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SEMI-WEEKLY EDITION

The Edmonton Bulletin.

SEMI-WEEKLY EDITION

VOLUME V. EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 1910 NUMBER 518

DOMINANT NOTE OF SIR WILFRID'S ADDRESS IS LOYALTY TO EMPIRE

Sir Wilfrid Delivers Splendid Panegyric of British Institutions and British Rule. Declares That Canada, as a Self-Governing Nation Within the Empire Must Bear Her Share of the Burden of Responsibility for its Defence.

MAGNIFICENT RECEPTION ACCORDED TO CANADA'S MOST DISTINGUISHED STATESMAN BY ALBERTA'S CAPITAL

Hon. C. W. Cross Presides. Rousing Speeches Delivered by Alberta's Premier, the Hon. A. L. Sifton, Hon. Frank Oliver, Minister of the Interior, F. E. Pardee, M. P., E. M. MacDonald, M.P., and Hon. Geo. P. Graham.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the Thistle Rink last night witnessed a fitting climax to a two days' series of magnificent receptions which have been accorded him since his entrance on Monday morning into the Province of Alberta.

Without any doubt the meeting of last night was the greatest ever held in the city of Edmonton. The rink has been crowded before on different occasions as it was last night to its utmost capacity, but last night's meeting possessed an enthusiasm which has never before been accorded to any public speaker in the city.

The heartiness of the reception was not confined to political friends alone Conservatives as well as Liberals united to pay honor to one who has won for himself a place among the greatest of the Empire statemen. The reception accorded the different speakers was such as will make their visit to Edmonton one which they will long remember.

Rink Early Crowded.

The meeting was advertised to start at half past eight o'clock, but an hour earlier the building was well filled and long before the speakers arrived not a seat remained vacant.

A most attractive feature was the elaborate scheme of decoration which had been put into effect. Never has the rink at a function of this kind presented a more beautiful appearance. The platform was adorned with palms and other plants, bunting and flags, while comfortable arm chairs gave an air of luxuriance to the scene. Around the rink the bunting was gaily festooned, making a scene which reflected great credit on those in charge. The decorations were done by C. E. Race, the Byron-May Co. and Howard Stutchbury.

On the platform besides the Prime Minister were Premier Sifton and members of the Provincial Cabinet, members of the Laurier party and others. The chair was occupied by Hon. C. W. Cross, who was given a hearty reception upon rising to open the meeting.

A Great Welcome.

The entrance of the Prime Minister was the signal for a great outburst of applause. The immense gathering rose to their feet and cheer after cheer greeted the party as he and the others passed out on the platform and took their seats. It was several minutes before the applause subsided and in the meantime Sir Wilfrid stood bowing and smiling before the multitude.

The chairman in welcoming Sir Wilfrid referred to his visit to Edmonton five years ago and the immense progress that had since been made by the city. He would assure him if he came back in 2 1-2 or 3 years more the population would not be 25,000 or 30,000, but 50,000 people. Mr. Cross then announced the different speakers and the order in which they would address the meeting.

Premier Sifton First Speaker.

Premier Sifton was the first speaker. Sixteen years ago he had first visited Edmonton, then in company with Sir Wilfrid Laurier. That was on the eve of a Dominion election and the result was not one Conservative was returned west of the Great Lakes Since then he had somewhat neglected visiting the west, but now that he was back again there would be another sweep at next election. The government had come to the conclusion tthat the west required the attention of not alone the private members but of the Premier himself. He closed with a tribute to Sir Wilfrid who had won the praise not alone of Canada, but of the press of the Mother Country.

Hon. Mr. Oliver Followed.

Hon. M. Oliver was the next speaker. Recently he had met large audiences in Edmonton only in times of political stress and strain. It was therefore a great pleasure to meet a large audience now in Edmonton, when there was universal good will. Sir Wilfrid had been received with huzzahs and banners on his tour through the West, but his welcome was not always thus. For a long time he had lived amid defeat and disappointment. Today he stood as the representative of a principle to which his life had been devoted when there seemed small chance of success. Today the principles which he advocated were adopted by all for they were sound and none there were to begrudge him his success.

His work was not yet finished, the growth of Canada had only begun. The receptions of the west had not plain commonsense of the people manifesting itself. Edmonton had been an outpost of Empire but now was the gateway to a great northland on the verge of development. There was still room for the policy been so much enthusiasm as the of Liberalism as enunciated by Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Mr. Pardee's Address.

R. F. Pardee, M.P. for West Lambton, in his address dwelt on the upbuilding of the West which had taken place under Sir Wilfrid Laurier's government. In no period had Canada and especially Western Canada undergone such a great development as was at present going on under the administration of Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

"Tories," said Mr. Pardee, "have stated that the Laurier government has been lucky and Providence has helped it, but Providence helps only those who help themselves. I do not call it luck. I call it good administration. Was it luck that induced Sir Wilfrid Laurier to grant a preferential tariff on British goods. It was not luck but good statesmanship."

Mr. Pardee continuing said that the aim of the present government was to advance the West. Here was the future centre of Canada. It was only as facilities for transportation were improved that this new part of Canada could advance.

For Canada's Advancement.

In the fourteen years of the administration of the Liberal government nothing had been done but what had tended to the advancement of Canada and the making of a great nation. So long as the Liberal government continued to hold to their present policy of advancing the last best west it was our duty as loyal Canadians to support Sir Wilfrid Laurier in his great policy.

SIR WILFRID'S SPEECH.

Sir Wilfrid said: You, sir, in the remarks with which you opened the meeting, were kind enough to convey to me an invitation which I would be glad at once to accept. It was that I should again visit this city. And you said that if I were to visit it again at no distant date, within two and a half or five years at most, that instead of twenty-five thousand souls, I would find a population of fifty thousand.

I can assure you that I require no inducement to be impelled to visit the city of Edmonton once more. The kindness and the warmth of the reception with which I have been honored is incentive enough, and I can only say that if I come again, whether in two and a half or in five years, I am prepared to believe your estimate that I would find a population of fifty thousand people.

The Growth of Edmonton.

When I visited Edmonton the first time the population of that day was about two thousand, with generous counting, as my friend Mr. Oliver has said. When I visited it again in 1905 it had increased only from two thousand to three thousand; and again, according to Mr. Oliver, by good counting. But today the population is twenty-five thousand, whether the counting be good or not. In two and a half years the population will be according to his estimate, without regard to the counting.

In fact, since I have seen the West I have become more Canadian than at any time before. In the address with which I was favored today I was acknowledged to be an optimistic statesman. I accept the compliment without any demur. Whatever I thought then I left Ottawa I thought that I was an optimistic statesman, but now I must say that I am an enthusiastic statesman.

The Best of All Lands.

Like yourselves, I believe in Canada. In fact, we believe in God and next to God in Canada. We have the best of all lands; we have the best of all climates and we have the best of all institutions.

In the same address of the municipal council I noticed another paragraph in which it was stated that only a few years ago Canada was regarded as a country little and unknown; in the thought of the majority of outside people a region hard, ironbound and cold, where the wind from the pole froze the word upon the lip.

Sir, for my part I have no fault to find with the Canadian climate. It is to my judgment the glory of Canada. Some few years ago Rudyard Kipling, the Imperial poet, referred to Canada in a poem which he wrote as "Our Lady of the Snows." Some critics at the time were inclined to find fault with the title. For my part I approve the appellation and am prepared to accept the statement that Canada is "Our Lady of the Snows."

Canada's Glorious Climate.

The climate of Canada is the glory of Canada. It is the climate of Canada which makes the No. 1 hard wheat. It is the climate of Canada which puts the bloom upon the cheeks of the better half of the audience I see before me tonight. Is there a man in this audience who does not agree with me?

When I rise in the month of January or February and see the smoke rising in the atmosphere one hundred feet above the chimney perpendicularly in the clear, cold, still air, I know that it is this bracing atmosphere that makes our strong men and beautiful women.

In Canada it is cold in winter but it is warm in summer, as also we know, and the land of frost is also the land of fruit, the land of wheat, the land of strong men and of beautiful women.

A Land for the Strong.

This country has not been made by God for the effete, for the timorous or for the laggard. We say to such, "You have no business here." But, to the strong and willing, to those whom God has endowed with brains and brawn, we say, "This is your country. Come with us and you will find your labor rewarded as never in any other part of the world." This is the reason why we like our country and our climate.

Likewise we are proud of our institutions. They are inferior to none. We do not follow where others lead. We trace our own furrow. It is our glory, and I think we can rightly claim it, that we have contributed to the making of the British Empire.

A Galaxy of Young Nations.

The British Empire is at the present time a galaxy of young nations. What is the principle that has made these nations? It is the principle of autonomy. It is not conceivable that, if the principle of Crown government as it was in the past had persisted, Canada, and that galaxy of nations within the Empire, would have been what they are. It is the principle of autonomy that has brought them to be what they are, and that is auxiliary nations of the great Mother Country.

I see in this audience some old heads. There are not many old men in Western communities. One of the things which has surprised us during our tour through the Western country is that we see so many young men. There are here and there some old heads, almost all of whom I suppose come from the old provinces on the Atlantic coast. They will remember the struggles of their forefathers in the interests of responsible government, their struggle to be allowed the privilege of governing themselves as members of a nation within the British Empire. They will remember the efforts of those, mentioned by Mr. Oliver, whose names have become household words in the Dominion—MacKenzie, Papineau, Lafontaine and others.

The Struggle for Autonomy.

These names, as you will remember, and all those who came from the old provinces, contributed in every way to obtain the recognition of the principle of responsible government.

The principle of responsible government has been the basis of union with the Mother Country. We Canadians have initiated the principle by which it is possible for the colony to become a nation without severing its connection with the parent land. It is the glory of the Canadian people that they have been instrumental in introducing the principle which is acknowledged to be the ruling and guiding principle under which the British Empire now exists.

Objections Swept Away.

Every step taken in that direction meant that some objection would come from those who were effete, timorous and laggard. But all their objections were swept away by a free people and today we are enjoying the benefit of their struggles in that direction.

While we are a nation at the present time, however, it does not follow that our task is accomplished; it does not follow that there is nothing else to be done. No. It is our duty to accept all the responsibility of a free nation. The only difference between us and the other nations is that we owe our allegiance to the Mother Country of old England.

We are proud to say, and to believe, maintain and affirm that we are British subjects, that we have no other allegiance than our allegiance to King George the Fifth. And it is part of the glory of this country that we have laid down the way for others to follow. Australia, New Zealand and South Africa have followed in our steps.

Representative to Go to Pretoria.

I am glad to be able to say that within a few weeks after my return to Ottawa a representative of our government will leave Ottawa to be present at the opening of the first parliament of South Africa. Remember, my fellow-countrymen, what these words mean to us. Canadians and British subjects. The parliament will be opened at Pretoria and will have as its members British subjects, some of whom will be of British origin and some of Dutch origin. Ten years ago these men who will be seated together in the same house engaged in joint efforts to govern the one country, were at the throats of each other. We have there a spectacle unique in history, possible nowhere else than in the British Empire. These men who ten years ago were fighting together are now united under the British flag.

We have this further spectacle, that the man who will be called by the Governor-General of South Africa to take the place at the head of the government of South Africa, will be no less a person than General Botha, leader of the Boer forces against the forces of His Majesty. Can anything more sublime be seen than this? Where except in the pages of British history shall we find a nation victorious in war having the courage to bring to the council of her advisers the man who was first in the war against her?

Glory of British Empire.

This is the glory of the British Empire, and this is the vindication of the principle of responsible government, first inaugurated in Canada some sixty years ago, first under Lord Durham and afterwards under Lord Elgin. The like of British institutions was never seen in any part of the world up to the present time. As subjects of the King, as a British country and as a British nation, as I said some time ago, it is our duty to assume all the rights and responsibilities of a free people.

What is the first right, what is the first duty, and what is the first responsibility of a free people? It must be prepared to maintain its integrity. It must be prepared to maintain and defend its allegiance. And to that duty we have given our attention in the last parliament, and have determined to organize a navy to protect our shores.

The duty of defence is inherent in human nature. When I was first here you had no city police force. Today you have a police force because you have grown to be a city. So is it with Canada. We have become a nation. We have a sea coast which we must be prepared to defend, and for this purpose we must have a navy. That is the first reason.

The Other Reason.

The other reason is that up to the present time Great Britain has borne alone the burden of the defence of the immense fabric of the British Empire in all lands and all seas. That Canada should now bear a share of the burden is a proposition so true that I need waste no time expatiating upon it. You will agree with me, I am sure.

There may be a difference as to methods. Some of my fellow-countrymen have been saying that instead of having a navy of our own we should give a contribution to the British navy. I personally never could agree with that proposition. Rather I think we should do for ourselves what we can to prepare ourselves as a nation for the work of defence. And if our example is followed, as indeed it is being followed at the present time by Australia and New Zealand, and as it will doubtless be followed by and by South Africa, should England ever be in danger—no, I will not use the word, I do not believe that England can ever be in danger, for up to the present time England was never afraid or jealous of any nation—but should the day come when England should be in danger I believe that more help can be given her if all the daughters of the nation can go from all parts of the world to meet the common enemy.

This Is the Reason.

This is the proposition, this is the reason why I thought it better to accept to the full the responsibility of defending ourselves at sea. We have a militia of which we have no reason to be ashamed. We have some volunteers who in South Africa gave a good account of themselves, who when they were put by the side of those famous soldiers, the Gordon Highlanders, at Paardeberg, showed that the old fighting blood still flowed in their veins.

We must also be prepared to defend ourselves upon the high seas. What is the position taken by the Opposition? The Opposition were divided on lines of geography. There was one policy in Quebec and one in Ontario. In Quebec the men of French descent like myself and in Ontario the men of English descent like yourselves.

Ontario says the government policy does no go far enough. It is all right to build a navy, but we should also make a contribution to the British Imperial navy.

What Quebec Wants.

In Quebec the Opposition wants no navy and no contribution. In Quebec at this moment I am denounced as a traitor to my race because I advocated this policy. In Ontario I am denounced as a traitor to the British crown because I have advocated this policy.

What is at the bottom of the dual castigation to which my poor head is subjected? Both in Quebec and Ontario it is a certain prejudice. Prejudice, it must be remembered, is not always an ignoble thing. It is often just the exaggeration of noble sentiments.

I take this opportunity to say that throughout my life it has always been my practice to ignore differences of race and creed and to appeal to the sentiment of my fellow-countrymen.

It has been my fortune and my lot to have to fight such battles before. In 1896 on the Manitoba school question I took a position against the government of the time, believing that they had no right to force upon Manitoba a system which was not agreeable to the people of Manitoba. For this I was denounced in the province of Quebec.

In 1905 when we adopted constitutions for the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan I took a stand of compromise on the question of education for which I was denounced on the one hand by the extreme Catholics and on the other by the extreme Protestants.

I do not care whether I am denounced by the one or the other. I stand upon my ground as a British subject and a Canadian without fear or favor of any man.

Why should I argue this question? You are all of you, my fellow-countrymen, prepared to do your duty as Canadians and as British subjects.

Three Per Cent. of Revenue.

The navy will cost about three millions a year, which is about three per cent. of our revenue. I think we can stand it. That will not prevent us from doing what we have to do for the development of this country.

What you want here is railways. We realize this and are prepared to give them to you. I have stated that we should have to build the Hudson Bay Railway. I think we are prepared for that and you will require no argument from me to prove to you that it is needed. Further I have said that we shall have to dig and build the Georgian Bay Canal. Also I have said that we shall have to build another Welland Canal.

But, sir, there is another project in which you are interested and to which, for my part, I have been giving some attention of late, and which I have discussed with my colleagues, and especially with the Minister of Public Works. It is the deepening of the Saskatchewan river, so as to make it navigable from the city of Edmonton to the city of Winnipeg.

In Eastern Canada there is an artery in the St. Lawrence from the shore of the Atlantic to the heart of Ontario. It is a source of great wealth to the East and we have spent millions upon it to make it navigable from the Isle of Anticosti to Lake Superior. We have poured money into it.

The Saskatchewan Route.

In the West we have also in the River Saskatchewan an artery from the Rocky Mountains to the city of Winnipeg. It can be improved. We think it ought to be improved and are taking steps at this very moment to see if we can maintain a channel of six feet from Edmonton to Winnipeg. We have inspectors at work on it at the present time and plans are being prepared. I am sure you will agree with me that if it can be done it ought to be done.

We are a young country. We are the youngest country. We have the pretension to rise to a position equal with that of the exalted nations of the world. If we are to do this we must build the Hudson Bay Railway; we must build the Georgian Bay Canal; we must build another Welland Canal and we must make the Saskatchewan navigable.

There is more to be done yet. I invite you all, my fellow-countrymen, to rise to the occasion. It is not necessary for me to make such an invitation. I know that one and all in this province you will rise to what is to be done. (Prolonged cheers).

The Member for Pictou.

E. M. MacDonald, M.P. for Pictou, N.S., in his introductory remarks referred to Sir Wilfrid's speech, declaring it to be a magnificent effort in which the premier had excelled himself. "It is worthy," he said, the great statesman who has been at the head of Canadian affairs during the time when the West has grown from an uncivilized prairie land to a fertile farming district. Everyone knows that Western Canada made no progress during the eighteen years of Tory administration; things were practically at a standstill. Look at the great difference. Now there are 40,000 homesteads taken up every year. It is equally well known that if it were not for Sir Wilfrid's policy of immigration the West would still be an uncivilized prairie country inhabited by Indians almost exclusively.

Second Transcontinental.

"Seven years ago Laurier said to the people of Canada that the second transcontinental railway should be built. The Tories were opposed to the scheme but as things have turned out today more railways will have to be built and day by day new lines of steel are creeping across from ocean to ocean. It is the boast of every Liberal that no Tory has ever ventured to slander Sir Wilfrid Laurier and furthermore that all Liberals are united under one of the leading statesmen of the world.

"The Liberal government is one which realizes the needs of the West and what is more it is filling these needs. We ask you to stand behind our leader and I believe that when the time comes the West will not disappoint our expectations."

Minister of Railways.

Hon. Geo. P. Graham, Minister of Railways and Canals, remarked humorously, in opening that he had never been so favorably impressed with the Canadian climate as he was now after hearing Sir Wilfrid's comment on it. He also complimented the Western ladies on their ruby lips and red cheeks which he stated were due to the exhilerating Western winters.

"We have had many kindnesses shown us on our western trip," he said, "but the welcome accorded us at Edmonton has been the best of all."

"In regard to railway matters," said the minister, "the government has been harshly criticized for unnecessary expenses but every cent of money expended by the present Liberal government has been expended usefully and to some purpose.

A New Wishbone.

"Some men are born with a wishbone where there backbone ought to be. That is they wish things would happen, but have not the necessary go to make them happen, and such I am afraid is at attitude and character of many Tory members. Sir John A. Macdonald did something when he inaugurated the grand undertaking of building the Canadian Pacific Railway, but that grand old statesman is dead and since his time no more railways have been built until the present Liberal government, under Sir Wilfrid Laurier, came into power in 1896. Then there was a change and I say that the present government will not be satisfied until transportation is provided for everybody in the Dominion. It will not be very long now until the G.T.P. and C.N.R. will run from ocean to ocean.

"In regard to the G.T.P. I may say that it will cost millions of dollars but who will begrude the cost or say that tu money is wasted? As soon as the G T. P. is completed freight rates will be reduced and money will go into the hands of the producer and exporter which now goes to the railroads.

Solve Live Stock Problem.

"I think that the Hudson Bay Railway will solve the live stock problem, for when this line is completed Western live stock will be taken on board vessels at Fort Churchill after only about 24 hours' confinement in hot, stuffy cattle cars. I believe that in the years to come the Edmonton district will be a dairy country and the Hudson Bay route will make it possible then for the Western dairy products to be shipped to the Motherland and other countries in first class condition.

"I also have a vision that even when all the proposed railways are built the country will be so far advanced that people will be crying for more roads and I think that before very many years another great railway will be running through the Peace river district and the fertile northland through even to the coast."

Not a Mistake.

"Who will say," he continued, "that the building of railroads is a mistake? The present government has spent great sums of money in railroad construction but the Canadian nation can stand it and if the work is stopped Canada will cease to go ahead.

Canada's Bright Prospects.

"Last year there was a surplus of twenty million dollars and Canada's national debt is very small. The amount of money brought in from the United States last year, if continued for four years would be enough to wipe out Canada's entire national debt. No people in the world have prospects as bright as the citizens of the Dominion and let us not look on the future with the eyes of a pessimist but rather with those of an optimist and do everything in our power to make this country of ours the best in the world.

The great meeting was closed by the singing of the National Anthem.

FEWER REQUIRED.

Belief in East That West Will Not Need as Many Harvesters as Usual.

Montreal, Aug. 7—Saturday morning a number of the officials of the C. P. R. held a meeting at the Windsor station offices for the purpose of making arrangements for the handling of the usual rush of harvesters for the west.

Yesterday a number of telegrams were received by the company from the agents in the West, giving particulars as to this year's requirements in the way of harvest hands.

The officials of the company believe that the large immigration movement this summer, with a tremendous influx of agricultural labor as its most characteristic feature, has provided the West with so much material that can be converted into harvesters that the demand upon eastern Canada for the husbanding of the Western crops will be considerably less than usual.

Arrangements were discussed today for the usual cheap harvest excursions. Schedules were prepared and they will be run as in former years from the Maritime provinces and from Quebec and Ontario.

The first excursion will start from here about August 23.

The number and size of the excursions will depend upon the needs of the harvest fields as they develop later.

INSURGENTS ARE VICTORIOUS.

New Orleans, Aug. 9.—Celba and Cape Gracias have fallen and the entire north coast of Spanish Honduras is in the control of General Bonilla and his army with General Lee Christmas, formerly an Illinois locomotive engineer, second in command. In the battle last Wednesday night and Thursday morning Christmas used rapid fire guns in the hands of trained Americans with deadly effect. The troops of the President have sustained heavy losses. It is estimated that between 300 and 400 government soldiers were killed and twice as many wounded in the Celba battle. The casualties at Cape Gracias were severe.

EXPLOSION ON A BRITISH SUBMARINE

Portsmouth, Eng., Aug. 9.—Two officers and five men were dangerously injured today by an explosion of petroleum on the navy submarine A-1. So great was the force of the explosion that the coxswain was blown completely out of the conning tower and fell into the sea.

The A-1 is a single screw submarine boat of the modified Holland type, 300 feet in length and 12 feet 8 inches of beam. She has a displacement of 180 tons. She was sunk off Nob lightship on March 18, 1904, and her crew of eleven men drowned. Later she was raised.

BABY PLAYS WITH HUGE RATTLESNAKE

Nevada City, Cal., Aug. 9.—When Mrs. James Oxalll of Blue Tent went into her back yard to look for her baby yesterday she found the infant playing with a huge rattlesnake, the latter coiled up and hissing and rattling. Each time the child stooped over to pick up the reptile it would stick out its tongue and rattle, all of which served merely to delight the baby. The mother was frantic and quickly drew the child away, later dispatching the snake with a stick. It measured three feet and had four rattles and a button. The baby was in no way injured.

HIS HONOR MEETING PREMIER AND PARTY AT C. N. R. DEPOT.