a pair of shoes.
Women's \$5.00 Boots—Some on the wide last; most all sizes left in this lot at \$1.90
RICHARDSON'S BIG SHOE HOUSE
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ASK THE SALESMAN FOR KIMO SHOE POLISH—IT'S FREE

Day Treat
Assorted Bon Buns, 50c lb. Special, 40c.
Fruit Bon Buns, 50c. Special, 40c.
Caramels, wrapped, 25c.
Red Shirt at \$1.00
Waistcoats of fine flannel and white, mauve, blue, and black, made with negligible collar and cuffs. Value \$1.00
Millinery
Therefore offering a variety of styles. Others are returned lot of pretty, coming creations every day.
Three of the season's regular \$2.25 each. Sale price 95c.
In large and small trimmings in flowers, blue, pink, and white. \$5.00
Red with satin and velvet girls. Prices 60c. and 85c.
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Store for the better day at these special made with heavy soles.
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