

DISTRICT NEWS

WETASKIWIN.

Bulletin News Service.
Witford Forbes is making a business trip to Edmonton and Calgary this week.

A. S. Rosenblum, M.P.P., Dr. Stevenson and J. D. Reilly went to Strathcona Tuesday afternoon to attend the first convocation exercises of the Alberta university.

Rev. J. P. Hogg returned from a two weeks' vacation to Lloydminster and other points on the C.N.E.
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Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Bower attended the convocation exercises in Strathcona. The latter has entered the Alberta sanitarium, Edmonton.

S. W. Hogg is spending his vacation with friends in Edmonton.
Pat Wythe had the misfortune to cut his hand Tuesday while handling a carving knife. A surgeon was called and the rash sewn. The little fellow returned to school in the afternoon.

D. J. McKitterick moved into Wm. Carruthers' new cottage near the Presbyterian church on Wednesday.
Girard West is on a shooting trip this week.

Chas. Wieg, of Lewisville, was a city visitor Tuesday.
Messrs. Cassi and West spent Sunday with friends in Camrose on business, the first of the week.

A meeting of the Timbales was held on Tuesday at the home of Mrs. Spencer.
The King's Daughters meet Friday night at the home of Mrs. Stange.

Mrs. Dickson returned on Monday from a few days' visit with Edmonton friends, accompanied by her daughter Beatrice, who has been in the general hospital there for the past six weeks.

A man was brought in Tuesday for surgical treatment. He had lost several fingers in an accident in a saw-mill near town.
S. G. Boushka moved Thursday into the house lately occupied by Mr. McKitterick.

P. H. Thibodeau, public school inspector, Lacrosse, was a city visitor Tuesday.
R. W. Manley returned from a trip to the Yellowhead pass Saturday, and will resume his duties in the law office of W. J. Loggie.

VERMILION.

Bulletin News Service.
C. E. Slater and I. Dinwiddie visited in Edmonton on Sunday last.

J. Thompson returned from Perth, Scotland, occupied the Presbyterian pulpit on Sunday last.
Harry Bowler, homestead inspector, and Chas. Robinson, visited in Lloydminster and Onan Lake this week.

J. W. Dawson, of Wainwright, visited in town on Tuesday.
Mrs. Seed and Mrs. Youngblood visited in Mannville on Thursday.

W. E. H. Thompson returned from a business trip to Calgary and Edmonton on Wednesday.
Miss Swanson is visiting friends in Mannville this week.

H. V. Fieldhouse, of Wainwright, is spending the week in town.
Wm. Bryden, head of the Edmonton hospital on Friday, to have his hand examined, which he had crushed some time ago.

BELVEDERE.

Bulletin News Service.
Freshing is in full swing. The wheat crop is perfect.

W. F. Oliver has taken up his home-stead duties again on his claim near here.
Mr. and Mrs. Barton, of Mosside, visited at the home of Mr. Donnelly yesterday.

It is stated on reliable authority that P. M. Johnson, of Belvedere, took the Conservative party out in this district the night of October 14th, and had but one day's rations with them. They were pretty weak.

Belvedere, Oct. 17.
ALIX.
Bulletin News Service.
Rev. Mr. Hamilton's wife has been rather seriously ill this week, but is now improving. Percy Harwood, now at Edmonton College has also been on the sick list.

Mr. Curtis carried off first prize for collection of vegetables at Alix' first fair. The cucumbers included in his exhibit which he meant to show at Olds fair, have been stolen.

There was a boxing match in Todd's hall on fair day.
The Church of England harvest festival was held last Sunday. The decorations of wheat, oats, barley and rye were very pretty. The Rev. L. O. McNeil officiated.

The Alix Gun club will have next Tuesday for the annual shooting. The club divides into East and West and the losers have to pay for a duck supper and for a dance to wind up the evening.

Jack Mackie, W. P. Puffer's manager, has had a nice little house put up in two days' time.

FORT SASKATCHEWAN.

Bulletin News Service.
A special meeting of the Town Council was called last week to consider the offer of the Fort Electric Light Company to sell their plant and appurtenances for the sum of \$5,500.

Messrs. Edwards and Grant, of Edmonton, were brought down to value the plant, but nothing definite has yet been done in the matter.
Colonel S. B. Steele, D.S.O., and Lieutenant Belcher, commanding the 9th A.M.R., were in the Fort on Wednesday last inspecting the armory and stores of the 9th Squadron. They found everything in good order and complimented the quartermaster on his efficiency.

A number of our citizens attended the Grain Festival held in Edmonton last week.
Last Tuesday, in the First Baptist Church, Edmonton, Mr. Frank Harris, of Fort Saskatchewan, was married to Miss Doris Roberson, of Logan. Miss Magrie Batten was bridesmaid and Mr. Walter Elliot assisted the groom.

Mr. and Mrs. Harris will reside on Loggie avenue, having rented Mr. Foster's house.
Dr. Arthur, of Vegreville Hospital, took charge of both services in the Presbyterian Church here last Sunday, also preaching at Partridge Hill in the afternoon. Whilst in the Fort, Dr. Arthur was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. R. Walton.

Mr. R. Fletcher, official school trustee of Gravelton school in Alberta, took charge of the service in the Presbyterian Church here last Sunday, also preaching at Partridge Hill in the afternoon. Whilst in the Fort, Dr. Arthur was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. R. Walton.

Rev. Mr. Horn, Episcopal minister in the Pine Creek district, spent a few days in the Fort last week.
J. R. Boyle, M.P.P., was in town on Saturday.

Miss Ross and Miss Billings are spending a few days in Strathcona, visiting Mrs. J. Forbes.
The Ladies' Guild of St. George's Parish Church will hold their annual thanksgiving supper on the evening of November 9th.

H. E. Daniel and W. F. Langworthy left on Saturday morning for the Machod River, taking the trip by way of St. Albert. They expect to remain all winter. Mr. Loucks accompanied them, but will return in the course of a couple of weeks.
Miss Jessie Forbes, of Strathcona, spent the week-end in the Fort.

MR. ROBLIN AND MR. FOSTER.

Toronto Globe—Mr. Roblin has returned to Manitoba too soon. There are many members of the Independent Order of Foresters in this province who would like to know the truth about the Swan River land deal in which he figured, and by which, according to the sworn evidence, he must have made about \$15,000 in a very short time by a very small speculative and by very old negotiations. Among the blocks of land purchased by the Union Trust company was one of some ten thousand acres in the Swan River country, which was bought from H. W. Whittla, barrister of Winnipeg. Mr. Whittla was called in previous evidence about this transaction, and in doing so he made the fact public that he was only the nominal owner of these lands, the actual owner being R. P. Roblin. Mr. Whittla, who gave his evidence under oath (Nov. 5, 1906), said: "I originally took these lands from the Canadian Northern Railway company for one Gordon and for the Hon. R. P. Roblin in equal shares." The price was \$3.10 per acre, and the first annual payment of \$1,500 was made

THE EDMONTON BULLETIN, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1908.

FAILED TO ENTHUSE.

Moose Jaw Audience Gives Haultain Chilly Reception.
Moose Jaw, Oct. 21.—F. W. G. Haultain addressed a fairly large audience in the City Hall here tonight in the interests of Dr. Wheeler, the Conservative candidate. The well-known leader of the provincial Conservatives, however, did not appear in his usual fighting form, and while he received a fine reception upon rising, he failed to make the applause with which, in many previous occasions received. The burden of his remarks was that the government had broken many pledges made to the people. It had been extravagant in its business and it was time for a change. The only way to keep a government clean, honest and business-like was to change them now and then. Evils were on all sides. When this occurred, as he claimed it had to the Laurier government, the people must make them do penance in opposition. The speaker declared that he believed the sentiment of the people was to punish the Laurier administration. G. S. Houston, of Regina, also spoke.

Hearst Misses the Libel Action.

Ottawa, Nov. 20.—The \$50,000 suit for damages which Governor Haultain of Oklahoma filed here last week against W. R. Hearst, is regarded as invalid by prominent attorneys who have examined the petition. They point out that the Nebraska law allows no punitive damages in a libel suit and \$20,000 of the amount asked for in the present case is punitive. That is, the petition is not accompanied by an affidavit, as required by the laws of this state.

OUR CREDIT.

A Canadian three per cent. loan has been promptly taken up in London at par. India three per cent. are worth about 97. In 1896 Canadian "threes" were worth 88 per hundred less than India three per cents. This is one of the differences.

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AS TO FISHING LEASES.

Opposition papers and speakers criticize the Government for letting fishing leases in certain rivers and lakes in the Western provinces. This they assert is a hardship to settlers who are thereby prevented from fishing for their own consumption. They say that the Government has attempted to show, now that they touched the other fact that the leases are bound by the terms of the lease to invest very large sums of money in the establishment of fishing stations and the prosecution of the business. For instance, the Lessor Slave Lake lease is cited as working particular hardship on the settlers in that vicinity. Yet the president of the company owning the lease swore before the public accounts committee of parliament that the company lost \$7,000 in a single season's operations in that lake. A large part of that seven thousand dollars went to the teamsters who hauled the fish to Edmonton. Before we let the Government have the power to declare our own want in equipping the lake with stations and appliances, we should have a law which would let us look at the terms of these leases.

Leases Subject to Regulations of Governor-in-Council.

Clause I. of the leases reads—

1.—That the said lessee shall in the use and occupation of the fishing privileges hereby leased, conform in every respect to the provisions, enactments and requirements of the fishery laws now or which may hereafter be enforced, and comply with all the rules and regulations which may have been, or may from time to time be adopted or made by the Governor-General-in-Council relative thereto.

Clause 6.—

"That if the said lessee of the said company shall fail or neglect to pay the said rent, or shall neglect or fail to perform any of the other conditions, terms or provisions hereinbefore mentioned, or if the said fishery is being improperly operated by the said lessee or the said company and so as to prejudicially affect the interests of His Majesty's subjects, or if the said lessee or the said company shall neglect or fail to give three months' notice in writing to the said lessee or the said company, that the term of the lease by these presents created, will be determined, ended and cancelled, and the said term and lease shall thereupon resume possession of the said fishery, and the privileges hereby created, without indemnifying the said lessee or the said company for any improvements made on the said fishery, or to re-let them to others as His Majesty may deem fit."

Nobby Has Asked for Cancellation.

On April 8th Mr. H. B. Ames, M.P., asked the following questions in Parliament regarding the Lessor Slave Lake lease, to which the minister of marine and fisheries replied in the appended answers—

Question—Has the government leased the fishing privileges of Lessor Slave lake? If so, by whom were such privileges first obtained, to whom have they been assigned, and by whom are they at present exercised?

Answer—The government has leased fishing privileges in Lessor Slave lake; but not the exclusive fishing privileges there. The lease was granted to John Kenneth McKenzie, president of the Imperial Fish company, of Selkirk, Manitoba, and was assigned by him to the Athabaska Fish Company, Limited, and is still exercised by that company.

Question—On what date, for how long, and at what annual rental was such lease granted?

Answer—May 14, 1904, for a term of nine years, at a rental of \$10 per year, one of the conditions being that the lessee or the company should expend \$300 per annum during the three years from the 1st May, 1904, in the exploration of the territory leased, and during the remaining period of the lease at least \$1,000 per year in the exploration, development, equipment and improvement of the property leased.

Question—Have any protests been received from residents of the neighboring localities? If so, when, from whom, and what is the substance of the complaints?

Answer—No such protests have been received.

Question—Has the government been asked to cancel such lease? If so, by whom?

Answer—No.

Question—Has the government endeavored to secure a voluntary diminution or abandonment of the privilege exercised under the lease by the holders thereof? If so, when and with what result?

Answer—No.

Question—Did the lessee mention or suggest any sum in return for which the government would forego their privileges? If so, what was the amount indicated?

Answer—No.

Question—Do the same parties still operate without abatement to the full extent of their privileges contained in the lease?

Answer—The conditions of lease remain unchanged.

IF THE N.P. HAD DONE THIS.

Toronto Star—The preliminary work of the campaign is over, and the records of the two parties are before the people. The record of the Liberal party is a record of the failure of the party in the last twelve years. It suits the convenience of Conservative campaigners to assert that the Liberal government is entitled to a share of credit for the marvelous progress that has characterized this period. When Canada was suffering from depression, it was the Conservative government that held the Mackenzie government responsible for all the ills of the country which it suited the convenience of Conservative campaigners to say that it was all due to the N.P., and even that the N.P. caused the loss to the larger extent. It was under Mr. Fielding that the Conservative government was in power, and it was under Mr. Fielding that the Conservative government was in power, and it was under Mr. Fielding that the Conservative government was in power.

Premier Roblin's Testimony.

Q.—Did he (Mr. Roblin) know that it was your intention to offer them to Mr. Foster, as you had the Carrot River lands?

A.—You could not put it in that way.

Q.—How would you put it?

A.—Well, he told me to offer them.

Q.—To Mr. Foster?

Q.—That is to say, it was the understanding that you were to go to Toronto especially with Mr. Foster in view?

A.—Yes.

Q.—And he said to ask him \$7 an acre, although apparently he was willing to take considerably less, according to Mr. Whittla's evidence, and there was to be a commission of \$2,000, you say, that you were to tell Mr. Foster that he could have. Is that right?

A.—I think that is right.

Q.—Premier Roblin's testimony.

Q.—Did you ever quote \$7 and pay a commission?

A.—Not that I remember of.

Q.—Would you say you never did?

A.—Not to my knowledge. I don't think I ever offered the lands myself directly to anyone.

Q.—I suppose that would follow because your name does not appear in this transaction at all in your communications, except, probably, with Mr. Pritchard, would be carried out through Mr. Whittla?

A.—No. Never did it through Mr. Whittla, either.

Q.—Mr. Pritchard stated that he was authorized by you to offer a substantial commission to Mr. Whittla. Is that correct?

A.—I never knew he was negotiating with Mr. Foster.

The records show that Mr. Whittla received and transferred to Mr. Roblin \$2,000, or one-third of the price of the first payment. To Hon. G. E. Foster, on Feb. 2, 1904, a check of the Union Trust company was issued for \$2,480, which was the price of the first payment. The price of the first payment was \$2,480, which was the price of the first payment.

THE DIFFERENCE.

Montreal Witness: Mr. Sifton, who became Minister of the Interior in 1896, saw, beyond the depression of the moment, the assurance of the future in Western Canada. All it lacked was population and that he set about obtaining with as little delay as possible. In the twelve years which have elapsed since his able and vigorous policy was introduced we have received in all 1,219,943 immigrants, of whom two-thirds of these are producing citizens by this time, or about to become such in a year or two, and this is, we think, a very safe estimate. This would, at a thousand dollars each, mean an importation of more than eight hundred million dollars to this great migration, chief among which were the class of prosperity which supervised the immigration of the former government's accession, and the fact that the United States had ceased to be a source of immigration, but that to that government belongs the credit for the successful immigration propaganda which is now in force on our behalf throughout Britain, the United States, and other parts of the world where the most desirable classes of settlers are to be had. The former government had no immigration policy at all to speak of, and what was worse, they were not able to hold even the few immigrants who did come to our shores. They could not so much as retain the presence in the country of the native born and no less than a million of our sons and daughters departed to the United States in the ten years prior to 1896, a good thousand million dollars worth of native humanity. If the government were to be judged alone on its immigration success the popular verdict could not be otherwise than in its favor. Sir Wilfrid Laurier declared this week at Montmagny that "our immigration policy has contributed more than anything else to maintain the great strength of Confederation." Sir Wilfrid Laurier is right. The growth of Canadian industries could not have taken place without it, and no greater disaster could have happened than the substitution of the exclusionary policy for which Mr. Borden and his supporters have declared.

With its up-to-date immigration policy, the present government has also done all it could to make it easy for settlers to get started in the west, with the result that confidence and optimism have superseded the dissatisfaction and despair of the old regime. And not without cause. In the eighteen years of Conservative rule, 32,000,000 acres of land were given away to railway promoters, and as a part of the process, and the first blocked up awaiting the pleasure of the

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