

THE WEST

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THE MANAGER.

The West Company, Ltd., Regina, Sask.



WEDNESDAY, May 22, 1907.

DEBRIS OF PUBLIC LIFE

Abraham Ruef, once a respected and influential citizen of San Francisco, is another of those wrecks that mark the crooked course in public life.

Politics in the United States got to a low ebb, but there has been a revision of public sentiment and justice has lately been camping on the trail of the boulder with good results. This political reformation is spreading over the continent and there is hope that in Canada the day is near when no man without clean hands will be returned for a public office.

Exposure will facilitate the cleansing of politics and the withdrawal from the lime light of men who cannot stand the pointed finger, shows that some of our public men have not failed to gauge the sentiment of the people.

In Canada we recently have seen men driven from public life and there are others on both sides of the House who should follow them, and although they are hiding behind the mantles of their leaders for the present, the time must come when the leaders must either shake them, or go down with them. There are many men in Canada today who can repeat word for word the statement made in court by Abraham Ruef when he pleaded guilty and asked for mercy. There are a lot of men, however, who have not the courage that he has. Goaded by his conscience, impressed with the anxiety of his friends, and against the advice of his attorneys, Mr. Ruef said:

"I have occupied a prominent position in this city. I have long borne an honored and respected name. My private, professional life is without stain. I have held up my head among my fellow-men, and justly. Until the election of 1905 no action of mine was such that it might bear out in any way the charges made against me in the newspapers. Until that election my life was clean and true to the high ideals I had always held."

"But the desire to hold together a vast political machine, built up at a tremendous cost and a great personal sacrifice caused me to lower those ideals which I had held up to that time so sacred. Now I have but one course before me, to offer reparation is my only course."

"Whatever my future may be, no matter in what lowly line it may be cast, I hope some again to re-enlist under the banner of good citizenship and to again exert all my efforts to reach the high ideals I deserted."

Mr. Ruef learned to his sorrow that the political game he played was not worth the chances he took, even if he had succeeded in evading the law, which he did not.

Of the crooked men we have known in the public life of Canada who are any better than Ruef except that they have money and are out of jail. Reputation and friends have forsaken them and history cannot be silent respecting their downfall.

The crooked channel in public life is well marked, but at a great cost, and those who follow in the future should surely be well guided; if not by impulse, then by example.

DENIES ADVANCE

The coast lumber manufacturers have given an unqualified denial to the statement that the cause of the advance in retail prices is due to

a similar advance by the mills. The manufacturers claim that there has not been any advance in the price of coast lumber since last December and while the prices of logs has increased to the mills they have not added this to the wholesale price to dealers in the prairie provinces. The coast manufacturers say the advance by the Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta dealers as a hold-up of a couple of dollars per thousand and they do not hesitate to say so.

The Saskatchewan dealers have advanced the price similar to that of the Manitoba lumber merchants but they have attributed the cause to the advance by the Mountain association. The latter organisation has as yet made no statement for publication and it is assumed that they have made the advance attributed to them, thus necessitating the advance by the local dealers. Should, however, the Mountain association make a similar statement to that of the Coast manufacturers, then the Saskatchewan dealers will be up against the same proposition as the Manitoba retailers who are proved guilty of holding up the consumers.

DEMAND THE LANDS

In our last issue we published a verbatim report of the discussion in the House of Commons during the last session when Mr. Lake moved as an amendment to one of the provincial subsidy resolutions, the lands plank of the Provincial Rights platform, but which was ruled out of order by the Speaker at the instigation of the prime minister. Mr. Lake took the ground so often taken by The West with regard to the immigration returns and urged that the reason for withholding the public lands from the province, has, according to the figures of the immigration department, been removed and now Saskatchewan should be placed in possession of her rightful heritage.

If we are given our lands we will be in a position to endow our university, establish our agricultural college and other necessary institutions and carry on our public improvements without resorting to direct taxation.

The land question is not settled for all time any more than the school question is settled, and these issues will arise until they are disposed of in the best interests of the people of this province and by the free will of the provincial electorate. Sir Wilfrid Laurier through technical procedure may be able to keep the principles of the Provincial Rights party from finding a place in Hansard, but he cannot remove that issue in this country until this province gets justice from Ottawa.

STORING COAL

A Brandon dispatch announces that the coal dealers of that city have decided to amalgamate and build monster sheds in which they will store a two years' supply of fuel.

From the experiences of the past winter it is only reasonable that some such precaution be taken to prevent a fuel famine such as existed last winter, but it is doubtful whether it is necessary in view of the strike settlement to tie up so much capital for two years as that proposed by the Brandon coal merchants. If consumers order a fair supply early in the season there is no reason why there should be a shortage. There is adequate fuel guaranteed for two years at least under existing contract between the miners and the operators, and with this summer's output available for fall delivery, consumers should have no difficulty in getting lots of coal. Of course the Regina district did not see the worst of the fuel famine last winter, for although the supply ran short at times, few farmers who ever came to the city for fuel went home without enough to keep them from freezing. The coal supply from this province is practically controlled from Regina, and we fancy that without the distributors here carry-

ing a two years' stock, if the country dealers will take precautions a few months ahead, and if the consumers will also look after their winter's supply early in the season, with all the mines in operation, there is no reason why last year's experiences should be repeated.

PRESS COMMENTS

(Tribune.)

It is very interesting to read of the millions that have been "made" in the wheat gambling that has caused and accompanied the movement in wheat for a few days. It is remarkable that we hear nothing of the millions that have been lost—when the people are called upon to pay.

There is only one class of men that will be benefited to any considerable extent by the running up of wheat futures. Those men are the gamblers who chance to be on the right side today.

True, the farmers will be benefited to some extent—but their profits will not be great.

The gambling is being carried on almost exclusively in futures—and it is very unlikely that the shorts are doing very much covering by buying at present from the farmers.

The present market being a gambling market, pure and simple, based on no present shortage of wheat, but on the unpromising weather, there is nothing to prove that it will hold.

The shorts who sell December wheat at a dollar are not in a rush to cover. Cash wheat is not being bought in any such quantities as legitimate speculation in futures to the extent that the present gambling in futures would warrant.

Sellers of cash wheat report that the demand at present prices is not keen. The shorts seem to be prepared to wait for fine weather to have its inevitable effect on the enthusiasm of the bulls.

The wheat gamblers, therefore, are getting the minimum of profit with the maximum of excitement, and the great masses of the people are already paying heavily for the games of certain adventurous people in Chicago, Winnipeg, and other centres of gambling in the foot of the world.

The bull movement was scarcely started when the price of flour jumped ten cents a sack. Then, as the gamblers succeeded in keeping the game going another ten cents a sack was quickly stuck on.

Someone must pay that increase. That someone is the public. The bull market may become a bear market tomorrow. Will the flour prices go back to the old standard? Probably not—yet, if those increases remain the people of Canada will pay, ten times over all the losses that will be made by these gamblers during this gambling movement.

With the wheat manipulators and the public, it is always a case of heads I win, tails you lose—with the manipulators always playing the part of I.

In the United States they have tried to get a law enacted that will make it a punishable offense to gamble in futures in a food product, a necessity of life.

The Grain Growers' association of Manitoba advocates such a law.

It is time that parliament took up this question and dealt with it in a thorough manner.

The Grain Growers' association should instruct the western members to introduce such a measure at the next session. By taking such a stand they will command the support of every man, not interested in wheat gambling, who has to pay for bread.

(Butte News)

The Gillman-Corcoran wedding is not without its parallels. The president of the United States Steel Corporation has done that which many a millionaire has done before and many will do again as long as money is plentiful and skirts are made short.

When William B. Leeds, the "financier king," made his millions, the plain little wife who had helped him make them was discarded and the Leeds-Worthington wedding given as much publicity as the Corey affair.

For four years Antonio Terry fought in the divorce courts that he might marry Sybil Sanderson, the beautiful grand opera singer. His desire was scarcely attained when death claimed him. His widow did not long survive him.

Harry Flagler proved that there

ARTISTIC OTTAWA

It is fitting and right that the capital of the Dominion should in some respects be regarded as the social and artistic centre of Canada. To Ottawa are attracted the best brains and talents of our citizens, and the city has long been noted as being foremost in culture and refinement.

The following letter from Mr. J. A. Verge, of Ottawa, throws some light on the subject of music. He states that Ottawa singers are all well pleased with the "New Scale Williams' Piano."

The Williams' Piano Co., Ottawa, Ont.—It is with pleasure and satisfaction I write you that the "New Scale Williams' Piano" in St. Domingo, Mayaguez, I bought from you, has met with all our expectations. The touch and tone are perfect. All our singers of the Capital express their delight with the singing qualities, and my wife, as a pianist, is enchanted with it. In fact, the "New Scale Williams' Piano" is the favorite with all our musical people.

Consult our nearest representative, or write Williams' Piano Co., Ottawa, for handsome descriptive literature and special catalogue plans. 180

F. de S. HENWOOD, South Railway St., Regina, Sask.

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A minute or two is all it takes to perform the operation. All the ashes are in the pan, too.

Because they are guided into it by means of ash-chutes attached immediately below the fire-pot.

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McClary's

LONDON, TORONTO, MONTREAL, WINNIPEG, VANCOUVER, ST. JOHN, N.B. PEART BROS. HARDWARE CO., Local Agents

was no fool like du old fool when he married a "foot light favorite," 38 years his junior. To do this he induced the Florida legislature to pass a law making insanity grounds for divorce and his first wife, broken in mind and health, from constant brooding, was set aside.

From Weber & Poles, Allan W. Wood, Pittsburg's millionaire took Goldie Mohr for his wife, then obligingly died and left her his millions.

About all that can be said to the credit of Harry Thaw when he married Evelyn Nesbit is that he did not discard another wife to do so.

(New York Tribune.)

The last of the great herds of buffalo is about to appear from the American territory. For several months President Roosevelt has been making every effort to round up the famous herd on the Flathead reservation. It consisted of some two hundred head of the largest and finest in the country. Despite the president's watchfulness, however, and his earnest effort to keep the herd in the United States, the buffalo have been driven off, before his eyes, so to speak, by the Canadian government to make a permanent home in Canada. The price paid for the buffalo herd was about \$150,000. So disappears from the country a famous reminder of the past.

Ask for Minard's and take no other.

HAS HE GONE?

Brandon, May 15.—The city assessor, Mr. Marrow, who is also public city commissioner, after handing in his rolls on Friday evening to the council left on Saturday for Winnipeg, and has not been heard from since, with the result that all kinds of rumors are afloat, some to the effect that he will not return to the city.

His prolonged absence was the topic of discussion on the streets today, and it was also currently stated, and it was currently stated that he had realised a considerable amount by cashing notes endorsed by friends and by obtaining credit from merchants. In addition he had in his possession between \$500 and \$600, the proceeds of a minstrel show given last week under the auspices of the 20,000 club.

It was intended that this money was to be distributed through Mr. Marrow's hands for publicity purposes. It is hoped that he may return and straighten matters out satisfactorily.

Serious O'vic Mixup
There is also considerable trepidation.

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REV. EDWARD A. WILSON.
48-68 Brooklyn, N. Y.

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R. E. Mickleborough

Implement Dealer

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CONDUCT

Severe Arraignme

by Judge Rie

In sentencing Conduct Thompson, of Guelph, to in the penitentiary, Judge said:

"The sentry in front of set there to watch over the comrades is in no possible position than you, placed in charge that the safety of the and the two train crews try sleep, no excuse is penalty is death. What is of you? You have caused of three men, and your is that you fell asleep, and not able to see to it that the sentry did put in at Hespording to your story, you akened from sleep by a crowd of death to your fellow men. Provisionally no were injured, but that was no care of yours."

"I have reserved judgment long that I might carefully what the penalty is to be representations from all and I have been waited by several of your form employees and by those on organisations of men in like ment. Some have advanced ment which is, in effect, that the penalty is to be death or life imprisonment, that me careless, and that no punishment the most severe, inflic you would prevent the like again. That argument to defeats its own object. The must perhaps, by inevitable produce casualties; danger are, dangerous, to some extent must continue to be; but duty of all to reduce to lowest ebb the fearful toll of limb, exacted. And I am of opinion that if men in charge of the sentry are taught negligence on their part, death or injury, punishment inexorably follow, we shall hear of so many horrors and therefore should have been. The people must be Men doing their duty in relation to their safety being those placed on guard must be protected, and the sentinel must raise his responsibility."

"I have been told that I act a fine. I refuse even to the exaction of a fine or to thing which could even suggest the stain of blood that is hands can be washed out, wry. And this is no process which the railway company, thing to do, so that I shou sider their loss in even the way. You were prosecuted crown for the protection of it shall discuss your responsibility. The length of that imprisonment depend to a certain extent on own conduct. The term of ment could in no case be it would be intolerable if your position should think as licence, resulting as this did tulle. I have again and again considered the facts, and have much thought to the recortions made to me, as well as commendation of mercy of it. It is hard to see any circumst mitigation, to discover a which justifies me in reducing punishment below the term t of in the act, but I am incl be merciful. I remember th

ANGLO-DU DEF

Scheme of Bo

London, May 18.—Reuter's learns that the defence scheme of the government of the first step in the new line they inaugurated by the govern the colony. It has in view ation of a striking force of power to deal with any loca tion that may arise, a force is hoped will form part of

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K RAY

In preference which is imple the South Se None purer o than Knight mond. Then, money goes b soil. . .