THE EDMONTON BULLETIN

(SEMI-WEEKLY.)

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DUNCAN MARSHALL,
Manager

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THE "EXPLANATIONS."

Opposition journals do not attempt the hopeless task of denying their disappointment over the election results. Admittedly they expected something very different. In Ontario and in New Brunswick a month ago they were rich in promises of tremendous gains. Quebec, too, was counted on to return upwards of twice as many Opposition members as to the last Parliament. All this is matter of public knowledge—too much so to permit denial that the results were not altogether contrary to Opposition expectations.

Denial being impossible, explanations are in order, and they are being offered in a profusion rivalling the pre-election promises of victory. Usually they take one of two forms, and are followed by a conclusion. It is declared more or less openly that Mr. Foster and his group should have been "dropped" before polling day; it is admitted more or less openly that the Halifax platform failed to arouse public interest or to win public approval; and it is concluded more or less openly that a party convention should be called forthwith to discuss all and sundry the conditions, aims and plans of the Opposition.

The talk of "dropping" Mr. Foster would carry more weight and excite more interest if we had not heard similiar talk before and from the same parties. Two short years ago these same journals were trying to persuade us that they were in a state of incipient revolt, and that they could be pacified only by Mr. Foster's summary ejection. But Mr. Foster was not ejected; and neither did the revolt materialize. Instead, the insurgents under went a rapid and complete change of heart. They stopped criticising the gentleman. Then they said nothing about him for a brief season. And when next he was honored with their attention they were in the guise of defenders, not of accusers. Mr. Foster they assured us was a much-abused man. His condemnation they said had been pronounced before the report of the insurance commission revealed precisely the nature of his managerial conduct. Now that the conduct was known they were prepared to back him against the world as a man of unsullied honor, a credit to his party, and the man of all others who should be entrusted with the handling of the public funds.

In view of this meandering the public will be pardoned for taking with a grain of salt the present manifestations of hostility toward Mr. Foster. These same turbulents backed down once at the beck of the party managers. They will have now to persuade us that they would not do it again. Indeed there is every appearance that they will be called on to do so at no very distant date. Mr. Foster is still a member of Parliament. He is still the lieutenant of Mr. Borden. When Parliament meets Mr. Foster will be, next to Mr. Borden, the commander of the Opposition forces. It will then be up to the journals which now express regret at his continued presence to either flatly decline to acknowledge his authority, or to again take the curve and declare that their present declarations are unwarranted and unworthy of attention. Which course they will pursue no one for a moment doubts. They took back much more explicit denunciations of him four months or so ago. Having swallowed the camel they will surely not hesitate over the gnat.

To the unprejudiced observer the position is simply that the Opposition leader dare not drop Mr. Foster if he wanted to, and that he has so far shown anything but a desire to do so if he dare. While Mr. Foster retains a seat in Parliament he remains the chief lieutenant of Mr. Borden; for the excellent reason that Mr. Borden could not get along without him; and the yet more excellent reason that he could not get along with Mr. Foster assailing him on the flank. When all is said Mr. Foster is the head and front of the opposition debating forces. Beside him none of them measures up for a moment. His loss would deprive the Opposition of at least fifty per cent. of its debating talent, and the Opposition is not rich enough in this commodity to voluntarily dispense with half of it. More, if Mr. Foster was "dropped" he would be dropped from the following of Mr. Borden only. He would still be a member. And with Mr. Foster as a free lance in the House—a lance specially sharpened for Mr. Borden—the fate of the "leader" is pretty easy of conjecture. In the party Mr. Foster is much more likely to undermine Mr. Borden than Mr. Borden is to eject Mr. Foster. Out of the party, but still in Parliament, Mr. Foster would simply play "cat and banjo" with Mr. Borden when he felt like it—and he would feel like it pretty often. To Mr. Borden the lieutenant is a dangerous man anywhere and at any time; but he is least dangerous, when kept close enough to watch.

That the "platform" failed to attract attention or gain support hardly needed admission. The fact was apparent long ago. To those who examined the structure candidly it can never have appeared likely to do otherwise. Obviously it was designed not as a basis for constructive legislation and administration, but as a basis for party re-union and reconstruction. As such it met an early fate. For it had scarcely been reared when the party made abundantly plain what they thought of it, and that what they thought was not likely to impel them to congregate on it and blend their voices in eulogy of the architect. Toward the coalescence of the Opposition forces it contributed nothing of moment, and if it could not accomplish this it certainly had small chances as a stepping-piece to power. From the public standpoint the "platform" had two defects: obviously and professedly the party did not put faith in it, and equally obviously the program if carried into effect contained little of outstanding consequence that the country wanted and that was not already involved in the course or trend of government policy. The public will not grow enthusiastic about a "platform" whose supposed adherents declare that their adherence is only suppositious.

The conclusion is well enough, but it has apparently small chances of coming to anything. The journals which now shout for a convention shouted much more loudly for a convention two years ago. They were ignored then and they relapsed into consenting silence. If ignored again they would do the same. Mr. Borden is not so dull as not to understand his. And Mr. Borden has excellent reasons for profiting by this understanding and for again ignoring the outcry. He has been crushingly defeated now for the third time, the last defeat in some respects worse than either of the former. A convention would be very likely to consider these results and how far they entitle Mr. Borden to maintain the leadership the credentials provided by the results are not of a nature to stand critical examination. More, a convention called in answer to the declaration that Mr. Foster should have been ejected and that the Halifax platform was useless, would be tolerably certain to eject Mr. Foster and to overhaul the platform. A convention therefore to Mr. Borden means quite certainly the loss of Mr. Foster, more certainly the reconstruction of the Halifax platform and in all probability the loss of leadership. Mr. Borden is not contemplating political suicide. He is not likely therefore to call a convention if he can help it.

TARIFF AND COMBINES.

The Toronto Star argues that as a tariff protects, to greater or less extent, certain interests in a country from foreign competition, it should be used also to protect the consumers of the country from extortion by those protected interests, or should at least be kept from being made by them an engine for exacting unjust tribute from consumers. This the Star claims is now done in Canada by combines formed to boost prices of manufactured articles to a level made possible by the tariff. If the people are not allowed to buy abroad, argues the Star, they should be safeguarded from being forced to pay too much for what they are obliged to buy at home. It concludes with a proposal that the Federal government assume the responsibility of investigating alleged combines and that when one is found to exist the tariff on the commodity affected be reduced sufficiently to break up the ring.

The proposal looks reasonable. It would be better still if it provided that the machinery for determining the existence of combines were made non-dependent on government initiative. To leave it with the Federal Government whether or not investigation of an alleged combine should be undertaken would be an advance and even a considerable advance on the present practice which leaves this duty to the provincial governments. A partial but welcome relief would even be an act automatically reducing or cancelling the duties on any commodity in respect of which combines were found to exist by any competent court of the land. In the meantime if Ontario had a provincial government sufficiently sensitive to the public interests this call for amended legislation would perhaps not come. The Whitney government hold all the power necessary to investigate, or have investigated, trade arrangements suspected of improperly restricting trade or of unduly enhancing prices. If that government were performing their functions in the matter the call for Federal assumption of the task would hardly be issued. That the call is found necessary may be evidence of the Ontario provincial government's neglect; but if so it is also an argument against making investigation an optional matter of government policy, federal or provincial. The considerations which may be presumed to stay the hand of the Whitney government might also under certain circumstances stay the hand of any other government. If this duty were assumed by the Federal government it would naturally be abandoned by the provincial governments. A more desirable arrangement would be to have the duty imposed on both in such manner that the public could count with reasonable certainty on action by one or the other. Changing the guard would hardly suffice in these days of "predatory" alliances; doubling the guard would be better.

The Star's proposal would avoid one obvious disadvantage of the present system of leaving the matter altogether in the hands of the provincial authorities. Assuming such administrations always imbued with as great regard for the welfare of their subjects as the Federal government, it sometimes happens that a provincial government considers this welfare promoted rather than disadvantaged by the existence of a combine. More often they conclude quite properly that the combine does not affect their particular province; and fail to see why they should excite themselves to curtail its operations in the other provinces.

For example, a couple of years ago a parliamentary committee found reason to believe that a combine existed in the retail lumber trade of the Prairie provinces, and also that behind this supposed combine stood an alliance of the lumber manufacturers of British Columbia. The Alberta government prosecuted the alleged combine among the retail dealers of the province and secured conviction. But the men who were supposed to stand behind this local ring—the mill-men—were immune from prosecution by the Alberta authorities because they were residents of British Columbia, and because their offence, if offence there was, was committed in that province. The position then was that the British Columbia government must prosecute the mill-men or they would go unprosecuted. The British Columbia government did nothing, and the combine, for all Alberta could do or for all British Columbia has tried to do, may be in existence yet. There is no necessity in this to accuse the McBride government of improper or undue friendliness with the supposed combined mill-men. If they were in combine the tribute they levied came not from the people of British Columbia but from the consumers in the Prairie provinces. Why then should the British Columbia government bother themselves to alienate a powerful influence, which if operating in contravention of law did not do so to the injury of the people of that province?

Thus, no doubt, Mr. McBride and his colleagues, reasoned. Nor is it easy to overturn the reasoning, for it is quite possible that the mill-men's combine if such there was, resulted in benefit rather than loss to the people whose interests the McBride ministry are paid to promote. The money they took from the prairies went to British Columbia, and the more they took the greater the amount likely to be distributed among the people of that province or invested in the development of its resources.

But in the general interests of the people of Canada some arrangement should be made for terminating this state of things. Its continuance means that the controllers of any commodity may establish with tolerable security combines when and to what extent they see fit, so long as the unduly enhanced prices do not come from the pockets of the people of their own province. This certainly cannot be counted on to make for the general benefit nor for cordiality of feeling between the various provinces. The people of Alberta were billked by the mill-men's combine, if such there was; and believing there was such combine they are entirely justified in feeling some annoyance that the government of British Columbia did nothing to break it up.

It is necessary that diversity of resources produce diversity of results, that British Columbia continue to be an immense exporter of lumber to the prairies and that the prairies continue to supply British Columbia with farm products. But it is not reasonable that the lumbermen or the fruit growers of British Columbia should be free to formulate combines to fleece the consumers of Alberta unless the government which depends for life on their political support sees fit to incur their enmity by prosecuting them. Neither would it be considered fair that the dairymen or butchers of Alberta should be free to combine for the fleecing of British Columbia consumers unless the government of Alberta chose to incur their enmity by prosecuting them.

If provincial boundary lines are not to be made the frontiers of warring interests and the lines of cleavage of popular sympathy the avenues of trade must be kept free. Apparently in one respect at least the present means do not avail to keep them free. Whether that proposed would do so, or go farther toward doing so, is very well worth the consideration of Parliament and the public.

TRADITIONS TO MAINTAIN.

The traditions of Canadian Liberalism commit the Laurier government to continuance of constructive policy, looking to the promotion of settlement, the increase of production, the growth of trade, and the general betterment of industrial and economic conditions.

Canadian Liberalism has a past of which any party should be proud, a past rich in measures for the amelioration of abuses and in projects for the advancement of the country, a past which could not be blotted out without obliterating some of the most splendid periods of Canadian growth.

In that past the present Government has borne an honorable part. The most gratifying pages of Canadian history have been written during the past decade, and the stories they tell of national advancement are testimonials to the faithfulness with which the Government at Ottawa have pursued the ends and purposes of Liberalism.

By the accomplishments of their predecessors in party leadership, and by the pace they themselves have set, the Government are bound to keep faith with the inherent spirit of the party they represent, for only so can they justily their claim to the title of Liberals and command the loyalty of the men who hold Liberal views.

This pace will be no easy one to maintain, for Liberalism has performed great service in times gone by, both recent and remote. But the pace must be kept, or the slackening speed would invite unfavorable comparison with the accomplishments of the earlier times and with the work the Government themselves have already done. Such comparisons no government covets and few outlive.

Responsible government was won for the people of Canada by the Liberal party, against entrenched privilege and established heirarchy. For all that the power of self-government means and has meant to the Dominion, and to the provinces before there was a Dominion, Liberals claim with perfect right the credit for having struggled and struggled successfully.

That there is a Dominion of Canada we owe to Hon. George Brown, the then leader of the Liberal party. From whom came the first proposal for a Federl union of the scattered British provinces on this continent. For whatever Canada has gained or may be supposed to have gained, by reason of national existence and national organization, credit must first go to the Liberal party.

The project of running a railway from sea to sea on Canadian territory was first taken up by a Liberal government, headed by Hon. Alexander MacKenzie. For whatever benefit the C. P. R. has been to Canada the Liberal party is entitled to credit as the first to undertake the scheme. But to them is also due credit for trying to secure whatever further benefit would have been received by Canada if the road had been built and owned by the people instead of by a company.

Very appropriately, the second transcontinental Canadian railway was begun by a government headed by a former colleague of Mr. MacKenzie, and last month the electors decided very wisely that the men who had begun the work were the men to finish it. Further, the third outlet from the prairies to the sea is now a project actually under way under the auspices of the same government, pledged to its immediate completion as a government enterprise.

That these new roads are needed is in itself largely due to the Laurier government. When they assumed office nobody proposed the construction of transcontinental railways in Canada, for the excellent reason that the traffic did not keep the one in existence busy. Now nobody not under suspicion of alliance with the C. P. R. questions the necessity of the G. T. P. and the Hudson Bay road. For this difference the Government are directly responsible to a very great degree. They induced settlement on the vacant and non-producing land; and the settlers soon swamped the existing road with freight and clamored for more roads to keep busy also.

These are splendid instances of constructive statesmanship drawn from the records of Canadian history early and late. But if they are traditions to be proud of they are also traditions to be maintained. If there is glory in them there is duty also—the duty of carrying on the principle they involve and illustrate into work perhaps less spectacular but none the less necessary and none the less obligatory. Canada is a young country with tremendous potentialities. Whether we accomplish the destiny open to us, and when we do so, depends largely on the kind of government the people give themselves. The people have demanded continuance of the kind of government they have got from Liberalism in the past. The Government is bound to give them what they have asked for.

THE DUTY OF THE HOUR.

There is trouble in the opposition camp over "The Duty of the Hour." The trouble is not to find out the duty, but that "the Duty" was found out. "The Duty of the Hour," it should be explained, was the title of a somewhat interesting campaign pamphlet published by the Orange Sentinel, the purpose of which, according to the Mail and Empire, was "urging the duty of voting against Sir Wilfrid Laurier on religious grounds." Needless to say it was intended that "The Duty" should be made plain only where converts were thought likely to be found, or where backsliders seemed to be numerous.

But the best laid schemes "gang aft agley." Some Grit got hold of the pamphlet and thought it worthy of a wider publicity than the author and publisher intended. The Montreal Gazette in high dudgeon explains that:—

"One of the editors of the Globe endeavored to purchase three thousand copies from the Sentinel, obviously not intended for circulation among those whom the Sentinel desired to reach."

The Mail and Empire bears equal tribute to the readiness of the Liberals to shove it along:—

"To the Liberals this production was a bonanza. It was the very thing for which they had been looking. The demand for the pamphlet became flattering to the author. It was impossible to fill all the orders. Liberal managers, unable to secure the large number of copies they needed, printed more for their own use. They even had the production translated into various languages." The result of which, according to the Mail, was that:—

"It operated very much in the same way as did Rev. Dr. Burchard's welcome to James G. Blaine, as the enemy of rum, Romanism, and rebellion."

It will be noted that this fine frenzy is not because the book was published, nor of the circumstances under which it was published, nor the purpose for which it was published. The cause of the trouble, and the whole cause, from the standpoint of the Gazette and the Mail, seems to be that the Liberals got hold of it and undertook to gain for it a wider circle of readers than it was "desired to reach." This is passing strange in the realm of book-making. Usually authors and publishers run to the other extreme. They are, if anything, over-anxious to have their books read, discussed, advertised, "boomed" in the press, translated to other tongues and made available to as many readers as possible. Not so in the present case. The Gazette is clearly vexed and the Mail admittedly sore because the Grits undertook to help the publication along. These are very exclusive-minded gentry to be in the book-making business.

There is reason in their madness, though. "The Duty" was a select publication. It was not intended for general circulation. It was designed for the perusal of a special class. It was a book with a purpose, a purpose which could only be gained if the circulation was limited to specified areas and to certain classes of readers. To have it thrown broadcast among the people was to destroy its purpose. For the means used to accomplish the purpose was a weapon that cuts both ways when used in the open field. It was all right to arm the Protestants of Ontario with copies of "The Duty of the Hour," but to entrust it also in the hands of the Catholics of Quebec was to court disaster.

Here was where the Liberals gave the cause of offence. They failed to see why a great section of the Canadian people should be deprived of the pleasure of reading the arguments presented to another great section. They believed the people of Quebec would form quite as intelligent an opinion on the merits of the volume as the people of Ontario. As the book dealt with the Autonomy bills of Alberta and Saskatchewan they did not see why the people of Quebec should not be posted on the subject as well as those of their sister province. Hence they are accused of trying to buy copies, of getting copies printed, even of translating them that they might be the more readily available to all concerned or interested. They held that the doctrine of equal rights should prevail in this matter and did what they could to secure a fair show to the people of Quebec. For this the Gazette becomes grumpy, and the Mail turns viciously on its companion in arms. Strange antics surely for the patrons and would-be beneficiaries of a new book. Their defence probably is that they must maintain their traditional antipathy to the cause of equal rights.

CURRENT COMMENT.

A comet is coming our way at the rate of 500 miles a minute. This seems to be something more than the normal speed of presidentinl candidates in a hot campaign.

Now that the votes are counted some one has been trying to find out whether the U. S. tariff is to be revised up or down—without success.

A prominent London clergyman has been seeking a remedy for the hardship caused the poor by the greed of the wealthy. He will find it in the gospel by St. Matthew, chapter seven, twelfth verse.

Charles W. Morse was sentenced to fifteen years in jail for misappropriating the funds of the National Bank of North America. Judge Hough considers the guardianship of other people's money a serious business.

Montreal Gazette—"Municipal ownership as it is practised is most remarkable for its lack of business sense." Not more so than private ownership of municipal utilities for a lack of the sense of justice.

Von Buelow is accused of having revived the Casablanca incident to divert attention from the kaiser's interview. On the other hand, perhaps the interview was intended to isolate France and thus force her to accede to Germany's views in the Casablanca matter.

Elections being over the Montreal Gazette feels free to say: "Frederick Ricker, plumber, of Detroit, engaged to do some work at Windsor, "has been ordered to stop by a magistrate, on the complaint being made "that he was an alien who had been "engaged abroad to work for a Canadian in Canada. By the action "two people are put to trouble, the "skilled workman and the Canadian, "who, knowing presumably of his "skill, desired his work. Who is benefited nobody knows."

On November 1st, 1858, Queen Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India. King Edward signalized the fiftieth anniversary of the event by issuing a message to the princes and people of India, reviewing the progress of the empire under beneficent administration, paying a warm tribute to the loyalty of the Indian people and troops, announcing amnesty for prisoners and a further gradual extension of the principle of representative institutions in the direction of equality in citizenship and a greater share by the natives in legislation and government.

A NATION BUILDER.

Montreal Witness—The greatest work that Sir Wilfrid Laurier has done for Canada has been the gradual nationalizing of her people. The Witness has for long years been fain to speak of the Canadians as a nation; it has done so rather with a view to making them so think of themselves than because the spirit of nationality had come to the people of the Dominion; has in the past ruled over nationalism, and race has excommunicated race. There was in this province at the beginning of Sir Wilfrid's regime, a very powerful movement that called itself national, but which was in point of fact the most denationalizing force in the Dominion. At that time the word national, as meaning sectional, was a word to conjure with, and Liberal leaders were not ashamed to put it on their banners. Today it is a word hooted at and coupled with sundry epithets for reactionary mediaevalism. This is the work of Laurier, the work for which he has the opposition of those whose study it is to segregate the races from each other, the work for which the people have re-elected him. The confidence the people is that, under his aegis more and more the Canadians, whatever their language or faith, may be one nation, and no mean nation at that—in point of numbers and commerce the second nation in the Empire—rapidly rising to be one of the great nations of the world. This work has been altogether beneficient. It could only be developed by exercising the evil spirits of mutual disdain and putting into the people a new heart of mutual esteem and good will. The person needed to do this was a member of the original and more sensitive element of the Canadian people, who nevertheless knew and sympathized with all the nobler sentiments of the race to which he did not belong. For this task the country had no other. The work of nation-building will not be finished in Laurier's day. It will never be finished. But on the Olympus of our nation-builders the central and most majestic figure will ever be that of Laurier.

AN EFFICIENT MINISTER.

Calgary Albertan:—The Toronto World suggests that Frank Oliver may retire from the department of Interior to take a place upon the board of railway commissioners. It surmises that his place in the government may be taken by Walter Scott, the premier of Saskatchewan. The Toronto World is doubtless incorrect.

To Western Canada at the present time a strong minister of the interior is of greater concern than a strong western man on the board of railway commissioners.

Frank Oliver has made good in the department of interior. He has made many needed reforms in the department. He saw the need of a change in the timber and grazing regulations before the opposition hungry for something to criticize, noticed that the method of sale or lease was out of date. He has given both honest and capable administration. He has the confidence of the western people as no predecessor in office ever had. He knows Western Canada as perhaps few people do. He knows its people and he is quick to perceive their needs. The Oliver land act was his work and it will revolutionize the entire west. That this act, as far reaching in its effects, disposing of millions of acres of land, was administered not only without the suspicion of scandal, but really without any complaints from any person, is little short of marvelous and is a magnificent tribute to the organization of the department of which he is chief.

The campaign of timber limit and other departmental scandals had but little weight in the province of Saskatchewan and Alberta. The Liberals, though they conceded no scandal, yet they argued that the alleged irregularities occurred before Frank Oliver took office and should not be charged up against him, and the people of Western Canada were convinced that no dishonest dealings would occur while he had control.

At present to Western Canada it is of greater importance that Frank Oliver should be minister of the interior than that he should be a member of the railway commission.

A REBUKE TO INTOLERANCE.

Toronto Globe:—The News yesterday in the course of an article on the cause of the Conservative defeat said:

"Nothing is further from the News' purpose than to make a religious quarrel, to assail the Roman Catholic Church, or to threaten reprisal and vengeance. Here are two dominant races and two dominant religions. They must live together if the country is to realize its destiny. They must act together if we are to grow into a united people, animated by common ideals and fused in a common patriotism. But all such preaching will be vain and all such expectation disappointed if racial considerations determine the issue of national contests, and if there is to be a visitation of vengeance upon public men who stand for the integrity of the constitution against secret compacts with powerful dignitaries in church and hardly less powerful leaders in finance and transportation."

In the eastern townships of Quebec there are eight constituencies in which the English-speaking people form a large proportion of the population. They are: Brome, Chateauguay, Compton, Huntingdon, Missisquoi, Shefford, Stanstead, and Sherbrooke. In some of them, such as Brome, the English Protestants are in a large majority; in others, such as Huntingdon and Stanstead, the races and religions are almost equally balanced, while in Compton and Missisquoi the Protestant English-speaking people are probably less than 40 per cent. of the total population. Were there anything of a racial and religious nature in Quebec's support of Laurier we would expect to find countless like Brome representing it by voting against his candidates, and counties like Compton and Missisquoi insisting or returning French-Canadians. The fact is that the eight counties—those in which the French Catholics are in a majority as well as those in which the English Protestants are in a majority—all return English-speaking members to Parliament, and of the eight only one is a Conservative. No more conclusive evidence could be found of the fact that the English-speaking people of Quebec are supporters of Laurier in no less degree than those of his own origin and faith. The example set by the eastern townships in race and religious harmony is the best answer to the attempt to set race against race and creed against creed.

MR. BRODEUR.

Montreal Witness:—The announcement of Mr. Brodeur that he does not at this time intend to give up his portfolio of Minister of Marine and Fisheries should be generally welcomed. When Mr. Tarte resigned as Minister of Public Works, which was in his time and before his time, the great spending department, that department was shorn of a good deal of its power, and the Department of Marine and Fisheries, with Mr. Prefontaine at the head, was made the more influential of the two. When Mr. Brodeur succeeded Mr. Prefontaine as Minister, he found the affairs of the department in a most chaotic condition, and he had the resolution to set about a clean-up. The report of the commission of investigation, appointed at Mr. Brodeur's instigation, declared that radical reforms were necessary, and he had not shrunk from the task. What the business interests think of Mr. Brodeur is shown by the letter sent to him by the Council of the Montreal Board of Trade on October 30 last year, and by the report of the then acting president of the Board, Mr. Thomas J. Drummond. The Council's appreciation of the Minister was highly commendatory, and it adapted the expressions of Mr. Drummond's report, which read: "I think I voice the feeling of every one present in expressing my great gratification at the work that has been done, and my appreciation of the vigorous, intelligent, and broad-minded manner in which the Minister has dealt with the work, and the various questions that have come up as between the department and those directly interested in the St. Lawrence route. Further I desire to express my appreciation of the way in which the actual work and operations are being conducted both at Sorel, and other points visited on the trip." Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, president of the Canadian Pacific railway, the Shipping Federation of Canada, and others, have voiced similar appreciations. It was Mr. Brodeur who reorganized the Montreal Harbor Board on business lines, and with such signal advantage to the harbor.

But in no way does Mr. Brodeur show up so well as in his determination to correct the deplorable abuses that had fastened upon his department, after being administered for twenty-four years by the Conservatives out of forty-two years of its existence. Mr. Brodeur said in Parliament in reply to his assailants: "When I was appointed Minister in 1906, I noticed irregularities, and I immediately set experts to work to devise a system of accountancy and control which would be of great assistance to me in a total reorganization. But hardly had I expressed a desire to accomplish reform when those who were profitting by the abuses started a campaign of scandal against me. They did it with the aid of the Conservative chiefs, who spoke for them in the House." Whether the Conservatives acted unknowingly at the instigation of such parties we cannot say, but they certainly did their best to destroy Mr. Brodeur politically, while he was using the broom and bucket on his own initiative in his department. All credit to him, but the wheels of commissions move slowly, and Mr. Brodeur did not have time to achieve the reforms he had in hand before he was called to give in his account. Let Mr. Brodeur finish his work, and let it be fearlessly and thoroughly done.

Plunged Over Cliff.

Hamilton, Nov. 11.—Robert Hunt, while driving, lost control of his horse, which, together with the vehicle and driver, went over a high cliff and were stopped by a tree. Hunt fell to the bottom. His condition is very serious.

Railway Commission in Toronto.

Toronto, Nov. 11.—The Railway Commission, with Chairman Mabee presiding, opened its sitting here today. Only small matters of local concern were dealt with.

DEFERRED ELECTIO[N] PRINCE ALBERT T[...]

Liberals Expect to Carry T[...] Relying on the Administr[...] cord of the Laurier Go[...] and the Hudson Bay [...] Project—Opposition Cand[...] Strong Personally.

Prince Albert, November [...] eve of the election in Prince[...] finds both parties confident [...] tory. The Liberals rely on [...] gressive administration of the [...] government and the Hudson [...] Railway terminus, which h[...] promised to Prince Albert. [...] position are relying solely [...] strength of their candidate [...] McKay.

Honore Jaxon, the Indepen[...] the field, is not taken serious[...] either party, and his presence [...] not affect the result. He [...] Duck Lake and Batoche this [...] ing, where he expects to get [...] support.

It is anticipaetd that Prince [...] City will break about even a[...] Rulan will get a majority [...] home county of Kinistino and [...] county of Duck Lake. Mr. [...] Kay's strength is in Prince [...] county and city, both of wh[...] should carry. Both parties are [...] ing up a strong fight, but there [...] to be a big silent vote this [...] which may swing with the [...] ment.

HON J. H. AGNEW DEA[...]

Manitoba's Provincial Tr[...] Suffered Relapse and Die[...]

Winnipeg, Nov. 9.—Hon. J. [...] new, provincial treasurer of Ma[...] suffered a relapse on Saturda[...] passed away. Universal regret [...] pressed throughout the province [...] untimely demise. He was in h[...] ty-fifth year. The deceased wa[...] in the high esteem of his colle[...] in government and on both si[...] the legislature in an unusual [...] Hon. R. P. Roblin eulogized th[...] minister, declaring that words [...] to express the loss he felt and [...] members of the cabinet exp[...] similar views. One peculiarity [...] that although no newspapers pu[...] ed an account of his death this [...] ing, many flags which were hoist[...] honor of the King were all plac[...] half mast, and all seemed to kno[...] reason why.

HOUSE OPENS IN JANUAR[Y]

Cabinet Will Meet This Week to [...] Up Accumulated Business.

Ottawa, November 9.—Sir W[...] Laurier continues to improv[...] health, and it is expected that in [...] course of a few days he will b[...] tirely convalescent. The ca[...] council will meet several times [...] ing this week to clear off accumu[...] business and make preparation[...] the approaching session. It is [...] pected that the new parliament [...] convene either on Wednesday, J[...] ary 8, or Wednesday, January [...] with the chances favoring the [...] named date. On the first day [...] the members sign the roll, the [...] speaker will be named, and the [...] dress will be proceeded with the [...] day. Mr. Charles Marcil is ce[...] to be the new speaker, while Mr. [...] Intyre, member-elect for South P[...] will probably succeed Mr. Marcil [...] the deputy speaker. Mr. R. [...] Borden will take a holiday before [...] season opens, and it is quite poss[...] that he will go to the old country.

THE UNREST IN INDIA.

Anti-European Demonstration [...] in Bengal.

Calcutta, November 6.—An imp[...] ant notification appears in the [...] ette to the effect that the order iss[...] by the Commissioner of Police pro[...] biting the holding of political meet[...] iting the holding of political meet[...] after sunset in the parks, squ[...] and open spaces of Calcutta and [...] southern suburbs for two mon[...] has now been extended for a perio[...] six months. This order, coup[...] with the prohibition against [...] carrying of sticks and other weap[...] by processionists, should go far [...] wards ensuring tranquility during [...] next few months.

A remarkable anti-European dem[...] stration was made throughout Ben[...] on the occasion of the third anniv[...] sary of the partition of the provin[...] The natives observed the anniv[...] sary as a day of mourning, discard[...] their clothes and footwear, and [...] staining from food. All shops w[...] closed in Calcutta. Special pro[...] proclamations were posted everywh[...] forbidding meetings and processi[...] after five o'clock, and ordering [...] arrest of any native found carry[...] weapons.

In consequence of the alarming [...] mors that the Bengalis contempla[...] an attack on Europeans, two comp[...] ies of Gordon Highlanders were tu[...] ed out for patrol duty, and the [...] mainder of the regiment was kept u[...] der arms in the fort. Two hund[...] police with fixed bayonets marched [...] the scene of tre principal assembla[...] in Calcutta, while five hundred ot[...] police, including plain clothes m[...] armed with revolvers, were posted [...] the native city, in order to be rea[...] to quell any rioting.

Forty thousand Bengalis para[...] the streeets, the procession being [...] mile and a half long and stopping [...] traffic. Surendranath Banerjee, [...] "uncrowned king" of Bengal, was [...] corted by a bodyguard. He walk[...] beneath the standard of Bengal. T[...] police prevented any speeches bei[...] made by the agitators, and attemp[...] to create disturbances were promp[...] suppressed. A European corporal [...] official was attacked outside the u[...] versity, and his carriage was ston[...] One of the footmen was severely [...] jured, and only escaped death by t[...] bravery of the coachman.

Union Pacific Vice-President Dead.

Chicago, Ills., Nov. 9—William D. C[...] nish, millionaire of Orange, N.J., se[...] ond vice-president of the Union Paci[...] lines, was found dead in his room in t[...] Auditorium Annex this morning. Phy[...] ians pronounced death due to heart d[...] eass. He was one of the best know[...] business men in the United States.