

FIRST PARLIAMENT OF UPPER CANADA

Members Walked, Rode, Canoeed and Ploated to Kingston, one Hundred and Sixteen Years Ago to Legislate For Ontario's Ten Thousand Population.

With the incoming of the new Parliament it does not require any special effort to bring the mind to a consideration of that chapter of Canadian history which marked the birth of the section of the country, that was then known as Canada West, written C. M. Block, in the Winnipeg Free Press.

The steps leading to the development from part of a unit into a full-fledged law-making constituency, are interesting as well as the significant which surrounded the evolution.

The second Pitt, who among others, foresaw something of the importance that Canada would assume, introduced into the British House of Commons, Feb. 7, 1791, a bill which would give the colony enlarged scope and the people representative institutions. One essential feature of the bill was the division of the colony into Upper and Lower Canada.

The bill became law on March 14, 1791, and provided for each of the provinces so formed, a legislature consisting of an appointed council, and an elective House of Assembly, and was to become effective before Dec. 31. The date upon which the instruction reached Sir Alfred Clark, acting governor in Carleton's absence in England, was Nov. 11. Clark issued a proclamation dated Nov. 18 and the new law became effective on Dec. 26, 1791.

Family Served the Empire. Among those who served Canada and the home land, to the extent of leaving down their lives, in the effort to give Canada to England under the leadership of the illustrious Wolfe was Captain John Graves Simcoe, commander of H.M.S. Pembroke; but the brave captain had left with his beloved wife in the old home, a son and daughter, four years old at the time of his father's death.

Simcoe spent the winter at Quebec in forced inaction from two causes, the fact that a majority of the council were not present and therefore he could not be sworn in; as well as the additional fact that the regiment which it was intended to make his colony, the "Queen's Rangers," had not arrived which rendered it impossible for him to assume the rank. For these reasons it was June, 1792, when Simcoe left Quebec, reaching Kingston early in July and there he devoted himself to organizing the government of Upper Canada.

The first legislative council consisted of Wm. Osgoode, Wm. Robertson, Peter Russell and Alexander Grant all of whom had been appointed in England, although the first to arrive came to Canada. Simcoe appointed to complete the council, John Munro, of Matilda, Richard Cartwright, Jr., of Kingston, Robert Hamilton, of York, and Richard Duncan, of Rapids Plat, Jacques Baby, of Detroit, had been recommended by Simcoe. The home government, Detroit, then being and in fact remaining under the government of Canada until 1796.

We can hardly now imagine the state of mind of the scattered men eligible to vote among the 10,000 population of Upper Canada, as the legislative council sat at Kingston. We must have been their feelings when the news reached them that on July 16 the proclamation had been issued, and that soon they would have opportunity of holding the first election, and of appointing men of their own choosing to frame the laws of their chosen land.

The First Session. The meetings of the council lasted from July 8 to the 21st and the Lieutenant-Governor took the oath of office on the 8th. Osgoode Russell and Baby on the 9th and Grant on the 11th. The time from the 10th to the 15th was spent in laying out the province into counties and districts to provide for the members of the House of Assembly and these divisions were made largely upon the basis of the existing military divisions.

As Miss Carnochan, the indefatigable historian, enthusiast of Niagara, writing at that time, said: "The much vexed question as to the first parliament house may yet be settled, but it is wise not to assert too confidently, since no less than five places have been mentioned as deserving the honor, 'Navy hall,' 'The Indian council house,' 'The Parliament, Oak,' 'Fort Niagara,' and 'Government house near the present court house.' Since parliament met here, five years, it is quite likely that more than one of these can claim the honor."

It is a matter of record in the archives, however, that the preparations of fitting up the House for the auspicious occasion cost the country \$116.00, about \$45.00. The first election would not have been complete without the usual accompaniment, a by-election, Philip Donland, from Prince Edward county, who being a Quaker, and not being able to take the oath, necessitated the first by-election.

The representative for Glengarry, John Macdonell, was elected speaker of the first house.

Results of the Session. The results of the twenty-eight day session compare favorably with those of the sister province which was opened just three months later, one bill was rejected for the taxation of spirits and eight were passed. The first one settled once for all what authority would be paramount in Ontario courts, established English law as final. Other bills provided for trial by jury, for the recovery of small debts, for restricting the compensation of juries to one-twelfth of the grain ground for their customers. Provision was made for the erecting of a jail in each of the four districts as well as legislation for the regulation of weights and measures to prevent account of common pleas.

The men, mostly plain farmers and country shopkeepers, who had hastened during the early fall their own business matters by preparation for the vigorous winter, so that they

HIS PLUNGE COST MILLIONS.

Inside Story of Young Letter's Wheat Deal.

Chicago, Nov. 2.—Revelations showing the poverty of Lord and Lady Curzon, who was Mary Letor, after their return from India, where they had ruled over millions of subjects in regal splendor, and disclosure of the actual sum, \$9,000,000, that "Joe" Letor dumped in his famous plunge in the wheat pit, were made public for the first time yesterday in the suit of Hugh Crabbe against the Zeigler Coal company, on trial in Judge Eberhard's court.

Because of Letor's unfortunate speculation, as was shown, his allowance is only \$54,000 a year, while both his sisters are receiving twice this amount. Lady Curzon's poverty followed her to her grave. This much has come to light. When she and Lord Curzon returned to England they could not enter their magnificent London house, Carlton house terrace, but were forced to take rooms in a hotel and live in a shabby little flat in the city.

In a few months Lady Curzon died, but in a letter which she wrote that day she knew whether she was to receive the full income from her father's estate, she could not open her mouth. She asked that all her mail be sent there, but it is known that the house was secured for her and she was finally forced to her hotel.

The final financial difficulties of the Curzon's were caused by the immense train made upon Lady Curzon's purse by their establishment in India. Lord Curzon was without private means, and his salary as viceroy was a mere bagatelle when it came to paying for the expenses of living up to the style his position demanded.

But in this time, however, Lord Curzon had sufficient money for his own children's needs. He and his children are receiving \$68,000 a year from the estate, which is produced by a mere bagatelle when it comes to paying for the expenses of living up to the style his position demanded.

ALL MEN SOON TO FLY. Dr. Thomas, of New York, Hopes to Send us Skyward.

New York, Nov. 2.—Dr. Julian J. Thomas, who made spectacular balloon ascensions, thinks he has discovered a means of dragging himself up the mountains to escape arrest.

El Paso, Texas, November 3.—Jesse Ake, a cowboy on the Big Eagle ranch, 125 miles north of here, today was the largest man in connection with a moving Santa Fe train as it passed at the rate of twenty miles an hour.

Case of Attempted Murder of Stepson Against Frank Pokaski in Supreme Court.

The regular fall session of the Supreme court in its first week has four cases on this morning before His Lordship, Chief Justice Sifton. The reading of the civil list showed that the largest number of criminal cases to be disposed of, but the criminal cases are not numerous nor do the indictments seem to be serious with the exception of one case.

Four Months for Shoes to Close. Minneapolis, Oct. 30.—Some Chicago comedian on the Minneapolis chamber of commerce, with the exception of the chamber, brought word that prominent Chicago firms were ready to give heavy odds that in case Tatt were closed all the factories in the country would be closed four months from the day of his inauguration.

Montreal is Snowbound. Montreal, Oct. 30.—The first snow of the season fell in Westmont this afternoon; only a few flakes.

Election Deposit Seized. Quebec, Oct. 30.—Lorenzo Robitaille, a Montreal politician, was seized by the returning officer's hands today to satisfy an old judgment for libel obtained by G. E. Amyot.

HARPELL TAKES LEGAL ACTION

Writs Will Be Issued in the Supreme Court For Slander and Libel.

As a result of the charges made against A. Harpell, of Wainwright, during the course of the late election campaign in this office, Harpell was implicated in ballot box stuffing crimes in Ontario some years ago and was compelled to leave the country to escape imprisonment and actions for libel and slander will be entered by Mr. Harpell against a number of those who are alleged to have made the charges from the public platform and in the press.

N. D. Mills, of Strathcona, is acting for the prosecution and it is understood that the case of a day or two writs in the Supreme Court of Alberta will be issued against the Conservative candidate in the Strathcona constituency, E. W. Day, J. R. Lavell, Strathcona, who spoke at a number of public meetings on his behalf, and Mr. Strathcona, Chronicle and the Camrose Mail, two newspapers, which, it is alleged, in a number of issues repeated the charges made by Mr. Harpell.

Michael A. Harpell, against whom the accusations have been made, was young man 22 years of age. He came to Western Canada in June, 1904, before he was 18 years of age. He first settled at Lloydminster and conducted a livery business at that place for about a year. He then removed to Lally and was proprietor of the Lally Hotel for ten months. Later he removed to Wainwright and took up a homestead on which he has been ever since. Last spring he was appointed to the agency of the International Harvester Company, for whom he has since worked in the capacity of agent.

ROPED AND DRAGGED MEXICAN FROM TRAIN. Drunken Texas Cowboy Threw His Lariat Over Body of Laborer on Big Train.

El Paso, Texas, November 3.—Jesse Ake, a cowboy on the Big Eagle ranch, 125 miles north of here, today was the largest man in connection with a moving Santa Fe train as it passed at the rate of twenty miles an hour. The force of the shock when his device for man handling was used, killed him instantly. The Mexican was one of a number of railroad laborers who were jerked from the train when he was drinking, declared a victim doing it. He made good his threat and then took to the mountains, heavily armed. A general alarm each wing. The Mexican peace officers to make an effort to arrest the culprit.

FEW CRIMINAL CASES ON DOCKET. Case of Attempted Murder of Stepson Against Frank Pokaski in Supreme Court.

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Rex vs. Pokaski. The court opened the criminal docket with the case of Rex vs. Frank Pokaski, in which the prisoner pleaded not guilty to a charge of shooting his stepson. On his election to be tried by a jury, the court empaneled the following jurors: Geo. Sutherland, foreman, John Herald, F. J. Carscaden, A. M. Anderson, R. Douglas and H. P. Sandeman. Crown Prosecutor Cogswell prosecuted and H. A. MacKie appeared for the defendant.

St. Catharines, Nov. 3.—The city council last night agreed to accept private bonds for the city tax collector whom the London Guarantee and Accident Assurance company declined to issue bond to.

Social Group Dead. New York, Oct. 30.—Mrs. William Debski, wife of the late and only leader New York society has ever known, died tonight at her home, No. 842 Fifth avenue, aged 78.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO ESTABLISHED 1867

B. E. WALKER, President Paid-up Capital, \$10,000,000 ALEX. LAIRD, General Manager Reserve Fund, - 5,000,000

Branches throughout Canada, and in the United States and England

COUNTRY BUSINESS Every facility afforded to farmers and others for the transaction of their banking business. Sales notes will be cashed or taken for collection.

BANKING BY MAIL Accounts may be opened by mail, and monies deposited or withdrawn in this way with equal facility.

EDMONTON BRANCH, - T. M. TURNBULL, Manager

INCORPORATED 1855.

The TRADERS BANK of Canada

Bank Money Orders Issued

payable at par at any Bank in Canada (except Yukon) and in the larger cities of the United States. An absolutely safe, economical and convenient way of transmitting small sums.

\$5 and under, 3c. \$10 to \$30.... 10c. \$5 to \$10..... 6c. \$50 to \$50..... 15c. 4

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Advertisement for Elmira shoes, featuring an illustration of a woman's foot and the text: 'Whether you consider Dependable Quality, Ease and Comfort, Dressed Appearance, or Reasonable Price, Elmira Felt Shoes and Slippers meet each and every requirement.'

STRAITHCONA NEWS

(From Wednesday's Daily). LOCALS. At the Baptist church this evening the annual congregational meeting will be held. Supper will be served by the ladies of the church in the school room at half past six o'clock.

Frank Harris is receiving the congratulations of his friends upon the birth of a boy in his family. It arrived on Saturday night. J. A. Connolly has left on a trip to the British Isles in connection with the Canadian teachers' excursion.

Frank Nightingale, brother of Geo. Nightingale, of the Plaindealer, has taken a position in the Leduc dry store. Jack Howes, who was dangerously injured at the gold dredge some six weeks ago, is able to be out again, though he is still very weak. Chas. Spilsted, who had his eyes injured in a severe explosion in the Town City Coal company's mine, is also recovering.

BEASER, E. B. Bissett & Co. have begun the rebuilding of their factory which was burned out some weeks ago. The new structure is to be on the property adjoining the old building and will be much larger. A new outfit of saw and door machinery has been ordered and when it is installed the factory will be well equipped.

THE NEW FACTORY. The new factory of the Twin Cities Manufacturing Co., in the building formerly occupied by the Davison saw and door factory is now in full operation under the management of Messrs. E. B. Bissett, of New Glasgow, N.S. The full complement of machinery has not yet arrived from the east, but the manufacture of excelsior from poplar wood is in progress, and from imported lumber caskets of all kinds are being built for the undertaking trade. The caskets are the equal if not the superior of the imported article in point of appearance and durability and it is expected will replace foreign goods to a great extent because of the saving in freight. The company has already a market for all the excelsior they can produce, the mattress makers of the two cities being the largest customers. It is the intention shortly to go into the manufacture of cheap furniture, which will be one of the chief lines. The present quarters are already too small and as a result a large factory will be erected next year on the thirty lots recently purchased in the Allendale addition. At the present time ten men are employed, but with ample capital and an excellent market the business promises to grow into one of the largest industries of the two cities.

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EDMONTON CLOTHING CO. LET AN I. H. C. GASOLINE ENGINE BE YOUR HIRED MAN

Advertisement for I. H. C. Gasoline Engines, featuring an illustration of an engine and the text: 'FREQUENTLY jobs around the farm which require the labor of two men can be done by one. I. H. C. engine in half the time at one-fifth the cost. I. H. C. gasoline engines are dependable, reliable and efficient—they never quit unexpectedly—they cost nothing to keep when not working—they never shirk nor complain. Progressive farmers all over the land are finding in the ownership of an I. H. C. engine the solution of their labor troubles. Why not you? An I. H. C. engine will operate the churn, grindstone, fanning mill, separator, bone cutter, wood saw, pump, sheller, grinder, fodder cutter, etc. No extra help is required. You, or your boy, can run the engine and operate the machine at the same time. Weather does not affect the I. H. C. engine. It is a faithful servant that is always absolutely under your control in the matter of power, expense and efficiency. There is an engine adapted to every purpose—Note the complete line. Vertical Engines made in 2, 3 and 5-Horse Power. Horizontal Engines (Portable and Stationary) made in 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 15 and 20-Horse Power. Air Cooled Engines, 1 and 2-Horse Power. Traction Engines, 12, 15 and 20-Horse Power. Also sawing, spraying and pumping outfits. Call on the International agent for catalogs, and inspect these engines. Write nearest office for colored hanger and booklet on "Development of Power." CANADIAN BRANCHES: Calgary, Hamilton, London, Montreal, Ottawa, Regina, St. John, Winnipeg International Harvester Company of America, Chicago, U. S. A. (Incorporated)

them all employ further spur factoring of their dollars in excess heads big enough attention they let in their employees. come an investor. is pointed out to worth of cattle and \$3,000 worth, and all working on the being small herds, and the big ranchers are easy to realize that a being effected. bly not more than \$100,000 left in the hands of British Columbia more exist. By big herds stocked with from largest herds perhaps. All were considered he had winter of 1906, cattle ranches these outfits, some of any as three or four horses.

Ones Left. we recently acquired of vast tracts of the Government agriculture be unit for farm-fore, a likelihood of ranches for many cattlemen not allowing leases are mostly saved when all a on its own ground. in rounding up avoided. Of course away from the ranch, and entering the ad- there be none such, for the country. But any where the cattle go, and sends a cow, wagon and crew the country. are inside these owner- affairs can be better when they are roam- be unfenced prairie. If necessary an elaborate was made to get the comparatively close at by prairie fires of considerable extent regards which most plowed across and municipalities.

Day Job. was such an en- setting is no mat- two. The United King its west for over a million dollars in ranches, and thousands their lass' ropes and steeds. The tendency of late toward the leases are supplanted same will apply must not say that hearing because he is himself a rancher, and not forever encased. sell you that the real type is neither more expert at handling there are still to be old though they be, and fringed legs, and twisted joints in handling a less herd of wild, a man and vicious sing under to the these men are such as their friendship is to him to have great advantage of the among its citizens. millionaires, have- heric would in now-puncher is east.

MEAN MAN. Ridicules New Gowns. A dispatch to Chicago says—In the women of the Club Professor Ed- the University of attack on the new that stunned his that the "no hip" an's figure should the professor. "The ly narrow, then and then the hips, broader than that figure then should the feet."

some of those in announced after the speaker was a mean, her, more fragrant, you use "Salada," less two cups. Steep five

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