

The Canadian Courier

A National Weekly

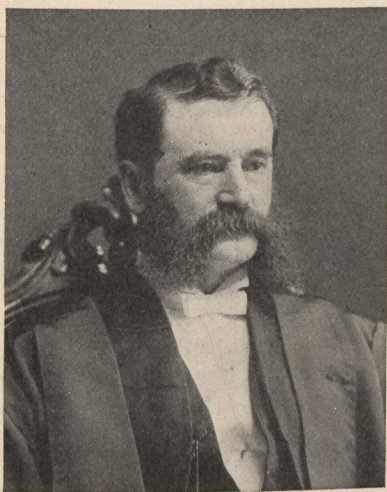
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IN THE PUBLIC VIEW



Sir C. A. P. Pelletier.

SIR Charles Alphonse Pantaleon Pelletier, who will probably succeed Sir Louis Jette as Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec, was born at Riviere Ouelle, P.Q., on January 22nd, 1837. He received his primary education at Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere College, and graduated at Laval University, where he took the degree of B.C.L. He was called to the Bar of Quebec in 1860; has been Syndic and Batonnier of the local Bar, and in 1879 was created a Queen's Counsel by the Quebec Government. He has always been a Liberal in politics and represented Kamouraska in that interest in the House of Commons from 1869 to 1877. He was also a member of the Local Legislature from February, 1873, to January, 1874, when, in consequence of the operation of the act annulling dual representation, he retired. In January of the latter year he accepted the portfolio of Minister of Agriculture in the Mackenzie Administration. While holding this portfolio, he acted as president of the Canadian Commission at the Paris Universal Exposition in 1878. As an acknowledgment of the services he rendered on this occasion, he received the thanks of His Majesty King Edward (then Prince of Wales) as president of the Royal Commission, and was made a C. M. G. by her late Majesty Queen Victoria. As a member of the Government, he succeeded the late Hon. L. Letellier de St. Just, as French-Canadian leader of the Senate, to which body he was called in February, 1877, and after the downfall of the Government in 1878, became one of the leaders of the Opposition in the same chamber. Upon the formation of the Laurier Cabinet in July, 1896, he became Speaker of the Senate, and was subsequently appointed a judge.

Sir Alphonse, as a young man, graduated from the military school in Quebec, and entered the militia at the time of the Trent trouble, becoming captain and adjutant of the Ninth Battalion in 1863. In 1866 he was promoted to be a major and commanded the Ninth during the Fenian raid in that year.

Both socially and professionally, Sir Alphonse is held in high esteem, and his appointment to the Lieutenant-Governorship will meet with ready approbation by the majority of the citizens of the province.

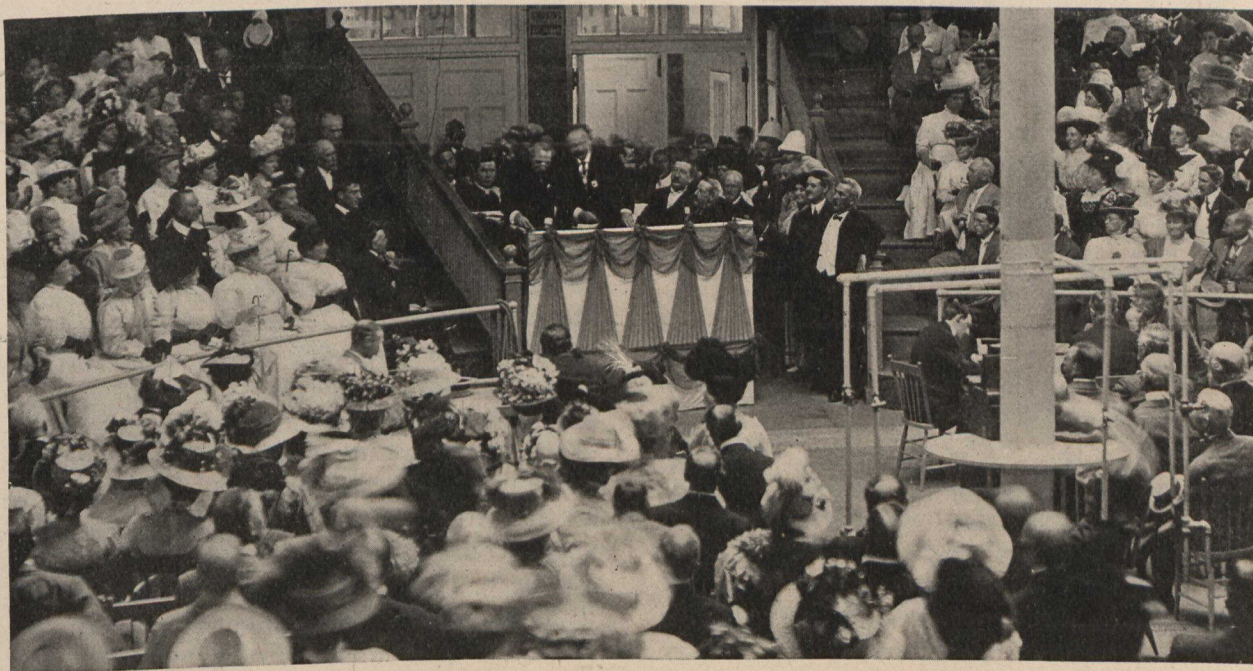
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THERE was a man in university circles known as Professor Adam Shortt; and this was reputed to be as primitive a name as any university professor ever held; a name, however, that for ten years past has been pushing up

out of the fungi that sometimes overgrow university men, and has been quoted again and again in newspapers as that of a man who had a large aim in life outside of books on political economy, which was his teaching specialty. To Prof. Adam Shortt the best part of political economy has always been in life; and in modern life which has more of it in a moment than the eighteenth century had in an hour when that other Adam of political economy, Adam Smith, wrote his "Wealth of Nations." So that Prof. Shortt, who is a Canadian, born at Kilworth, Ontario, and educated at Queen's and at Edinburgh and Glasgow universities, has taken a very active interest in questions affecting capital and labour since he became a professor in his Alma Mater in 1886. He has been on more arbitrations than any other educationist in Canada. He is a specialist on wages; has been on boards of arbitration on telegraphers' disputes, electric railway matters and on controversies affecting wages in the Nova Scotia collieries; he was also mentioned lately as a possible arbitrator in the machinists' strike on the C.P.R. And it is only a month or so since Prof. Adam Shortt was offered the presidency of the new Saskatchewan University—declining because he foresaw a wider field of usefulness in the east.

During the past week he has entered on that field; under the new Civil Service Bill appointing two commissioners of the rank of deputy-ministers to make recommendations to all appointments to the inside Civil Service; to conduct competitive examinations; to have practical control of the Civil Service list, lifting it out of politics; to establish the inside service on a basis of merit as opposed to pull and political preferment. This is a branch of political economy in which a man with the statesmanlike instincts of Prof. Shortt may be expected to find broad scope. As senior member of the Commission he will have an outside relation to Government similar to that occupied by the chairman of the Railway Commission. His appointment emphasizes the broader responsibility attached to the university man. In Canada the professor has normally been a man of books—though there are many men in any of the larger universities who have splendid capabilities for public service. It will be remembered that Mr. Sifton's address on the Civil Service outlined a programme of placing university graduates in consular positions abroad. In the United States the university man is often much of a publicist. The appointment of Prof. Shortt on the Civil Service Commission will do somewhat to bring the Canadian professor more into a status of usefulness in public life such as made it possible to make a foreign ambassador of President Angell of Ann Arbor University and to connect by rumour the name of another college president with the candidature for the presidency of the United States.

Principal Grant, of Queen's, is remembered as a Canadian educationist who took a leader's interest in political life. Prof. Leacock, lately appointed to the chair of political economy in McGill University, is known as a man who takes a lively interest in public questions. Dr. Parkin, ex-Principal of Upper Canada College, has been one of the most active of imperialists in his relation to the Rhodes Scholarship fund. And all authorities interviewed as to Professor Shortt's appointment agree that no better man for the Civil Service Commission could be found anywhere.



Opening the Toronto Exhibition, September 1st, Sir Louis Jette pressing the button at left hand side of official box, in the theatre of Dairy Building.

PHOTOGRAPH BY PRINGLE & BOOTH