

HOMESTEAD DEAL EXPOSED BY HON. FRANK OLIVER

Former Minister of the Interior Gives Details of Huge Western Land Grant by Conservatives, and "Bob" Rogers Makes Weak Defense.

Ottawa, April 17.—Parliament learned today why the Government wants closure. At least one big and grave scandal, of the many which Liberals are prepared to expose in connection with the present Administration, was ventilated before the gag goes into effect. The arch-opponent, as usual, was Hon. Robert Rogers, the chief advocate of closure. The charge, fully substantiated by Hon. Frank Oliver, and driven home by Mr. Wm. Martin, of Regina, and other Liberal speakers, was that land shown to be worth \$374,000 was obtained as a homestead within the city limits of Prince Albert by S. J. Donaldson, the chief Conservative Whip in the Saskatchewan Legislature, through the instrumentality of Hon. Robert Rogers, for the sum of \$10. In other words, the "graff" was \$373,990, filched from the pockets of the people of Canada.

No Defence.
There was no defence beyond the plea of no personal knowledge. Instead, Mr. Rogers sought defence in allegations that similar things had been done under the former Government, and that this plume had been overlooked for Conservative pickings. Mr. Oliver showed that precedent could not be justly cited in defence, and he gave a full account of dealing with similarly situated lands, where the federal treasury had been protected instead of being exploited. Mr. Martin emphasized the fact that Mr. Rogers' plea of innocence was hardly substantiated by the facts, since the official correspondence showed that the minister had been in actual conference with Mr. Donaldson on the matter of homestead applications.

Refused to Cancel.
Finally, it is sufficient to note that Mr. Rogers declined to accept the suggestion of the Opposition that the wrong could still be rectified by cancellation of the whole transaction through proceedings in the exchequer court.

The debate lasted all day, and at an early hour this morning the obedient majority turned down Mr. Oliver's motion of censure, and thereupon endorsed the Rogers administration. Mr. Rogers, like Mr. Coderre, is thus "vindicated."

Censure Asked.
Mr. Oliver emptied no pyrotechnics. His was a plain-spoken, direct arraignment. He sugar-coated nothing; neither did he seek to create emphasis by rhetoric. With the official papers lying upon his desk in front of him, he gave the House the story of the scandal without embellishment. He directed the attention of the Government to the fact that the natural resources of a country had been exploited to the detriment of the public, and to the advantage of partisans of the present Administration, under the auspices of Hon. Robert Rogers, and he asked Parliament to place upon record its censure of the transaction.

The facts of the case, Mr. Oliver pointed out, were admitted. A piece of land comprising 73 acres, situated within the corporate limits of the city of Prince Albert, had been homesteaded to Arthur Donaldson, son of S. J. Donaldson, M. P. P., "a political friend and important person in the political party of which Mr. Rogers is the present manager." This land was under reservation, originally as a forest reserve, and when reservation was removed the public had not been given notice. Concerning the land in question, Mr. Oliver read the House a telegram he had just received from Prince Albert, which was as follows: "Donaldson homestead plot on market as Howard Place subdivision, at value aggregating \$374,000."

Turning to the statement of Mr. Rogers in Parliament following the original exposure of the transaction, Mr. Oliver pointed out that the minister had made it on a question of privilege when no reply was permitted. He had then sought to defend his action upon the ground that his predecessor an adjoining quarter section had been disposed of.

No Justification.
Apart from the fact that the change in conditions and values since 1908 was so great as to vitiate comparison, Mr. Oliver charged that the minister's statement was not founded on facts. The property now in question had been part of a larger area placed under reservation by the Conservative Government in 1895 and the reservation had never been withdrawn. There was consequently no justification for the statement of Mr. Rogers that by some oversight the property had been left out of the forest reserve.

Mr. Rogers had stated that he had no knowledge of the transactions. Mr. Oliver read a letter from S. J. Donaldson to Mr. Rogers referring to a previous conversation with him concerning "a property." In December, 1912, a Prince Albert delegation visited Ottawa. "No doubt," said Mr. Oliver, "they made a judicious inquiry as to something good which might be picked up, but they were unsuccessful and were forced to return with the report 'nothing doing.' But Mr. Donaldson," continued Mr. Oliver, "was no quitter. Having got back as far as Regina he wrote direct to Mr. Rogers, not on behalf of Prince Albert, but

tured, when he continued his speech at night, to a charge that William Crawford, of Medicine Hat, in conjunction with Messrs. R. E. A. Leach, and Howard Douglas, whom he characterized as "men of the Liberal machine," had endeavored to secure a second exchange of timber berths with a view to getting rid of the then existing Crawford holding for a more valuable one, said to contain 160,000,000 feet of good timber. Mr. Rogers read the House considerable correspondence between these men.

Mr. Martin, of Regina, pressed the minister to say where he got the letters. Mr. Rogers said they came from Leach's office in Brandon.

"Stolen letters," was the Regina man's comment. Mr. Rogers admitted that the files of the department showed that Mr. Oliver had passed the following on the Crawford application: "Mr. Crawford got what he asked for and cannot come again, F. O." But, the minister continued, on Oct. 3, 1911, twelve days after the defeat of the Laurier Government at the polls, an order in council was passed for the transfer, which, he charged, was signed by Sir Wilfrid Laurier as acting minister. "As soon as I was sworn in," declared Mr. Rogers, "one of my first acts was to arrest this order in council and save the timber."

"What did you want it for?" asked Mr. Carvell, amid laughter.

"Who got it?" supplemented Dr. Neely. Mr. Oliver asked if the correspondence the minister had read was a public file or a private one.

"Most of them are public, though one or two of the letters may be marked private," replied Mr. Rogers. Sir Wilfrid challenged.

"I understand that the minister has connected my name with some charge he is seeking to make," said Sir Wilfrid. "I have no recollection whatever of the document to which he alleges my name is appended. If it is there properly, then the document was one which came before me in the transaction of ordinary routine business. If he is seeking to suggest that there was anything improper, if he is insinuating anything approaching impropriety, let him say so frankly. I am quite prepared to meet any charge, and will at once move for a committee of investigation."

But Mr. Rogers sat silent while the Liberals cheered.

Mr. Martin, the vigorous young Liberal from Regina, handed the minister a letter which he read. "Instead of attempting to meet the serious charges preferred against him in connection with this grave scandal," said he, "the minister has taken up the time of the House in an endeavor to prove that Mr. Leach was just as bad as he is himself. He has spoken for over two hours and has devoted less than ten minutes to the Donaldson homestead scandal. In those ten minutes he admitted it was absolutely wrong. Now, I would suggest that what Parliament wants to hear, and what the country wants to hear, is what explanation and defence of his conduct the Minister has to offer. If he has any, let him proceed."

Mr. Martin waited, but Mr. Rogers did not move.

"He has none," suggested Dr. Neely, amid Liberal cries of "Hear, hear."

Stolen Letters, Says Martin.

Mr. Martin said that all the minister had attempted to do was to draw a hearing across the trail by his reading of the letters between Crawford, Leach, and Douglas. "These are stolen letters," he declared.

"I absolutely deny that," retorted Mr. Rogers warmly.

"Where did you get them?" asked Mr. Martin.

"Through the officers of the department," declared Mr. Rogers.

Mr. Martin regretted that the rules of the House forced him to accept the minister's statement. Proceeding, he suggested that Mr. Ames should get out his little lantern and illustrate for the benefit of Canada the "steal" of the Donaldson homestead. At the time the property was given to Donaldson for \$10 it was assessed at \$30,000, and was valued at \$374,000, according to statutory declarations.

"I can not who says otherwise," the Regina Liberal continued, "I believe that the deal was carried out under the direct supervision of the present Minister of Public Works."

"I absolutely deny that," exclaimed Mr. Rogers.

"Well, we hear what the minister says," rejoined Mr. Martin.

Mr. Martin said that the statement of the minister must be accepted. The member for Regina had accepted it in a very ungracious way. He had accepted it with an intention that he did not believe in.

"If the rules so compel me, it is necessary for me to accept it," said Mr. Martin. "But I trust I have made my conviction quite clear."

"I would like to ask the Minister of Public Works a question," said Mr. Martin. "Does the minister intend to tell the House and country that he never had any conversation with Mr. S. J. Donaldson with reference to this matter?"

"Then did he have any conversation at all with Mr. Donaldson in Winnipeg?" Mr. Martin asked.

"Well, we have got an admission at least. A short while ago he said he had had no conversation with S. J. Donaldson, and I would wager that the conversation he now says he may have had related to this particular transaction."

Mr. Martin referred to Mr. Rogers' statement that he would not have allowed himself to be used to get the property had he known.

"If that is the way he feels about it, why does he not go to S. J. Donaldson, and say to him, 'I have just learned that you have got the property back the patent. If he refuses, then make an application to the exchequer court for cancellation of the patent,'" said Mr. Martin.

In conclusion the young westerner charged that the transaction was nothing more nor less than highway robbery of the people's resources. The whole proposition constituted a position of the Dominion lands act. "It is a robbery from top to bottom."

CANADIAN LUTHERANS MEETING AT HANOVER

Send Protest to Premier Whitney Over Running of Cars on Sunday.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Hanover, April 18.—At the 48th annual convention of the Canadian conference of the Evangelical Association here today secretaries for the coming year were appointed as follows:

Rev. E. Burn, of Crediton; Rev. W. J. Zimmerman, of Stratford; and Rev. W. J. Yeager, of Hanover. The following young men received license to preach: Messrs. Roy Geiger, Louis Pletch, W. B. Dengis, J. B. Dengis, Ezra Mohra, A. Heldenger, Ed. Schroeder, and W. H. Wagner. Rev. L. G. Wagner, rector of the Lutheran church, read the deacon's orders, and Rev. N. Reibling read the pastor's orders.

The presiding elders were stationed as follows: East district, Rev. J. Litt; north district, Rev. S. R. Knecht; northwest district, Rev. L. H. Wagner. Bishop Breyfogle made a stirring address at a public meeting last night on "The Need of the Hour."

A resolution was unanimously adopted by the conference to be forwarded to Premier Whitney protesting against the granting of rights to the Toronto and York Radial Railway Company to run cars on Sunday.

Prominent among the clergy present



Gentlemen! Here Is the Limit in Suits at \$15.00

Judged by any standard the most critical man may set, these Suits will measure up to and pass the best you've believed possible at the price.

Tailored in faultless manner by makers whose reputation has been gained in the making of high-grade clothing, they have all the earmarks of garments usually sold at a half more money.

Tomorrow we make an unusually attractive showing, and invite your most critical inspection.

The fabrics include fine West-of-England and Forbes worsteds, Scotch tweeds and English chevots, and include handsome new diagonal designs in new browns and tans, new mustard shades and Scotch effects, and handsome grays in steel, stone and battleship shades.

Models include two and three-button styles in regular and soft roll effects, with regular or peg top pants, with or without cuffs.

"Society Brand" HAND-MADE CLOTHING

Tailored specially for us from fine imported wools by Alfred Decker & Cohn, of Chicago, in their new Canadian factory. They're a revelation in clever tailoring, and smart, distinctive style with fitting qualities you'd hardly believe possible without seeing them.

THE "MASTER" SUIT—Famous from ocean to ocean, this clever 2-button model is better than ever this season, and truly a masterpiece. In fabrics and designs to be had only here and at high-priced tailor shops. Browns, tans, grays, new blues, bronzes, in new pin checks, diagonals, neat stripes and plain shades. Every suit with 26 distinctive tailoring features..... \$18, \$20, \$22, \$25

8 OTHER SMART MODELS IN SUITS AND TOP COATS.

Special Offering of Blue Serge Suits on Saturday \$12.50

40 Suits all told of fine English blue serge, in the popular fine twill, tailored in clever new three-button styles, medium length, mohair twill linings and AI trimmings. Trousers plain or with cuffs, finished with belt loops and side straps. Vest with white vestee. Sizes 33 to 42. To begin Saturday morning.

GREEN HATS, BOW BEHIND.....\$2.00 **PURE SILK SHIRTS AT.....\$3.00**

Three new shapes and shades in Soft Hats in new greens with bow behind. All sizes again today. New flat set stiff hats just in at.....\$2.00

BARGAINS.

SPRING UNDERWEAR. Excelsa Handkerchiefs...6 for 25¢

Balbriggan and natural wool in suitable weights for present use. 2-piece and combination.....35¢ up

SPRING SHIRTS, \$1.00. 50c Tu-in-One Ties.....25¢

Unusually good Shirts in handsome black and white designs, specially priced, in all sizes. 20c Austrian Collars.....2 for 25¢

25c Police Braces.....15¢

Boys' Suits in double-breasted, two-piece bloomer style, in qualities sold up to \$7.50, for.....\$3.48

R. J. YOUNG & CO.

are Bishop S. C. Breyfogle, D. D., of Reading, Pa.; Professor S. L. Umbach, of the Evangelical Theological Seminary of Naperville, Ill.; Rev. George Johnston, of Cleveland, Ohio; Rev. C. Hauser, of Cleveland, and Rev. L. H. Wagner, of Regina, superintendent of western missions.

ARCHIBALD SINCLAIR WAS 102 YEARS OLD

Oldest Man in the District, Had Been Ill for Several Years.

Archibald Sinclair, one of the oldest men in Ontario, died in this city on Thursday. He was 102 years old, and had been ill for several years. He was born in Argyle, Scotland, and came to this country at the age of 20. Soon after coming to Canada he started

farming in Belmont, where he lived until eight years ago. His wife predeceased him some years ago. He is survived by four daughters, Mrs. Neil Campbell and Mrs. J. Wilbur, of Westminster; Mrs. J. Carrothers, Hastings, Mich.; and Mrs. J. Plaxton, of British Columbia.

The funeral will be private from Smith, Son & Clarke's undertaking parlors on Saturday. Interment will be made in St. Thomas on the arrival of the 2-30 P. M. train. The services will be conducted by Rev. Dr. McCrae.

BUTTER MAKERS LOOK FOR RECORD SEASON

Prices Are Expected to Remain Firm Owing to the Big Demand.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Brussels, April 18.—Brussels butter factory has resumed work for the season. W. W. Harris, proprietor, has engaged Lorne Stephenson, of Woodstock, as maker. The prospects for a busy season were never better and a big output at good prices is figured.

The farmers are hard at work putting in the spring crop.

The Livingstone illustrated lecture in the Methodist Church was a decided success and was attended by a large audience. Great interest has been manifested in the missionary hero of Africa.

A telegram on Tuesday brought the news that Mrs. Norman Smith, of Borden, Sask., died at Edmonton on Monday, leaving a baby daughter, who was born the same day. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were married last May. Mrs. Smith's maiden name was Ruby M. Stewart, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Stewart, of Vancouver, B. C. Mr. Smith is a son of Mrs. J. R. Smith, of Brussels, who went West six years ago. He is in the hardware business at Borden.

Will Build Church.

A new church will be built next summer by the Presbyterian body here. It will be modern and must be big enough

to accommodate a membership of over 500. New cement horse sheds will also be built. The present site is a good one, and will be utilized for the proposed edifice. A building committee was appointed Wednesday evening, and will secure plans, estimates, etc. The windstorm of Good Friday did considerable damage to the church, and no doubt hastened the decision arrived at.

Rev. J. L. Mann is the present pastor. Mrs. Harry James was at Brampton attending the funeral of her mother, Mrs. John Jones, who was buried last Sunday. She was 66 years of age, and is survived by her husband and ten children.

Epworth League anniversary sermons will be preached on Sunday in the Methodist Church by Rev. A. Brown, of Goderich. Monday evening a violin recital will be given in the town hall by Miss Jevoth Nicklin.

W. J. Deane, aged 4 years, son of Mr. W. J. Deane, of Pergus, rolled down an embankment and was drowned in the Grand River.

Brantford street railwaymen are circulating a petition to ask for an increase in wages.

Rev. Archibald McVicar was inducted as pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Fiesherton.

W. McCabe, proprietor of the Station Hotel, will appear in court at Walkerton on Saturday to answer to a charge of having sold liquor to an Indian.

Tobacco growers around Ruthven are busy setting out thousands of plants, and a record production is looked for this year.

Several applications for new licenses were turned down by the license commissioners of West Kent, and all existing ones were renewed.

St. Thomas Y. M. C. A. workers have raised \$12,000 of the \$50,000 required for their new building.

Albert Quereguesser, of Broadhagen, near Mitchell, was badly hurt by being kicked by a horse he was harnessing.

AFTER COUGHING MONTHS

Brooklyn, N. Y., Woman Found Relief in Vinol.

Did you ever cough for a week? Then just think how distressing it must be to have a cough hang on for three months.

Mrs. Maria Primrose, of 87 Newell street, Brooklyn, N. Y., says: "I had a very heavy cold which settled into a chronic cough which kept me awake nights for fully three months, and felt tired all the time because my rest was broken. The effect of taking your cod liver and iron remedy Vinol is that my cough is gone. I can now get a good night's rest, and I feel much stronger in every way."

It is the combined action of the medicinal elements cods' livers aided by the blood-making and strengthening properties of tonic iron which makes Vinol so efficient for chronic coughs, colds and bronchitis—at the same time building up the weakened, run-down system.

Try a bottle of Vinol with the understanding that your money will be returned if it does not help you.

Anderson & Nelles, druggists, 268 Dundas street; W. T. Strong 134 Dundas street, London, Ontario.

READY MONEY

The man with a savings account has always cash on hand when he wants it. He can take advantage of all opportunities—meet success half way.

A Savings Account in the Huron and Erie Loan and Savings Company grows quickly, and depositors are protected by our total assets of nearly

\$15,000,000.00

A dollar bill opens an account. We pay highest current rate of interest, and advise depositors regarding investments.

The Huron & Erie Loan & Savings Co

(Incorporated 1864.) 442 Richmond Street, London, Ontario.

BRANCH OFFICES: Market Square, 368 Talbot Street, Regina, Winnipeg, London, St. Thomas, Sask., Man.

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WILSON'S INVALIDS' PORT

A BIG BRACING TONIC

"Wine affords more nourishment than any other thing in nature; it increases radical moisture and prolongs life."—Galen, (A.D. 150)

Keep Young

Some people are always youthful, full of vim and energy—but the man or woman at the mercy of a weak digestion with its consequent loss of appetite, bad taste, pain after eating and oftentimes severe dyspepsia will soon become worn out before their time.

Wilson's Invalids' Port Wine is a natural, nutritive tonic and mild stimulant that is readily accepted by the enfeebled stomach of the chronic dyspeptic, and while re-establishing the disturbed processes of digestion and assimilation aids Nature in bringing the disorganized nervous system back to normal—Doctors know!

Ask YOUR DOCTOR ALL DRUGGISTS

BROKEN BY THE LADIES.

"Mr. Asquith might have gone down to history as the man who broke the Lords: he will be remembered rather as the man who was broken by the ladies," says Mr. I. Zangwill, the novelist, in the Nation.

Pater (to indolent son)—Why don't you go to work; you have attained your majority. Son—Yes, dad; but mine isn't a working majority.—Boston Transcript.

"I always close my eyes when I sing; don't you think it helps to make a hit?" "It may, but it would help a lot more if you'd close your mouth."—Houston Post.

"Manage"—"I am looking for a man I can trust." Applicant—"And I'm looking for a man who will trust me. We ought to get along fine."—Boston Transcript.

THE OLDEST MAN LIVING. If asked about his corns would say they didn't bother him because he always used Putnam's Corn Extractor. For fifty years "Putnam's" has been the favorite because painless and sure. Try only "Putnam's," 25c at all dealers.

Health Necessary for Good Work

Whether working for oneself or for others, no man or woman can do efficient work unless the health is in good condition.

Competition is keen these days, and success goes to those who are strong, energetic and ambitious.

From a purely financial standpoint you cannot afford to neglect the warnings given by headache, neuralgia, sleeplessness, indigestion, loss of energy, mental vigor and physical strength.

Most workers, whether their work

is manual or mental, find themselves handicapped at times by a run-down condition of the system.

For all such we have a message that will bring joy and gladness into their lives. We want you to know about Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, the great restorative, which forms new blood and restores feeble, wasted nerve cells.

By using this food cure you can infuse new energy and strength into every organ of the human body. Pains, aches and physical weakness soon disappear and health is brought up to a high-water mark by

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food

Fifty Cents a box, six for \$2.50, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Limited, Toronto.