The West

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 1909.

Dominion Day.

The recurring anniversary of the natal day of the Dominion finds us always able to record growth, says the Montreal Star. This may seem like a trite remark, for we have much in our mind the parallel case of the human being to whom a year usually brings growth either of mind or body; but when we look abroad upon the nations, how many of them can confidently count upon growth as the guerdon of years? In this thriving hemisphere, we see growth all about us; but we have only to cross the sea in either direction to find nations who hardly know the meaning of the word. The growth of Germany is the dynamic fact in European politics; and it is largely so because it is not matched by any other European country, except possibly Russia.

But Canada is not only growing—it is facing the most promising opportunities for future growth which invite the optimism of any country on earth. We are larger than the United States and have far more natural wealth untouched. Yet we have a population of only about one-tenth of that of our neighbors. That means that we have that much more room for growth. Australia is the nearest parallel; but it is the simple truth that our southern cousin does not attract the overflow of either Europe or the American republic as we do. The South American republics are growing—some of them with the help of our money—but they lack British sympathy and support and possess by no means our magnetism for the immigrant. Nowhere else can we find even the basis of a comparison.

We are familiar to satiety with the statistics which show exactly how rich we are and how rapidly our wealth has been increasing. We are the wonderland of the modern world. Nowhere else is there a half-continent which has developed so rapidly or which promises so lavishly. But we must never forget the conditions under which our success has come and is promised its increase. One of these conditions is staple government. That we are not likely to lose unless we permit the canker of "graft" to eat more and more deeply into our public life. Another condition is absolute national safety without carrying an undue burden of national defence. That we get from British connection; but we would lose it if that connection were cut, or what is a nearer danger—if the power of the British empire to protect us were broken.

Then if we are to get the most out of our opportunities, we must conserve our natural resources for the people. The exploiter, the political camp-follower, the greedy corporation, must be kept from "hogging" them whole. They constitute a great temptation. Possession of them may mean a fortune in a few years. But we must compel our parliaments to stand guard over them in the public interest and never to act as accomplices of the predatory interests in their eager search for opportunities to seize upon the heritage of all. A vast and fabulously valuable trust such as we possess can only be enjoyed by constant vigilance and unceasing courage.

Recent expressions of opinion in the motherland have revealed to us the flattering and yet steadying fact that Canada is there looked upon as the rising hope of the British Empire. We ought to get a vast population here within the next half or quarter century; and, if we keep it British, its potential strength will become one of the dominating factors of international politics. Canada will be in the happy position of being able to exercise this power, without carrying the burden of European armaments; just as the United States with its navy has today one of the voices for which the governments of the world listen. Still it will be essential with us—as with the Americans—to have some striking force; and that should be our care as our population grows.

The future was made possible on the occasion we are commemorating today. If there had been no confederation of the Canadian provinces, there would have been no broad foundation here for one of the piers of Empire. Just as the unions of Australia and of South Africa were necessary steps towards the consolidation of these British communities into bases for the world-wide British structure, so the union of the Canadas and the Maritime provinces opened the door to all the development which has followed. The Dominion was not complete until we had reached the Pacific, and brought in the garden province of Prince Edward Island; and there would be great gratification among the watchmen on the towers of empire if the circle were enlarged to include the sentinel colony of Newfoundland.

The point to remember, however, is that the men who laid the foundations of confederation were Empire-builders in the highest sense; and we cannot do them too much honor in this section of the Empire where we especially benefit by their work. Dominion Day may well be the great Canadian holiday of the year. It comes in an ideal season for holiday making; and it requires no effort to give vent to our enthusiasm. But while we are enjoying the day and cheering the Dominion, let us not forget the momentous event we celebrate nor the brave band of patriotic optimists who dared all sorts of political perils and navigated the ship of Union by many a perilous shoal.

"Sail on, Oh! Union, strong and great
"Humanity with all its fears
"And all its hopes for other years,
"Is hanging breathless on thy fate."

Editorial Notes.

Hon. Wm. Pugsley didn't tell us when McAvity was going to hand back that money.

Several Socialists in Winnipeg have been arrested and convicted for obstructing the street. They went to jail rather than pay their small fines. They claim they have as much right to speak on the street corners to crowds as the Salvation Army.

The two members of the 95th regiment which were handed over to be dealt with by Magistrate Trant each received thirty days. The attitude of the officers of the regiment deserve censure for their action. There can be no justification for bringing the men into the magistrate's court. The officers had the authority to deal out punishment to the culprits themselves and their action in this matter indicates a lack of capacity.

All kinds of rumors are in circulation about the National Continental Railway since the retirement of Mr. Lumsden, the chief engineer. One thing is obvious to all, however, and that is that the road has cost vastly more than it should have. The company are in financial straits and may not be able to complete their work. As soon as the next session of the house is called another demand will be made for more money or else the G.T.P. Co. will ask the country to take the road off their hands. The company are not in a position to take over the operating of the parts of the line completed because they have not money enough to secure locomotive power and rolling stock. The road has cost so much that the fixed charges will be so great that there will be no profits at ordinary rates. Unless the government gives some more concessions to the company it is probable that they will attempt to unload the line on the government.

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Press Comment.

(Bystander in Toronto Sun.)

The financial state of Germany is far from being such that she can well afford to rush into war, and she would certainly, if she were seen to be rushing into war, not find it easy to borrow. Commercially jealous of Great Britain, she may be; but commercial jealousy must have reached a great pitch before it can prompt to a most dangerous war. The real point of danger seems rather to be Japan, into whose arms British diplomacy has thought it polite to throw itself. There can be little doubt of the restless ambition working in that quarter, or of the temptation held out to it by the prospect of a lodgement on the opposite side of the Pacific. India is another possible if not probable source of trouble if Islam of Turkey should break lose and the contagion should reach Islam in Hindostan.

(Lumsden News-Record.)

Today Lumsden starts off as a local option town—the first in the province. The friends of temperance have made considerable headway in the way of promoting the cause of temperance since the adoption of the bylaws in December last. It was expressed during the campaign that if necessary a hotel would be built for the accommodation of the travelling public. After the destruction of the Maple Leaf hotel by fire in February, an opportunity was given the temperance workers to carry out their pre-election promises. As soon as it was convenient a company was organized, capitalized at $30,000, to build and equip a hotel. In the course of a few days sufficient stock was subscribed to guarantee the erection of an up-to-date building. A site was purchased on First Avenue, and immediately excavation was commenced. Today a portion of the foundation is constructed. While all this work has been in progress, the temperance people have been receiving the "knock" of those opposed to the removal of the bar and its nefarious surroundings. While the town has been without the bar—the licensed bar—it has not been without the liquor and that is where local option legislation, as we have it in Saskatchewan, is a failure. If the country wants out and out prohibition, the only sure way to arrive at it is by discontinuing the manufacture of it and prohibit importation of liquor into the Dominion. Local option, or the removal of the bar, will not be a success in any community so long as liquor can be brought in from other communities.

We have waited for thirty years to see an improvement on the Scott Act and also the Dunkin Act. And we must admit that the present legislation is no improvement in that line.

Time has been lost and no improvement noticable as far as legislation is concerned. One thing certain, is that the general public is awake to the fact that the liquor traffic must go. It is doomed to destruction, and the public will wipe it off at every opportunity. The evil effects of intoxicating liquor is in evidence everywhere, and the effect is an object lesson which will remove the bar forever from towns, cities and villages throughout Canada. And when that object is attained it will not be necessary to create legislation to discontinue the manufacture of liquor. On the other hand, when such a state of affairs exist, then should parliament bring in an act prohibiting the manufacture of liquors.

(Mail and Empire).

The resignation of Mr. Lumsden, chief engineer of the government and of the Grand Trunk Pacific, is a notable occurrence. There can be little doubt that it is the outcome of the difficulties arising from over-classification of work on the various contracts. On this subject Major Hodgins, who was in charge of the part of the line running from Winnipeg to Lake Superior Junction, threw some light more than a year ago. This engineer declared that the contractors were receiving high prices for low-priced work. Thus, for the removal of earth they were allowed the rate that is paid for the blasting and the movement of rock.

The matter when publicly mentioned was answered by the commissioners or by some person on their behalf. It was said that the major was aggrieved because he had himself proposed to favor the contractors, and had been warned by the commission against so doing. On examination it was found that Major Hodgins had at one time proposed that certain work be paid for on the basis of cost with a percentage added for supervision and the use of machinery. This common practice in railway building was, however, not the evil of which complaint was made. The real trouble was the treatment of the earthwork as if it were a rock-cutting or rock filling. To a Parliamentary committee the statements of the Major were referred, and there it was proven by correspondence between the commission and the engineers of the Grand Trunk Pacific that the latter held the same views as those advanced by Major Hodgins. The committee disposed of the question by suggesting to the Major that the dispute could be more easily settled by engineers than by tribunal of lawyers, and by promising that engineers should arbitrate. It was admitted during the last session of parliament that, although twelve months had elapsed, no arbitration had been held, and it is now intimated that some action has been taken, but that no conclusion has been reached. Here we are face to face with a very serious situation, for if the country is paying too much for the work it loses heavily, while the Grand Trunk Pacific is rendered liable for a rental that is exorbitant.

The railway was originally estimated to cost $28,000 per mile. It is now alleged that we shall really pay for it $125,000 per mile. If overcharges have been permitted no one, of course, need wonder at the enormous figure confronting us. It seems clear that Mr. Lumsden has resigned as a consequence of the difficulty experienced in straightening out this matter, and should such be the case, he has done the correct thing, for the public interests ought to be the first concern of the commission and all its officers.

Edmonton Makes Powder.

It is not generally known that one of the products manufactured in Edmonton is a smokeless, odorless blasting powder, which has the further advantage of not exploding from any amount of concussion, but only when ignited in an airtight chamber.

There was shipped over the C.P.R. from this city on Saturday twenty tons, comprising one car load of this blasting powder. It was put up in kegs numbering about 560 and shipped direct to Vancouver, where it will be put into use in mining operations at the coast. The freight on the shipment alone was over $700.

The powder was introduced into the Edmonton district a little over a year ago by J. A. Goldsmith, who at that time made some very successful experiments in the city mines of the Standard Coal Company. A company was formed known as the G & J Safety Blasting Powder Co. The "G" stands for Goldsmith and the "J" for a Mr. Jex of Wetaskiwin, who was a co-inventor with Mr. Goldsmith. A plant was begun on the property secured in North Delton just beyond the north city limits. O. J. Goddard has been acting as general manager for the company and stock in the company has been sold by Palmer & McIntyre. Mr. Goldsmith has been one of the directors in the company and one of its chief shareholders. On the property is now the nucleus of a factory, consisting of the building where the powder is manufactured, a storage warehouse and a dwelling house for the employees.

Mr. Goldsmith returned on Saturday from the coast, where he has been giving a series of experiments with the powder in competition with other explosives used in blasting. So successful were the tests that Mr. Goldsmith was at once given an order for several carloads of the stuff. He knew the limits of the small plant in Edmonton, however, and contracted for the carload which was shipped on Saturday.

So delighted were the miners at the coast with the Edmonton product that Mr. Goldsmith says they prefer it to all other explosives used and have made him tempting offers to move the plant to the coast city.—Edmonton Bulletin.

I expect to pass through this world but once. If, therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do any fellow human being, let me do it now, let me not defer or neglect it, for I will not pass this way again.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

SHOOTING AT WADENA

A. D. Fraser, a Farmer, Shot Down in Cold Blood—Hainer, the Self-Confessed Murderer, Claimed Money.

Wadena, Sask., July 5.—Further developments in the Fraser shooting tragedy at Margo indicate a cold blooded brutal murder and Sanford Hainer is now under arrest, the self-confessed slayer of Alfred David Fraser. After the preliminary hearing held at Margo, Hainer told the story of the shooting in a cool manner and expressed pleasure on learning that he had done his fiendish act so thoroughly. The few statements made by Hainer would indicate that some financial dispute existed between himself and his victim. About one month ago he wrote Fraser stating that unless this was settled satisfactory to him he would shoot him on sight. On the morning of the tragedy Hainer proceeded in search of his victim and found him plowing in a field adjacent to Fraser's house. Fraser had just completed a round and was in the act of taking a drink of water. Hainer from a position about 100 yards distant drew a bead upon his man and called out that he was going to shoot.

Fraser replied "don't shoot," and immediately began to run for the house. Hainer then fired three shots, the first missed his victim and lodged in the hip of the horse, the second entered Fraser's shoulder, but he did not fall, the third entered the head about two inches from the top and smashed the skull causing instantaneous death. Hainer then, it is said calmly withdrew without examining his victim. The prisoner expressed regret that his early arrest did not permit him to make a similar end of Messrs. Sayforth, Hilliard, and McDonald, against whom he appeared to also have a grudge.

Complete reports regarding the arrest of the prisoner confirm the good judgment displayed by those who had it in hand. That Hainer was desparate and placed no value on life could be seen by his actions. He was fully armed as two rifles and a revolver with plenty of ammunition were found in his house. All night the watchers lay around his house guarding every window and door. S. Barth and Corporal Abich erected a breast work close in to the door, while Harrop and Brentison secured cover behind a bush close to a window and Messrs. Ainley, McNicil and Culp guarded the road from the house.

In the morning when the prisoner appeared at the door with his rifle in hand he was commanded to throw up his hands. He refused and endeavored to raise his gun but a couple of shots drove him to cover. He broke for the window, but was again met by shots and seeing the game was up he came out and surrendered.

Sanford Hainer is a young man about 25 years of age and a native of Stafford, Ont. He came to Yorkton six years ago and after two years there moved to Margo and took up a homestead. Fraser was about 28 years old and came here from Pilot Mound about five years ago. He played in Margo football team and took a prominent part in the social life. His remains were shipped to Pilot Mound on the request of his father who resides there.

At the coroner's inquest a verdict was found "that Alfred David Fraser on July 1, 1909, about half past ten in the forenoon, met his death on his homestead near Margo, by bullet wounds inflicted by some other person, and we the jury are of the opinion that Sanford Hainer did the shooting intentionally."

Fire at Cobalt.

Cobalt, Ont., July 2.—The biggest fire ever known in Cobalt broke out at four o'clock this morning in the restaurant of Joe Lee, a Chinaman, on the Haleybury road. The facts of the fire are as follows: Two thousand are homeless, half a mile of streets are in ruins; $300,000 damage was done, less than $50,000 of which is covered by insurance, and one man is dead. The cause was an overheated stove in a Chinese restaurant.

The town was aroused by the fire alarm at 4 a.m., and the firemen found a vigorous blaze among the jam of wooden shacks and crazy wooden buildings on the Hailebury road in the north part of the town. The fire had started in the New York Chinese restaurant which was a mass of flames. A good stand was then taken on the west side of the street at the Gordon & Davis meat market, where wet blankets were placed on the roof, but the flames leaped the street and ignited another laundry more modern, and in the best part of the town, to the south of the fire and the firemen strove to keep the rush of flames from the Imperial Bank and the Cobalt square. They were successful in this, but the wind veered and drove the fire to the packed rabbit warren of "Frenchtown," where Greeks, Sicilians and other foreigners lived. The fire made great headway. Frightened men and women, many of the latter carrying babes, and all in scanty attire, began to fill the streets with weeping as they tried to save their belongings. The heat was so intense that piles of salvage goods on the railway track were ignited and destroyed.

The poor water supply failed in a desparate attempt to save the Roman Catholic church, and the school, and the fire next spread to the C.T. & N. O. bridge, the Canadian Northern Supply Co.'s warehouse and A. T. Short's warehouse. A good deal was saved from both places by the railroad workers in Frenchtown.

Looting was prevalent and many raided the stock in the threatened "blind pigs." One gang looted a barrel of wine and consumed it on the street. The several places burned are the Presbyterian church and school, the Wingham hotel, the Miners' Home, the Palace Meat market, Tropp's livery stable, Keeley's drug store, DeWolf's blacksmith shop, C. W. Store's warehouse ($5,000 on the stock), Short's machine shop ($25,000 on stock), saved in the railway cars, Chamalady's store, the Renfrew boarding house, and a dozen restaurants and boarding houses, several small stores, saloons and houses.

A Finlander was killed by remaining too long in a house which was being dynamited.

Relief was soon materialized, and many are keeping open house. The rinks and theatres are occupied by fire sufferers, and no one will be out in the rain tonight. It is understood that the Nipissing Mining Co., who own the fire swept lands will enforce strict building regulations in future.

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World's Premier Cornetist.

The Winnipeg Exhibition Association has secured the eminent Mr. Paris Chambers, the world's greatest cornetist, to act as judge of the band competition and to give public exhibitions of his wonderful skill with the cornet, as part of the program of free attractions for the stage.

Mr. Chambers has absolute command of every note in the chromatic scale of five complete octaves—his compass being from the C, eight lines below the staff, to the C written on the sixth space above the staff; in other words he has extended the tone of the cornet from the lowest open tone of the BBb bass tuba to the highest tone that can be reached by the ordinary player on the flute.

In addition to his ability as a cornet soloist, Mr. Chambers is almost as well known as a composer. His marches are known and played all over the musical world. He arranged the first fantasia of South American airs that has ever been written, and he has produced hundreds of miscellaneous compositions for band and orchestra.

Since 1903 until recently, Mr. Chambers has been in Europe and his successes there were even greater than were his successes in America. He passed from music centre to music centre and was listened to by the world's greatest musicians and composers. He played before the nobility of Germany and England, including King Edward and Emperor Wilhelm of Germany.

A Fly Killer.

The Lancet, an English medical journal gives the following remedy for destroying flies. "In our experience the best exterminating agent is a weak solution of formaldehyde in water (say two teaspoonfuls to the pint), and this experience has been confirmed by others. It would appear that flies are attracted by a weak solution of formaldehyde, which they drink. Some die in the water, others only get as far as the immediate vicinity of the plate of water, but all ultimately succumb, and, where they occur in large numbers hundreds may be swept up from the floor. It is consoling to know that by this method the flies have died under a fluid that is fatal to disease organism, a fluid which is inoffensive and for practical purposes non-poisonous. The method at once provides a means of diminishing the scourge and of securing to some extent what is most desirable the disinfection of the stain,