

THE ALBERTAN

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SIZE OF COMMISSION

Alderman Samis has made the first real effort to formulate a workable scheme that would bring order out of chaos at the city hall. He has succeeded to a certain extent in placing upon paper, a plan worthy of some consideration.

However, his plan does not require five commissioners to make it feasible. It is quite as workable with three commissioners, as with five and paid aldermen. In fact, the plan would work best of all with only one commissioner.

The commission, such as he suggests, is not like any other known form of business or government administration. The successful railway corporation has one man in charge who is held responsible in a general way for the working of all branches and divisions of the undertaking. In Alderman Samis' scheme there is no such person in charge at the city hall.

In governments fashioned upon the British system, the premier is in charge. He chooses his associates and is above them. He is responsible in a general way for all that happens.

But that is not the scheme as outlined by Alderman Samis. The mayor has no greater voice and is no more responsible than the commissioners. He has less authority, for he is to be elected for two years only, while they are to be elected for four years.

The trouble with the commission form of government is that there is no responsible head to it. In practice we find, in Calgary at least, that questions of importance are not discussed upon their merits when they come before the commission, but decided by a system of unworthy compromise and a give and take which does not always work to the welfare of the city. To add two commissioners would aggravate this shortcoming rather than cure it.

This criticism is not merely of the Calgary commission, but of every commission form of government. Despite these shortcomings, the commission form of administration is the best that has been devised. At the same time, Alderman Samis' plan does not go very far towards improving conditions by increasing the number.

If we could get the right man, the ideal form of commission would be made up of just one member. Then we could talk of a \$10,000 mayor.

CALGARY UNIVERSITY

This is an important day in the history of Calgary, for it is University Day and marks the real beginning of Calgary University. After a great deal of effort and some discouragement, the university is now launched under fairly promising conditions. The mere starting of such an institution, upon a good foundation is a very long step forward. It means that the Calgary University has been started and will always be in existence.

The university is starting more auspiciously than most of the big and successful universities in Canada. The financial structure is solid. The need is very apparent. The staff is very good. The equipment is not quite satisfactory yet, but will be improved very soon.

Under such circumstances no person should have any doubt about the future of this institution. The need is apparent and the university is here to supply the need. No person can fortell the manner of development of this new seat of learning, but it is certain that it will grow to be a strong educational institution wielding a whole some influence upon the people of Calgary and the provinces beyond. It starts with the good wishes and confidence of the people of Calgary who are practically a unit in giving it support and ready assistance.

SASKATCHEWAN VOTERS' LIST

The Calgary Herald insists that there were irregularities in the Saskatchewan elections because Hon. Robert Rogers says so. In one constituency referred to by Mr. Rogers, The Herald says, 1914 votes were polled and of these 2124 were not properly qualified and some 300 others, who had the right, were excluded. That seems to show that the election irregularities were upon a large scale. But before all this rascality is admitted, we first have to take the word of Mr. Rogers that 1914 votes were not qualified and that 300 others who were qualified, were excluded from the ballot.

But Mr. Rogers by no stretch of imagination can be called an impartial witness. He has merely made the statement and produced no facts to justify it. His evidence, as he has given it so far, would be admitted in no court of law and unsupported should be regarded as worthless outside of a court of law. But upon no other information, or no better information, Mr. Bennett and others, who know better, are calling their opponents thugs and thieves and all manner of vile names. Mr. Rogers and Mr. Bennett understand con-

ditions in Saskatchewan. The Franchise Act there is similar in most respects to the Franchise Act in Ontario and the other provinces. The names of voters are placed upon voters' lists. These names are revised in a regular way before court judges. Any not qualified to vote are struck off and others properly qualified, whose names do not appear, are added. The voters' list, as so revised, is the final word in the qualifications of voters, and the question of eligibility does not have to be fought out at a most exciting time before party scrutineers, to be determined by a partisan deputy returning officer.

The Saskatchewan voters' list is neither irregular nor unusual. It is quite probable that some names were put on which should not be there and some were left off which should be there. That is inevitable and occurs wherever lists are prepared. We are informed that in some places the Conservative candidates got the better of the revision and in some places they did not. The system is quite proper and if the Conservatives got the worst of it, it was because they neglected to appeal against names put on or left off.

And that is the beginning and end of this scandal which has so torn the tender hearts of the upright Rogers and the guileless Bennett. They are endeavoring to make sensations out of anything to explain away the defeat of Saskatchewan. The only election irregularities in Saskatchewan were committed by the Rogers gang, one of whom at least is getting his deserts at the present time.

THE LATE DR. ROULEAU

Calgary loses a valued citizen in the death of Dr. E. H. Rouleau. He was a highly respected resident of this city, almost since the very beginning of the city. He was a cultured gentleman, sincere, sympathetic, loving and lovable. He was a patriotic Westerner, an able practitioner and an upright man. This city is better because of his having lived in it.

SPREAD IN PRICE OF GRAIN

The Winnipeg Free Press believes that the saddest thing in politics in modern times is the cheerless manner in which the premium on cash Canadian wheat disappeared just at the time when the Macdonald election was called, at the very time when it might have been of some use as an election cry in the bye-election.

The premium has gone and the spread is now moving towards the normal, which means a difference of about 10 cents a bushel or more, in favor of the Minneapolis prices.

The Free Press explains the reason for the premium in favor of Canadian prices for a brief period. There was a scarcity of high grade wheat. There was some apprehension due to the continued wet weather in Western Canada. But the greatest factor was the necessity under which the grain dealers rested of securing cargoes for the vessel space which they had contracted for in September, in anticipation of a crop movement, which did not materialize.

Ordinarily the purchasing price of wheat at the points of delivery throughout the West are determined by the Fort William prices, less the railway rate and handling charges. During the period, when these premiums were being paid for wheat, the purchasing price of wheat at points of delivery, throughout the West was determined, not by the cash prices quoted on the Winnipeg exchange and reported in the Winnipeg papers, but by the figures of the option market for October. That is to say, the farmer who had wheat to sell any time within the last two weeks, in Manitoba, had to take some five cents a bushel less for it than the rate fixed by the Winnipeg cash price. The reason why the purchasing price was determined by the October option, was that the buyers calculated that the wheat purchased in the latter part of September at points throughout Manitoba and Saskatchewan would not reach the lake front, and thus be available for shipment east, until October.

It is thus quite clear that the high prices which have prevailed during the last thirty days were absolutely of no benefit to the farmers, excepting those few who had grain subject to their order in the terminal elevators.

Here, then are the facts, which we imagine the Conservative organ will have some difficulty in reconciling with the wise inferences it has been drawing during the past month, from a purely temporary set of circumstances:

(1) At a time when practically no wheat was being offered in Western Canada, the contract grades of Canadian wheat in the elevator at Fort William, owing to a combination of circumstances, went to a premium of from 5 to 10 cents per bushel, the advantage being repeated almost entirely by the grain-handling companies.

(2) By the end of September, with the first wave of the new wheat movement, the premium disappears, and Canadian wheat prices sag nearly 3 cents under those of Minneapolis.

(3) The option markets show that in December when the full tide of wheat marketing will be in progress over the entire West, the prices for Canadian wheat will be 6-8 cents lower than the prices which will then prevail in the adjoining States. The same price will prevail, it is estimated, in May, when there will also be a large delivery of wheat throughout Western Canada.

LABORATORY FOR CALGARY

The committee appointed to investigate municipal affairs, recommended the establishment in this city of an experimental laboratory to make tests when required. That part of the report should meet with no opposition. Such an institution is badly needed here. This city, like other Western cities and towns, is frequently attacked by an epidemic of typhoid. If Calgary is to be well equipped to battle against these outbreaks, it must have a well equipped laboratory. The council should take action.

THE POET PHILOSOPHER

(By Walt Mason)
SIDEBOARDS
Now a message sad to me comes from the poet-philosopher...

IDEAS OF A PLAIN MAN

(By Dr. Frank Crane)
THE HISTORICAL NOVEL
The only great novel of the novel the only great novel of the novel...

SIDEWALK SKETCHES

(By Howard L. Rand)
October is a serious, thoughtful month, which happens after September...

SHIPOARD OF BEAUTIES

BALKS BASHFUL
Prospect of Ten Days' Cruise With Girl Passengers Turns Back Canadian

One Male Passenger in List Containing Fifteen High School Boys

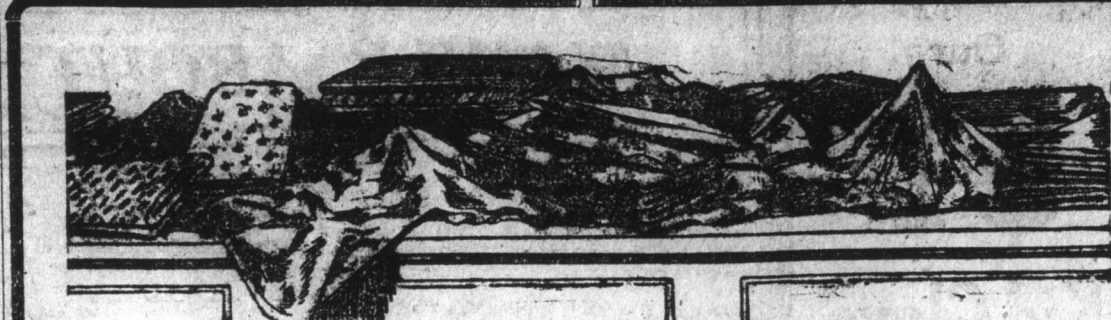
New York, Sept. 28.—The prospects of ten days' association with a shipload of girls, held no attraction for Francois Andre Genereux, a Canadian merchant of Ste. Anne de Monts, Quebec, who had booked passage on the Fabre liner Sant' Anna.

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New Dress Goods For Fall are Here

WE PROMISE a very pleasant and interesting exhibition of the new dress materials. It's a showing of the most desirable productions from several countries for the gratification of Calgary's most fashionably dressed women...

- REVERSIBLE WHIPCORDS
An extremely handsome suiting of finest wool. One that will make up into soft, attractive garments with Dame Fashion's stamp of approval on every line...

Louise Silk for your New Silk Gown

Few women there are who haven't planned to give themselves at least one new silk dress this fall and perhaps an extra silk waist fashioned after their own ideas, from a new silk of their selection. There are really so many occasions when the silk dress seems to be the only proper garment to wear...

Your Thoughts Now to Art Needlework

Come to think of it, the long and sometimes tedious winter evenings are approaching close. Perhaps we can give you a little suggestion here for which you will thank us. Why not get ready a number of really useful Christmas presents in advance...

Here's Where the Brassware Section Shines

- Candle Sticks, Colonial design, 6-inch to 14-inch, per pair \$1.25 to \$4.75
Trays, round, 10-inch, \$1.25; 11-inch, \$1.50; 12-inch, \$1.75; 13-inch, \$2.00

Business Men, Your Ear! Carter's Ink --- A Sale!

"After all, there's none like Carter's." And where's the business man today who doesn't know this famous ink. A canvas of the various big business houses would prove that this is the favorite with those who know. Now listen!

Make a Note of These Writing Pads

Here's a chance to lay in a goodly supply of correspondence paper for future use at very low cost. Such value isn't heard of every day, you know, so make the most of this.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

Intelligence in a most remarkable manner. The use of electricity in the rearing of plants has lately been tried with wonderful results. A process has been invented by a Mr. Miles by which wheat can be brought to a state of maturity three weeks sooner than under ordinary conditions...

Vertical text on the far left edge of the page, including 'kinds of cloths, pin-...', 'very imaginable all widths from...', 'superior quality, newest millinery...', '15c.', '2 for 35c.', 'ection', 'available here...', 'pestry Rugs', 'at exceptionally...', 'all that can be de-', '\$8.75', '\$10.75', '\$11.75', 'crims', 'interesting story of...', 'days to share the...', 'tionally fine goods...', 'who have not a...', 'additional pur-', '30c, 35c and...', '25¢', 'ideas and will be used...', 'at the convention.', 'CANADIAN PACIFIC', 'railway', 'd Field', '12.', '15k', '1,30k', 'return \$3.80; to...', '14 days. Fare...', '5.00. Good go-', 'Sunday or', 'Sept. 28th-29th.', 'ate Fair', '1912.', 'Oct. 5th', '1912.', 'hibition', 'and return \$20.35', 'to October 3rd', '1912.', 'Hurkett, Ticket Agent, Calgary', 'CANADIAN PACIFIC'