

## THE EDMONTON BULLETIN

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1906.

## THE "MISSING LINKS."

Premier Roblin spoke in Strathcona last evening on behalf of the Opposition candidates in that constituency. Presumably he gave what he considered the outline of the policy that gentleman and his party stand for in Federal affairs. If so, there are some notable omissions from the list, omissions which are the more notable that they were made by Mr. Roblin and made in Alberta.

## What of the Public Land?

First, the honorable gentleman did not address himself to Mr. Borden's policy regarding the public lands in Alberta and Saskatchewan. In Halifax, a year ago Mr. Borden declared he and his party stood "To restore their public lands to the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan upon 'fair terms.' Surely, if anywhere in the Dominion this plank is of importance, it is in Alberta. It is the people, whose pockets are congested. Every Conservative candidate in the Province endorses this plank. Yet not a word from Mr. Roblin. Why is this?

## "Manitoba Will Not Have the Public Lands."

An explanation may perhaps be found in a resolution which Premier Roblin caused to be passed by the Provincial Legislature of Manitoba last spring regarding the extension of Manitoba's boundaries. The resolution was for presentation to the Federal Parliament, it dealt with the control of the public lands in the area the Legislature wanted added to the Province and set forth what the Government of the Province and their "cumbersome majority" thought should control the lands. The resolution reads:

"It is also asked that supplementary provisions be added to the present provisions of the Province by the Dominion for cost of government, and a per capita allowance, of eighty cents a head of population, there be inserted in any act of the Parliament of Canada extending the boundaries of the Province as above set forth, the following provisions respecting capital assets referred to in the said act: 'The provisions in every respect similar and identical to those respecting the public lands of the Province of Alberta, as contained in certain Acts of the Parliament of Canada, passed in the year 1905, creating the new Province of Saskatchewan and Alberta, and this House declares its willingness to agree to and approve of, an extension by the Dominion of the boundaries of the Province in the manner and to the extent aforesaid, upon the said extension terms and financial conditions (which terms and financial conditions are similar in all respects, as to the matters herein referred to, as were extended to each of the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta, and agreed upon by the Dominion, the Province and the Government of Canada, and as are contained in the said Acts creating these Provinces as aforesaid, being, to wit, as follows, that is to say:

"Inasmuch as the Province of Manitoba is not in debt, and the sum payable shall be five hundred and sixty-two thousand five hundred dollars."

"Thereafter, until such population reaches eight hundred thousand, the sum payable shall be five hundred and sixty-two thousand five hundred dollars."

"And thereafter the sum payable shall be one million one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars."

"As an additional allowance in lieu of public lands, there shall be paid by Canada to the Province, annually by half-yearly payments in advance, for five years from the time this Act comes into force, to provide for the construction of necessary public buildings, the sum of ninety-three thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars."

"Thereafter, until such population reaches one million two hundred thousand, the sum payable shall be seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars."

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"Manitoba will not have the public land as a source of revenue." That was sufficiently explicit, and it may be accepted as revealing the reason Mr. Roblin declared he would not accept Strathcona electors last night on the strength of Mr. Borden's land plank. Mr. Roblin declared he would not accept public land as a source of revenue for Manitoba, not even Premier Roblin could cap the paradox by declaring that Alberta should be made the public land as its source of revenue.

## Another Forgotten Plank.

Neither did Mr. Roblin endorse the following clause in the "Hudson Bay Railway":

"Hudson's Bay Railway—This 'concession' is of the opinion that 'the Province of Alberta, in co-operation with the Province of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, should construct without delay a railway to Hudson Bay.'"

This clause was adopted by the Conservative Provincial convention at Red Deer in 1905. Every Opposition candidate in the Province so far as known approves of it and stands to carry it into effect against the proposal of the Federal Government to build it themselves. Yet speaking on behalf of one of these candidates, Mr. Roblin has nothing to say on the matter.

This is strange, but it is also significant. Mr. Roblin is the head of the Government of one of the Provinces with whom our Opposition friends would have us go into partnership in building the line. Yet not a word from Premier Roblin, good, bad or indifferent on the project. Clearly Mr. Roblin is not an enthusiast in the matter. Yet if he does not approve of it, about how many years do our Opposition friends think they would require to convince him of its desirability? And until he was convinced to the degree of five or ten million dollars their enterprise could not go on.

The Tariff. Equally impressive was the Premier's splendid outburst of silence on the tariff. A month ago Mr. Roblin was touring Ontario with Mr. Borden, listening to the appeals that gentleman made to the "interests" of the manufacturing centres. Yet he missed last night the opportunity to tell his Strathcona hearers how the "interests" picked up their ears when Mr. Borden told them he would head off competition and give them an open field for fleeing the Strathcona consumers. Not a word from Mr. Roblin on the tariff—now why?

The Speculator's Friend. Another omission in connection with the subject he discussed. He was characteristically loud in denunciation of men who he alleged had bought land and timber for less than it was worth. The speculator he seemed to want his audience to consider a man given over to evil and continually. Unfortunately Premier Roblin neglected to read his hearers records filed in the Prince Albert Land Titles Office touching his administration of land owned by the Province of Manitoba. Here is the list of nine sales made by the Roblin Government in the Quill Lake district, the price paid and the declared value being sworn to in each case.

(1) Two sections bought by Brandon speculator; price paid \$3,816, sworn value \$8,262.  
(2) One section bought by Brandon speculator; price paid \$1,068, sworn value \$4,314.  
(3) Two sections bought by Winnipeg speculator; price paid \$5,129, sworn value \$12,800.  
(4) Two sections bought by Winnipeg speculator; price paid \$5,120, sworn value \$12,800.  
(5) Two and one-half sections bought by Winnipeg speculator, price paid \$4,824, sworn value \$10,000.  
(6) One section bought by American speculator; price paid \$2,560, sworn value \$8,600.  
(7) Two and one-quarter sections bought by Winnipeg speculator, price paid \$3,107, sworn value \$8,810.  
(8) One section bought by Winnipeg speculator, price paid \$2,568, sworn value \$6,000.  
(9) Seven and one-quarter sections bought by Winnipeg speculator, price paid \$14,982, sworn value \$50,000.

These lands approximate 13,000 acres, and were sold by the Conservative government to speculators for \$44,655, and the speculators swore the lands were worth \$127,406, a loss to the Province of \$82,751, or about \$6.40 an acre.

Neither did the worthy Premier explain the sound policy and unclouded wisdom of his selling \$0,000 acres of "good agricultural land" in bloc for four miles from Winnipeg for four dollars per acre.

If the speculator be the theme Premier Roblin is splendidly qualified to speak. In his limited sphere he has done more for the speculator and done it oftener than any other man entrusted with power in this Western country during the present generation.

As To Newspapers. The "Globe" was another topic Mr. Roblin considered of more importance than his party's platform, and he launched against it the re-hashed libel which ended his Ontario tour. Here again the Premier's memory failed.

year or so ago a man named Geo. W. Woods was rounded up by Premier Roblin's Government for running a "bucket shop" in Winnipeg. Woods countered by entering action for libel against the Winnipeg Telegram, Roblin's Winnipeg newspaper. But the trial never came off. Mr. Woods was allowed to slip across the boundary and the suit against the Telegram was dropped. If newspapers be the subject the Premier is qualified to speak, but his memory seemed to slip a cog when he reached this point last night.

The people of Alberta take their politics as serious matters of business. They demand, and claim the right to demand, that a man who professes to discuss the political questions of the day shall do so. They hold that a party clamoring for office is bound to enunciate the principles on which they would govern if given power.

This Mr. Roblin knew, yet he avoided the important issues of public policy as he would avoid pit-falls.

On Mr. Borden's land policy for Alberta he had nothing to say because he refused to accept a similar policy for Manitoba.

On the Hudson Bay railway policy endorsed by the candidate for whom he spoke, he had nothing to say, for the sufficient reason that he would not be a party to such a bargain.

On the immigration question he declined to expound Mr. Borden's policy because he knew that policy to be founded on the false assumption that the immigrants to Canada are physical weaklings, mental misfits and moral lepers.

On Mr. Borden's tariff policy he had nothing to say because he knows the consumers of Alberta have no intention of sweating to make rich men richer.

On the Opposition trade policy he offered no comment, for a policy of restriction and prevention is not popular in a country whose welfare and whose future depend on the extension of markets and the increase of commerce.

These are the subjects which Alberta audiences are entitled to hear discussed for these are the subjects on which they vote and are going to vote. That Mr. Roblin avoided them means one of two things: he did not deem it politically expedient to discuss them, or that he does not share Mr. Borden's views. Of his disagreement with Mr. Borden, Mr. Roblin gave ample evidence in the "Winnipeg conspiracy" of a year ago; his speech last night was an eloquent announcement that he has no intention of trying to popularize so unpromising a contrivance as the "Halifax platform."

The Programme. According to Premier Roblin, the Opposition policy seems to amount to this:

Tariff—Keep mum.  
Trade—"Nothin' doin'."  
Immigration—Not expedient to say.  
Agriculture—Don't know.  
Transportation—Oppose all Government plans.

Finance—Don't know.  
Public Land—Shut up.  
Halifax platform—0 0 0 0 0

ANOTHER CORPSE ON THEIR HANDS.

Another slander has expired. For months the Opposition have been assailing the Government as guilty of most of the crimes mentioned in the catalogue in connection with the purchase of land for an additional car shop and yards for the Intercolonial at Moncton. We do not hear much of this alleged "scandal" now. Why?

A reason that suggests itself is that the man who valued the land is now an Opposition candidate in a New Brunswick constituency. When the management of the Intercolonial found these premises necessary they engaged a real estate agent to get prices on land suitably situated. He presented a list of available properties with the prices asked. This list was submitted to Mr. F. W. Sumner, of Moncton, an expert valuator. Mr. Sumner certified that the prices asked were fair and reasonable and on his report the offers were accepted, and the money paid over. Mr. Sumner is now the Conservative candidate in the constituency of Westmoreland. But he is not making his campaign on the ground of extravagance in the purchase of the Moncton yard site. What has been a "scandal" at Ottawa and westward was not a scandal in New Brunswick. Since his appearance in the field the "Moncton land deal" has disappeared from the scandal list—a pretty good admission that it would never have been there had its authors "only known." The shade of this slander now haunts its premature discomfiture with the ghost of that other "deal" which met an untimely end at the hands of the Medicine Hat City Council, the Medicine Hat Board of Trade and the Medicine Hat Agricultural Society.

CONVICTING ITS FRIENDS.

The Winnipeg Telegram has "let itself in" again. A big land sale was held in Regina a few days ago, and the Telegram, with customary pomp and circumstance, declared the land had been stolen from the people by some rascally combination. Now it turns out

that the land was part of the grant made by the late Conservative Government to the promoters of the Regina, Qu'Appelle and Long Lake railway. In the forefront of the company receiving the grant stood and stands Mr. E. B. Osler, Conservative member of the last Parliament for a Toronto constituency. If the land was stolen then it was stolen by the late Conservative Government, and Osler & Hammond stand condemned by the Telegram as receivers of stolen goods.

MR. DALY DOES SOME FIGURING.

Mr. T. Mayne Daly endorsed the other day the estimate of an American statesman that every new settler is worth \$1,000 cash to the country. Mr. Daly took office in 1892 when the immigrants numbered 26,455, worth at his figures \$26,455,000. When he left office in 1896 the newcomers numbered 16,835, worth at his price \$16,835,000. By his own calculation and his own departmental records therefore Canada was \$12,620,000 per year worse off on the immigration item alone when he left office than when he took it.

Mr. Daly's successor found immigration at 16,835 per year in 1896, worth at Mr. Daly's figure \$16,835,000. In 1907 the immigrants numbered 27,376, worth at Mr. Daly's rate \$27,376,000. According to Mr. Daly, therefore, on the immigration item alone Canada is \$20,540,000 per year better off now than when he left office.

THE NATIONAL RAILWAY.

It may be candidly admitted that the Intercolonial has never been a paying proposition, judged by commercial standards. It was not built with that end in view. It was constructed to serve the purposes of the Confederation, and was an essential part of the compact between the Upper and Lower Provinces. Without it Confederation could not have been made any more than a political and sentimental union. The concrete element would have been lacking, and the vast commerce which is now carried on between Ontario and the Maritime Provinces would have been limited to the exchanges that were practicable during the months of open navigation by way of the St. Lawrence.

The Situation Misunderstood.

This situation will not be questioned. Yet it is not generally understood in the Provinces west of Quebec. There is a widespread feeling that the Intercolonial does not pay its way. It ought to be made to do so. It has cost upwards of \$30,000,000, and the sustained absence of any direct return upon this large investment is viewed with impatience. Under these circumstances, however, given the allegations of mismanagement, of extravagance, of the kind which the people who do not know the facts, it may seem that the measure resorted to of operating are due to political control, and that in other hands a profit would be realized.

Pledges Must Be Kept.

Let it be said at once that a fair dividend on the cost of the Intercolonial in Canada, if it would have been carried off the freight and passenger rates were raised. These rates are exceedingly low. For example, the Government system were given the rates which the Canadian Pacific charges, to say nothing of scores of other lines operating in Canada, it would have a yearly surplus of millions. But there are serious difficulties in the way of applying the rates. In the first place, like no other railway in the Dominion, the Intercolonial is exposed to water competition at every point. It is a public trust, and it is along its 1,500 miles of line. Anything like a substantial advance in rates would have the immediate effect of diverting business to the St. Lawrence or the Bay of Fundy. But that is not all. Such an increase would be bitterly resented by the people of the Maritime Provinces, who would feel that the bargain made with them as respects the Intercolonial had been broken.

Comparison as to Administration.

A fair test of administration would be found in measuring the relative success of the two parties in dealing with the situation under these unavoidable conditions. Which of them has displayed the better skill in conducting the business of the road? At once two or three striking facts are suggested. From 1875 down to 1896 there was a practically unbroken record of deficits, the aggregate of which ran into many millions. Deficits have occurred since 1896, but on the whole have been a material improvement in results. These capable Ministers in the Liberal regime—Hon. A. G. Blair, Hon. H. R. Emmerson, and Hon. G. P. Graham—have done much to lay a new and better foundation for the carrying on of the Intercolonial, the full effects of which will be realized in years to come. They have already been manifested in a happy series of surpluses since 1896.

Partnership Discouraged.

The financial results of Liberal administration are not perhaps so important as the character of another character. It cannot be denied that during the years between 1875 and 1896 the Intercolonial was not regarded as a public trust, but as a valuable piece of partisan machinery. Politics came in at every point. When an election occurred, thousands of men were carried over the line on passes; the employees of the road were in many cases active campaigners; political and party considerations were known to be the reward of effective services to the party; the utmost demoralization came in the end, extending to every branch of the service, prevailed; the men were under constant espionage as

to their political sympathies. These are hard things to say, but they are amply substantiated by the records.

All this has been changed. The employees of the Intercolonial are no longer in respect of their political opinions as are the employees of any other railway or any industrial establishment in the Dominion. In 1896 they were given a classification and schedule which works automatically, and which is identical with that of the Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk. From one end of the line to the other every man in the service of the Government railway knows that he will be dealt with on his merits; that his political views have nothing whatever to do with his pay; that he is absolutely emancipated from the conditions which surrounded him prior to 1896. In other words, his being on the Intercolonial does not affect his freedom in respect of his vote in the slightest degree.

Fair Argument.

In all conscience it ought to be admitted by everyone that if Liberal Ministers in charge of the Intercolonial had done no more than this they would be entitled to public approbation. But they have done much more. A little later, however, they have made it one of the best equipped and best conducted lines on this continent. They have stopped the losses, introduced reforms. In a word, they have shown themselves capable and above reproach. They have been true to their trust.

MR. FOSTER'S "WORK."

Montreal Herald: Mr. Foster's work as he once was to carry the far to work with some old friends of his, who held high places in the Independent Order of Foresters. Mr. McGillis, a little later, however, he was made to the head of the order, Dr. Oronhyatekha. Hon. Dr. Montague, him one of the events of the campaign, had been made much of and provided for. It was no surprise when Mr. Foster joined the commission, and he was provided the money for the United Trust Company to work with. Mr. Foster thought he "saw" the money, and he was a "stable combination." He was not wrong, at least in respect of profits to himself. Montague was the first to the way. Enjoying the confidence of the Supreme Chief Ranger and of Mr. Foster, Dr. Montague began to lay along the activity in Northwest lands. He was the means of bringing in a deal involving 40,000 acres of land, for which the Foresters' funds went out at five dollars in acre. Encouraged by this success, the experiment was repeated on 62,240 acres. The result was a block of 9,520 acres floated in through the now well-deepened channel. On these deals \$579,000 of the Foresters' money was put up, the only security being that of the land, a highly speculative commodity. The "profit" of the deal was \$100,000. Both the very first of these land deals Mr. Foster expected a commission of \$5,000 for himself, and the Foresters' money rule he stuck to it. When the third lot came in, he allowed the price "to the Trust Company to be raised from \$5 to \$12.50 an acre. He got a cheque for himself for the extra twenty-five cents an acre, or \$2,480. He was not alone in this. Mr. Foster's colleagues from Calgary have won some little distinction at Ottawa for courage and ability chiefly on account of the money which the Conservative representatives from the West. Both are fighting for their lives with the odds against them.

While in Ontario Mr. Borden daily debates upon his policy of adequate protection. He, however, lacks the frankness and effective initiative of John A. Macdonald, who is urging the National Policy in 1896 showed how high he was willing to raise the tariff wall. "Let the manufacturers tell me the protection they want," said Sir John, at Hamilton, "and I will give them the protection they need." As Mr. Borden stands for the old N.P., we can not assume this is his opinion too?

The reappearance of Mr. Mayne Daley, ex-minister of the interior, as a candidate in Brandon recalls what he said in a letter to him in his address to his constituents in 1896: "We have a rich country in western Assiniboia, but its wealth has not yet been made available, because of the utter want of originality of mind that has characterized the management of the department of the interior." Both

In this respect, however, he deserves only honorable mention beside Senator Longueue, who would likely claim the same position in a Borden cabinet. The Liberals in South Toronto have joined forces with the Labor party there and have declined to put a candidate in the field. The combination is a recognition of the Liberals of Toronto of the harmony of interests that has identified the just claims of labor with an administration that in the last twelve years has ceased the wages of the workmen 35 per cent. to 50 per cent, and protected him by specific legislation like the alien labor law, abolition of the sweating system in government contracts, fair wages act applying to all government contracts, an act for the protection of workmen engaged on public work, tax of \$500 on Chinese laundries, and the establishment of a separate department of state to deal exclusively with the growing and pressing interest.

The great reception given to Sir Wilfrid Laurier in Quebec last week recalls the speech he delivered in that city on

June 26, 1877, three months before he entered the government. Alexander MacKenzie on "Political Liberalism." Mr. Willison, his biographer, states that "no more courageous, more powerful or more admirably balanced deliverance has ever been made from the platform in Canada." It was a critical turn in the fortunes of the Liberal party in Quebec, and in the career of the young statesman. He had to respect the Conservative instincts of the English speaking people of his province, to consider the racial sensitivities and religious feeling of the French Canadians and to command the favorable judgment of the great body of the Liberal party throughout Canada. In all the great speeches he has made during his thirty-seven years of public life, and he has made many, none have been greater for argument, eloquence, and exalted patriotism. Those who have followed the Premier's speeches in Ontario and his great speech in Quebec last week will recognize that the orator of thirty years ago has lost none of his power, balance and literary excellence, and that the basis of his liberalism is the same as when he was a preacher. Lafontaine, "Bordenism" among all classes in the nation.

It is noteworthy that in his speech last week in the Ancient City, composed largely of his French-Canadian compatriots, the premier dealt with emphasis on the loyalty of Canadians to the British Crown, and pointed out that the Liberal party was working for imperialism by the construction of military armaments and other military policies that have increased the strength and protection of the British Empire.

Our trade with Great Britain has, primarily due to the British preference, increased from \$82,717,941 in 1896 to \$128,194,124 in 1906. Yet Mr. Borden would abrogate the preference and go back to a quid pro quo. And this he would do by a preference for the United States, which would be taken on the Union Jack.

Liberal all over the Dominion will be glad that the Premier of debate in Canadian politics, Sir Richard Cartwright, is in good health and is able to address a series of meetings in Ontario. He was the star attraction at Association hall in Toronto last Wednesday where he delivered one of his illuminating and closely reasoned addresses on the issues of the day. Sir Richard is not as able as he once was to carry the far cross through the country. But his long years of honorable public service, his high character, and his mastery of the most difficult subjects coupled with an erudite knowledge of fiscal history and economic problems make a speech from him one of the events of the campaign. His voice is potent and inspiring still.

Two seats in Saskatchewan that are safe are Battleford and Saskatchewan. Geo. McCreary of Rosetown the former member is being opposed by what the News says is an energetic young Conservative, George Lowrey, an energetic, young Liberal and the difference between energetic young Liberalism and militant energetic young Liberalism is 200 votes per campaign. Mr. Champagne or "Cham," as he is called by the people, knows his riding well and has it well organized. The Toronto News concedes his election.

Great interest is being taken throughout the west in the contest in Qu'Appelle where Mr. R. S. Lake, ex-M.P., is being opposed by Mr. J. T. Brown, Mr. Brown is a gentleman of great personal force and ability and is putting up a splendid fight against his opponent, Mr. Lake. Mr. Lake's colleagues from Calgary have won some little distinction at Ottawa for courage and ability chiefly on account of the money which the Conservative representatives from the West. Both are fighting for their lives with the odds against them.

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In this respect, however, he deserves only honorable mention beside Senator Longueue, who would likely claim the same position in a Borden cabinet. The Liberals in South Toronto have joined forces with the Labor party there and have declined to put a candidate in the field. The combination is a recognition of the Liberals of Toronto of the harmony of interests that has identified the just claims of labor with an administration that in the last twelve years has ceased the wages of the workmen 35 per cent. to 50 per cent, and protected him by specific legislation like the alien labor law, abolition of the sweating system in government contracts, fair wages act applying to all government contracts, an act for the protection of workmen engaged on public work, tax of \$500 on Chinese laundries, and the establishment of a separate department of state to deal exclusively with the growing and pressing interest.

The great reception given to Sir Wilfrid Laurier in Quebec last week recalls the speech he delivered in that city on

June 26, 1877, three months before he entered the government. Alexander MacKenzie on "Political Liberalism." Mr. Willison, his biographer, states that "no more courageous, more powerful or more admirably balanced deliverance has ever been made from the platform in Canada." It was a critical turn in the fortunes of the Liberal party in Quebec, and in the career of the young statesman. He had to respect the Conservative instincts of the English speaking people of his province, to consider the racial sensitivities and religious feeling of the French Canadians and to command the favorable judgment of the great body of the Liberal party throughout Canada. In all the great speeches he has made during his thirty-seven years of public life, and he has made many, none have been greater for argument, eloquence, and exalted patriotism. Those who have followed the Premier's speeches in Ontario and his great speech in Quebec last week will recognize that the orator of thirty years ago has lost none of his power, balance and literary excellence, and that the basis of his liberalism is the same as when he was a preacher. Lafontaine, "Bordenism" among all classes in the nation.

It is noteworthy that in his speech last week in the Ancient City, composed largely of his French-Canadian compatriots, the premier dealt with emphasis on the loyalty of Canadians to the British Crown, and pointed out that the Liberal party was working for imperialism by the construction of military armaments and other military policies that have increased the strength and protection of the British Empire.

Our trade with Great Britain has, primarily due to the British preference, increased from \$82,717,941 in 1896 to \$128,194,124 in 1906. Yet Mr. Borden would abrogate the preference and go back to a quid pro quo. And this he would do by a preference for the United States, which would be taken on the Union Jack.

Liberal all over the Dominion will be glad that the Premier of debate in Canadian politics, Sir Richard Cartwright, is in good health and is able to address a series of meetings in Ontario. He was the star attraction at Association hall in Toronto last Wednesday where he delivered one of his illuminating and closely reasoned addresses on the issues of the day. Sir Richard is not as able as he once was to carry the far cross through the country. But his long years of honorable public service, his high character, and his mastery of the most difficult subjects coupled with an erudite knowledge of fiscal history and economic problems make a speech from him one of the events of the campaign. His voice is potent and inspiring still.

Two seats in Saskatchewan that are safe are Battleford and Saskatchewan. Geo. McCreary of Rosetown the former member is being opposed by what the News says is an energetic young Conservative, George Lowrey, an energetic, young Liberal and the difference between energetic young Liberalism and militant energetic young Liberalism is 200 votes per campaign. Mr. Champagne or "Cham," as he is called by the people, knows his riding well and has it well organized. The Toronto News concedes his election.

Great interest is being taken throughout the west in the contest in Qu'Appelle where Mr. R. S. Lake, ex-M.P., is being opposed by Mr. J.