

THE ALBERTAN

M. DAVIDSON - President and Editor
A. MOORE - Business Manager
W. CHEELY - Managing Editor

MORNING ALBERTAN.
Yearly \$3.00
Monthly .25
Copy .05

WEEKLY ALBERTAN.
Yearly \$1.00

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 1913.

PREMIER'S PROMISE NO. 3.

The third item of Premier Borden's garland of promises in Western Canada was to construct the Hudson Bay railway and to operate it by an independent commission. The construction had started some time before by the Laurier administration. Though Mr. Cochrane seemed disposed to hold it up for a short time, public opinion was too strong, and the government has continued what the previous government began. It has not been very active in the construction, but the work has been kept going.

But will Premier Borden carry out the second part of his promise, the operation of the railway by the government under a separate, independent commission? That remains to be seen. Mackenzie and Mann are looking upon the road with covetous eyes, and may insist upon operating it, and what they insist upon they secure from the Borden administration.

The ready argument is used that the Hudson Bay railway will have an enormous traffic during a small portion of the year, but will have little or no traffic during the rest of the year. Therefore, it is argued, the railway should be a portion of a system rather than an independent road. As a part of the system the railway could afford to pour the rolling stock to care for the emergency, and place it in some other part of the system during the remainder of the year. A private company would have to get a large plant, which would be idle during the greater part of the year. That is the argument that will be used when the government hands over the control of the road to the C.N.R. or the C.P.R.

Editorial Notes

And while the warfare continues in the big baseball leagues, the baseball game is being played by the public school boys of Calgary for the morning Albertan challenge shields. Already classes C and D have finished, and the finals in class B will be played this is the last sport.

The Monetary Times knows almost as much about the financial game as any other paper, and it says that the municipalities in the western provinces are more aggressive in financing those in the east, and that figures of the get-rich-quick gentlemen are being through his knightly helmet.

The BHOE Indians have decided unanimously in favor of letting their reserves to the big corporation, thus leaving them to look upon the question of the tribe with the Bill-and-Dan autonomy of the average member of the Canadian parliament.

The country would have been saved had it not been for the trouble and expense of the government, and some damage if the provincial government had entirely overlooked the riding of Clearwater, with its 100,000 voters. It should never have been created, and the legislature, at this late date, would do well to rescind it.

The Hon. Sam has changed the name of the ancient and honorable "Bismarck" to "technical exercises." The name is harder to say, more difficult to remember, and doesn't sound like the real thing. But having the honor of the name of the department, it may be wise to use that name as sparingly as possible.

Through three or four weeks have passed since the Australian elections. There is nothing very definite known about the results, the government is going to land. But that will have no effect on the naval policy of the country, because in Australia they are unanimously in favor of an Australian navy.

It takes two people to make a market for the buyers and the seller. If we do not have the buyers we are not likely to have the sellers. We are having a try-out on Saturday morning, just to find out what the market is what we thought it would be.

And here is another million dollar fight on the right. The wise person who should be placed in this sort of a position. There has been but one election in Alberta in the last fifteen years. It may be added that this year will boost the crops right along through harvest time, even if the weather should take his holidays now.

The Hon. Mr. Lumber company site would make a fairly good place for a park, though it would mean giving over the bank to a railway, which is not very good town planning. There is

CONDEMNED BY FRIENDS.

Probably the wisest press supporter of the Borden party in Alberta is R. C. Edwards, with the Calgary Eye Opener. The Conservatives themselves have shown their appreciation by using The Eye Opener as the live campaign literature of the party, and it must be admitted that it has done very good work. There is some independence about it which bears conviction, and its manner of presenting facts attracts the western voter.

In the last number of The Eye Opener Mr. Edwards goes after the C.N.R. deal without gloves. He scores both parties in vigorous fashion, the government for allowing such a bill, and the opposition for its tame and spiritless attack. In part he says:

This fifteen million dollars was not in the form of a loan, but was a straight gift of public money. They call it a subsidy, but it is the same thing. This is a gross and altogether damnable misuse of the people's money. The good work of Premier Borden's government, since coming into power is thus swept from the mind of the public, and should be gone to the country right now he would have the devil's own time getting back. The West is fairly staggered at this extraordinary free gift to Bill and Dan, two of the smoothest financial men the world has probably ever seen or ever will see.

Here is the West today laboring under the most appalling money stringency. Nobody has any money. The banks won't lend a cent. Active and responsible business men, engaged in large enterprises, are finding themselves stuck on every hand. The whole machinery designed to develop this western country has practically stopped operating through dearth of money. Everything out of this is a standstill through lack of money. And yet, at the very moment when the business world is scanning the horizon for signs of relief, news arrives that the Dominion government has casually made Bill and Dan a present of fifteen million bucks!

THE CLEARWATER ELECTION.

The general public has no clear idea of the various decisions and counter-decisions which have been given in the Clearwater election case. They are convinced that the election was probably the worst that has been known in this province, that it was a general scramble for votes, and that it was the open season for all manner of rascality on all sides. They may be mistaken, but that is the opinion that they have formed. They come to the conclusion also that the present election law does not reach that sort of thing, and when driven to the limit does not even define clearly and concisely the way that votes should be counted.

The whole election law needs revision very much. It is archaic and out of date.

And if the legislature by unanimous vote should disenfranchise the riding of Clearwater, it would do good business.

Letters to The Editor

Sir—Your courteous and considerate comment upon my letter, discussing single tax, does not supply the information continually propounded throughout my letter is condensed in "How is the city going to get the money for the city budget?"

This question you have not even attempted to answer, and this is the information that interests not only the writer and every ratepayer in the city, but the prospective bond purchaser as well.

You cannot be blamed for commenting in your own editorial columns in any manner you choose. However, if it was your purpose to comply with my request, it would have been just as well to deal with the facts in hand.

I agree, and am willing to admit, for the sake of argument, the single taxer's contention that the vacant landowner is a burden to the community, and that society is entitled to a portion of the unearned increment, to maintain the city which has become wealthy, but what has this admission or the proof of this contention really got to do with the subject in hand?

I am willing to admit the above, for argument's sake, the same as we might go further and contend that a large dry good store, a retail hardware store, a public school, a lumber company, a chemical manager has become wealthy, caused by Calgary's becoming an important city, and the people's requiring an increased amount of clothing, building hardware, transient hotel traffic, millions of dollars' worth of lumber or the great increase in the public crowding the theatre, for the community has, in a sense, caused all of these institutions to become immensely wealthy, and as you might contend, should be entitled to a portion of the unearned increment created by the congregation of the people into one city.

This is all admitted for the moment, but all of the befalling of the masses and the sky rocket ideas of the theorist will be of little value under the system of single tax, if said system does not provide the wherewithal to conduct the administrative affairs of the community.

A successful taxation system is not necessarily going to be reached, or the problem of balancing the benefits received by the rich and the poor, through the application of single tax, if through this means the tax gatherer is not enabled to gather sufficient funds to meet the requirements of the city.

In your discussion of the man with the farm, you err in stating that the writer contended his farm "was assessed too high," and you are likewise in error in intimating that it is not the fault of any particular system of taxation.

argument is that the landowner would save money and the city lose. The city revenue from taxation would be reduced at least 30 per cent., and where was the single taxer put it "on" to make up the deficit?

I am sorry to see you intimate that I have an "idea to beat out the city" by allowing the tax gatherer to seize the property. There was nothing in my letter to justify such a supposition. However, the city faces a difficult problem, which single tax will not solve in attempting to compute the owner of the property to pay taxes on an assessed value in excess of what the land will bring under a forced tax sale.

You have stated that it would "probably bring \$50 per acre," and upon this basis the anticipated revenue of the city, if such a condition should continue, would be nil.

The entire substance of the taxation proposition is contained in the following: 1. Is the land now assessed for 100 per cent. of its value? The assessor answers, Yes! 2. Can the tax gatherer collect more taxes than the total assessment? The law answers, No! 3. Does not the single tax method propose to remove the taxes from improvements, licenses, and personality? The law answers, Yes! 4. Does not the city require and need can it not profitably use the revenue now derived from the tax on improvements, licenses, and personality? The financial statement answers, Yes! 5. Well, now, if the taxes heretofore, as well as this year, derived from improvements, licenses, and personality, have been required—in fact, this year badly needed, when it is removed, lost, given up to the big block owners, and the city, under single tax, has been compelled to forego this source of income, wherewithal, where is the single tax theorist going to get the money to conduct the city's affairs? That is the principal question which the writer wants answered.

When this question is satisfactorily answered, others will be propounded, dealing with the rights and wrongs of taxation, assessment, and the proper disposition of unearned increment. At the present time the position of the financial problem is the most vital, and demands first consideration.

Yours truly, C. F. OWENS.

The Poet Philosopher

LOOKING FORWARD.
Bad luck may come this year or next, but I'd rather think that coming days will be better, and so I'll sing my song of praise, and whoop and tear my sweater, I may fall down and break my leg, as you say, with emotion, and have to buy about a keg of powder, pill and potion; but while my legs are on my feet, I'll harrow, I'll harrow, I'll harrow around and play the game and have no truck with sorrow. My aim may be as high as the stars, but I'll stick to my gun, on joy, you say, 'till I put the lie, for the sake of Michael, why should I fret, till she shall start to share my humble potage? No amount of money can buy a man's heart until she's in his cotage. Ten million chances, all over the earth, are always muffled-drumming, and missing all these of mirth, through fear of what's a-coming. Oh, how I'd like to be glad and keep our tops a-rolling, if only we could see the day we'll be grinning! Let's always keep our hearts as bright as the sun, and our resistance; no folly's greater than to wait for troubles in the distance.

Vest Pocket Essays

MOONLIGHT.
Moonlight is a second grade illumination furnished by the solar system, and is due to the reflection of light by a great many economical cities as well as a suburb or two.

Moonlight is caused by the reflection of the rays of the sun, which strike the moon with great force with accuracy on to the earth. It has a soft, silvery quality which is highly esteemed but is more unreliable than a candle with a heavy wind. As a business institution the moon is worse than a municipality government, and lives up to its schedule like a southern railway train that is slow as snail's pace.

Moonlight for commercial purposes is an imposing failure, but when mixed with a sentimental moonlight, it is a grade of romance and has acquired a reputation in this line second to nothing in the world. A moderate dose of moonlight, taken preferably with plenty of water and sweetened with a few soft words, will produce an engagement in from ten to fifteen minutes under favorable conditions.

Many a young man who has no intention at all of marrying has gone out into the moonlight with a young lady dressed in fleecy white stuff and has come back half an hour later an engaged man and wondering how in thunder he is going to explain things to his mother and other young ladies for whom he has a tender regard.

Scientists disagree as to whether moonlight produces this effect by softening the heart or the head.

Sidewalk Sketches

JUSTICE.
Justice is an expensive by-product of the district court, and is procured either from a judge or a jury. Time was when an aggrieved party could secure justice by justifying out and beating up his fellow man, and then unfolding an alibi, but nowadays it costs more to get even with a defendant than it does to buy gasoline twelve miles from a railroad.

Justice is popularly represented as a blindfolded female with a sword in one hand and a pair of duck scales in the other. Nobody knows why justice was originally blindfolded, unless it was so she couldn't see the difference between a technically sound and a fact. Justice would remove her blinders long enough to take a square look at some of the jury verdicts that have been pulled off in her name, she would fall on her sword and expire before any

According to Our Usual Custom FRIDAY-Bargain Day

At NEILSON'S

With Offerings That Will Richly Reward All Those Who Take Advantage

To strangers in the city--If you have not benefited already by our Friday Bargains, it will certainly pay you to do so

FRIDAY BARGAINS in the Furniture Department.

Sideboard: Golden finish, massive design, 2 top drawers, 1 large linen drawer, 2 spacious cupboards. Regular \$25.25. Friday bargain \$20.00
Library Tables: Solid oak, fitted with two drawers, gold-finish. Regular \$16.75. Friday bargain \$11.25

Library Table: Solid quarter-sawed oak, early English finish, two shelves at each end for books. Regular \$23.50. Friday bargain \$16.75
Wardrobes: Surface oak, golden finish. Regular \$18.00. Friday bargain \$14.75

Today's and Saturday's Bargains in the Carpet Department

Japanese and Chinese Matting in a Two Day Sale Today and Saturday
12 Wilton Squares: Size 3x4 Yards. Four frame and five frame qualities--this means best goods. Regular prices from \$38.50 to \$48.00. FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW 20 p.c. DISCOUNT or 1-5 off Reg. Selling Price

We were given an opportunity to buy 25 rolls of fine quality matting in stenciled and woven patterns at far below the wholesale regular price. We bought them and will place them all on sale for today and tomorrow. These are brand new goods and are worth from 30c to 45c a yard. Your choice of any pattern 25c a Yard

Dinner Set: By Theodore Haviland, neat amber and green conventional border, and gold stippled handles. Composition 98 pieces. Regular \$55. Friday bargain \$35.00
Stem Glasses: Port and Sherry Glasses, semi crystal, lace and drop pattern. Regular \$15.00 dozen. Friday bargain \$1.00 Dozen
Electric Lamps: Green dome mounted on brass stand, complete with 6 feet of cord. Regular \$4.80. Friday bargain \$2.75

Today's Bargains in the Drapery and Dry Goods Department

Another Package Sale of Vast Importance to Campers
1 PAIR OF DARK GRAY BLANKETS, size 56x76 1/2 inches Today's Bargain \$6.50
1 WHITE HONEYCOMB BEDSPREAD, size 72x90 for Complete
1 PAIR OF PILLOW CASES
1 PAIR OF FLANNELETTE SHEETS, size 68x81

NEILSON'S logo and address: 118 EIGHTH AVE. EAST, CALGARY, ALBERTA.

body could reanimate her with a supreme court decision. There are two kinds of justice--legal and individual. Legal justice is an exciting pastime which shows the defendant just where he stands in the eyes of the plaintiff's witnesses. There is no place in the world where a staid business man can have a good reputation shot full of leaks quicker than in a court room filled with increased rela-

ROSE... is all you... "good tea"... is the... goodness of... tight pack... spoils most... is blended... water of the... 'distinctive'... 'good' taste... J. A. Clarke... WS... S... Ox-fords... \$1.65... \$3.85... \$3.35... \$2.95... in... double... all fawn... our sum... 5c... .50... 2.75... \$16.50... \$22.50... \$10.00... \$3.50... M1492