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The Father of Fox Farming

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND has jumped into a new prominence because of the fox farming which is carried on there. The father of the industry is Hon. Charles Dalton. He was a farmer boy, with little money, for his father was not a rich man. But Charles Dalton saw in the black fox an opportunity to make money, which no one else seemed to realize. Thirty-five years ago, he trapped his first black fox, the skin of which he sold for \$260. Five years later he traded a cow and \$25 for a pair of foxes caught by a farmer at North Cape. In 1888 he bought a pair of wild blacks and started breeding. All the light skins were sold; the darker animals were kept for breeding purposes. In 1894, Charles Dalton took a partner and they built a ranch on Cherry Island. Up to this time Mr. Dalton's business was unique. No one else in the world was doing any black fox farming. In 1897, the present ranch at Tignish was built, and four pairs from the old ranch were transferred to the new one, three other pairs being left at Cherry Island. In 1911, the partnership was dissolved, and the two partners divided up on the foxes.

A year ago, the ranch was sold to "The Charles Dalton Silver Black Fox Company" for a price of \$625,000. This company made good to a surprising extent, and recently paid dividends amounting to a quarter of a million dollars, or forty per cent. on the capital. Twelve pairs of next year's output have been sold for the sum of \$146,000.

A short while ago, the precious animals, representing a total value of \$750,000, were taken by a special train from Tignish to a new and larger ranch on the outskirts of Charlottetown. This train was known as the million dollar train, because it had freight to the value of one million dollars.

Hon. Mr. Dalton has given of his abundance to charities. It is not long since he donated \$20,000 to a sanitarium, subsequently adding a yearly gift of \$1,000 for its upkeep.

The Younger Politicians

W. B. PRESTON, of Brantford, is leading a number of Ontario young Liberals into political activity. He is president of the Liberal Club Federation of Ontario, under whose auspices the banquet in honour of Sir Wilfrid Laurier is to be given in Hamilton. The Federation was formed last spring for the purpose of assisting in the formation of clubs throughout the province—with objects social, educational and political. One of the aims of the organization is to encourage independent thinking within party bounds. The advantages of bringing the Liberal clubs into a strong federation are apparent. Fraternal visits are arranged; bright literature is given out, and, best stroke of all, plans are under way for the publication of a monthly paper published by the Federation. On the principle that union is strength, the organization has a bright future.

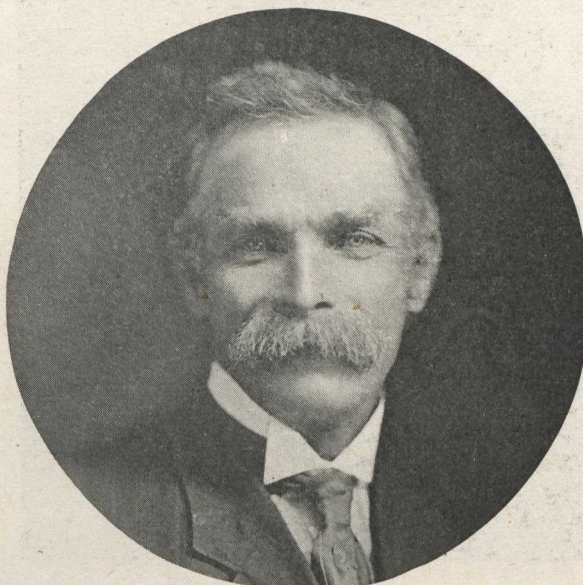
Mr. Preston is the manager of the Brantford *Expositor*, which for many years has been the property of his father, Mr. T. H. Preston. He, for several terms, represented the district in the Legislature. Both father and son are ardent politicians. And they have never been known as partisans. They recognize that there can and ought to be in-

Men of the Day

dependent and non-partisan thinking within the confines of party tenets.

A Prominent Western Civic Official

THE cities of the prairies have civic government which differs from that in use in other parts of Canada, in that each city has permanent com-



HON. CHARLES DALTON,
Whose Fortune Consists of a Ranch Full of Black Foxes.
Photograph by Bayer.

appointed Homestead Inspector for Alberta, and three months later was made Dominion Land Agent.

His present position as a city father is Commissioner of Finance. Last year he received an appointment which was at once an honour and a privilege, for he was made a governor of the provincial university. Politically he is a Liberal, and has done much good work for his party. He is another striking example of an Easterner who has made good out West.

A Coming Merchant Prince

VERY soon, Western Canada will have its own merchant princes. A likely candidate for the honour is Mr. Alexander Livingstone, the sole proprietor of the Caledonian Department Store on Namayo Avenue, Edmonton. Mr. Livingstone is a Scotchman, who came to this country in 1864. He spent some considerable time in the East, moving to Winnipeg in 1902. But he saw in the yet farther West a land of more promise, and, accordingly, in 1904, he went to Edmonton. Taking a partner he went into the store business. It is a far cry from a little shop fourteen feet by twenty to a huge and comprehensive departmental store. In place of the little store over which he presided in 1904, there now stands a splendid building, erected last year, and in which are 40,000 square feet of floor space. The employees at present number eighty, and the staff is being increased monthly. The total value of the store and the land upon which it stands is no less than a quarter of a million dollars, which, in view of the small beginning is, as Rex Beach would say, going some.

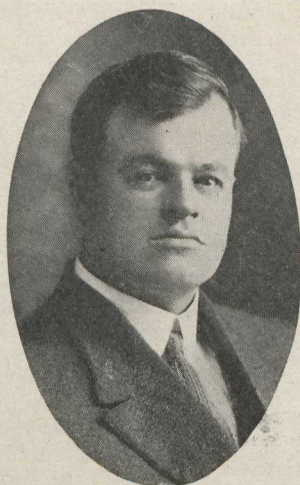
His fellow citizens have honoured this successful man among them, and in January last made him alderman. He is the youngest member of the aldermanic board, and one of the most aggressive, and is now devoting considerable time to municipal problems.

New York Canadian Club

THE Canadian Club of New York banquet this year was a greater success than ever. Some six hundred men and women were present. Two members of the Dominion Cabinet were among the speakers, Hon. L. P. Pelletier, Postmaster-General, and Hon. George E. Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce. The speakers also included Jacob H. Schiff, the head of Kuhn, Loeb & Co.; Frank A. Vanderlip, President of the National City Bank, the largest banking institution in the United States; Viscount Campden, of the British Embassy at Washington.

Among the guests, Sir George Paish, editor of the *London Statist*; Oswald Garrison Villard, Pres. *New York Evening Post*; Charles S. Hamlin, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Washington; W. J. Gerald, President of the Canadian Club, Ottawa; C. R. McCulloch, Honorary President of the Federation of Canadian Clubs, Hamilton, Ont.; Dean Galbraith, of the Engineering Department, University of Toronto; Thomas H. Allison, President of the University of Toronto Club.

Hon. Mr. Foster commended the spirit which prompted the establishment of Canadian Clubs, declaring that it furthered reciprocity of the best kind—reciprocity of language and ideals and literature.



ALEX. LIVINGSTONE,
Who Has Come to the Front as
the Head of a Western Departmental Store.



MR. W. B. PRESTON,
A Leader of Young Liberals.



A. G. HARRISON,
Commissioner of Finance at
Edmonton.

missioners in addition to aldermen and mayor who are elected in the usual way. Usually there are two commissioners, and these, with the mayor for the time being, make up the board of control, which carries on the administration of the cities.

Mr. Arthur G. Harrison is one of three commissioners for Edmonton. Previous to his appointment, in 1911, he was secretary of the Board of Trade, and manager of the Edmonton Exhibition. He hails from New Brunswick. After taking an arts course in the local university, he secured a position with the Pennsylvania Railway in Cincinnati. Later, he graduated from his university as civil engineer. In 1893, he went to Edmonton, and was in a law office there. In 1902, he was