

## VERMILION LIBERALS DO HONOR TO MR. CUSHING

Enthusiastic Meeting of Liberal Association of Vermilion Constituency. Fine Representation of Delegates From Every Corner of Riding. Dr. Ryan Elected President. Mass Meeting Held in C. N. R.'s New Freight Shed. Minister of Public Works' Masterly Summing up of Conditions Under Liberal Administration.

Bulletin Staff Correspondence. Vermilion, Nov. 2.—The annual meeting of the Liberal Association of Vermilion, held here yesterday was a huge success, the outlook for the future being pronounced exceptionally good. In the evening a large banquet was tendered Hon. Mr. Cushing, Minister of Public Works, in recognition of his excellent work during his term of office, and the thoroughly capable legislation which he has introduced in regard to various public works.

Forty stalwarts were present in the afternoon at the organization meeting, and matters were arranged with a swing. They were an enthusiastic body of men, including such prominent workers in the party as J. B. Holden, M.P.E., E. A. Walker, M.P.E., and Mr. White, who has recently resigned from the position of Dominion Land Agent.

Resolutions of confidence were passed in Sir Wilfrid Laurier's administration, and in strong approval of the Land Bill of Hon. Frank Oliver. At the election of officers which took place during the meeting, Dr. G. H. Ryan was made president.

Enthusiastic Public Meeting. But it was at the public meeting at night that the vigorous young town of Vermilion gave rousing evidence of its Liberal sympathies. The new freight shed erected by the C. N. R. was the scene of a mass meeting, over 300 being present.

Dr. McIntyre, M.P., gave a vigorous address, which commended itself to his audience as his speeches always do, whether in the Commons or on the hustings. He was followed by the Minister of Public Works for the province.

Splendid Reception for Minister. Mr. Cushing was enthusiastically received. He began by offering his thanks for the friendly reception. While the banquet was in his honor he knew that it was intended as a tribute to the Liberal party in the Province and the Dominion.

Taking up the record of the Alberta government Mr. Cushing said: "It is only necessary for me to draw your attention to recent statements of leading Conservative papers in this province to convince you that we have won even the praise of our opponents. The Calgary Herald says it has no fault to find with the government, and the Strathcona Chronicle admits that it cannot find anything amongst the acts of the administration to criticize. This will prove to the people of Canada a unique government; that even our opponents are forced to admit that they cannot find any bad spots on our record."

Government's Telephone Policy. "Now, what has the Alberta government done for the people of Alberta since it came into power a little over two years ago? You are all interested in the telephone system which we have established in this province, and I want to say right here that there is not another province in Canada that can boast of such a system. Manitoba says it is going to have one, but up to the present not a line of wire has been strung. What is the case in Alberta? Today we have over 600 miles of wire strung, more than the Bell Telephone company, which has been in the field for years, possesses. Before the end of this month towns and villages to the number of twenty or more will possess telephone exchanges and connection with other parts of the province. Had other places depended upon the Bell company for long distance connection they would have still been waiting to serve the people and rid them of monopolistic influences, has in the first two years of its history provided a vast territory and a large population with this great convenience.

"We hope to have every city, town, village and hamlet on the government lines before many years have passed. Then we are going to make a feature of the rural lines that will enable the farmers to have telephones in their homes so that they can keep in touch with the outside world. Some of you may ask, will this telephone system enable us to talk with our sister provinces, Manitoba and Saskatchewan? Yes, I have every reason to believe that it will. Manitoba intends to construct a government system, and it is almost certain that Saskatchewan will do likewise. Then we would have three government systems in Western Canada, and there is no doubt about it that connections could be made for long distance service.

The achievement of the Alberta government in this matter of telephones is worthy of the support of the people of this province. It puts in the hands of the people one of the greatest of public utilities, and puts Alberta to the forefront amongst the provinces of the Dominion.

Difference in Politics. "Mr. Borden, the Conservative leader, says he is in favor of public owned telephones and telegraphs, but there is a vast difference in his policy on this matter and that of the Liberal government of Alberta. He wants to buy out the Bell Telephone company. He will not undertake the installation of a government system. When the provincial government had decided on its telephone policy it intimated to the Bell Telephone that they were willing to purchase their long distance lines. It was not until the government sent to the Alberta government its going forward with its policy to provide for the people of Alberta a complete tele-

phone system owned by the government. "Mr. Borden also finds his party divided on the public ownership policy. One of his supporters is Mr. E. B. Osler, M.P., a C. P. R. director, and another is Senator Loughheed, a solicitor of that company at Calgary, and Conservative leader in the Senate. It is hardly likely that these gentlemen would use their influence to support the telephone system of the C. P. R. or for government telephones either. If they favored one they would be compelled in all reason to favor the other."

"We have heard a great deal recently about the monopolistic feature of the C. P. R. Telegraph company in this country. I believe our government telephone systems may be the means of making even the telephone company respect the people. It would be easy for us at any time to install a telegraph system in this province. In fact, with government systems in Manitoba and Saskatchewan also, we could have a telegraph system covering the entire west, as it would be an easy matter to string an extra wire on our telephone poles to provide us with a telegraph service.

The Government Creameries. "What has the Alberta government done? It is worthy of notice that its government ownership policy is not confined to telephones. We find it in the creameries. The output of the government creameries, eighteen in number, last year was over one million pounds and the average price per pound paid the farmers after meeting all expenses was 21 cents.

Our educational system is being rapidly extended, laws for the general advancement of the province have been passed, and in the words of the Winnipeg Tribune, one of the most independent newspapers in the West: "The Alberta government can lay claim to being one of the best in the Dominion."

Mr. Borden and Purity. Mr. Cushing took up some issues in Dominion politics. He said: "When Mr. Borden toured through this province he enlarged on the purity of his platform on purity. When Conservative leaders now talk of purity I do not think the people of Canada are forgetful of the perfect reign of corruption that prevailed when they were in power. When a political party has been passed, and in the words of the Winnipeg Tribune, one of the most independent newspapers in the West: "The Alberta government can lay claim to being one of the best in the Dominion."

Public Debt. "Mr. Borden stated that in the platform of the Liberal party in 1893 we repudiated the public debt. Yes we did, but it was time to deplore it. The Conservative government of that day were repaying thirty million dollars of that debt. Oh, the money they got out of tax cuts, and they have the privilege of casting all the votes.

"What were the conditions during the closing years of Conservative rule? The country was in a state of stagnation; little if any progress was being made; the country was being drained of its resources; people were emigrating to the United States by thousands. Confidence in the government was destroyed. There was an abundance of remunerative labor; and the humiliating spectacle was seen of seven members of the cabinet going out on strike against their leader, who, subsequently declared that they constituted a 'nest of traitors.' Corruption on a stupendous scale had been revealed in the large spending departments. Scandal succeeded scandal, until the people were thoroughly disgusted and alarmed. Many of them are still fresh in our memory. There were the disgraceful Lal, McCreedy-Langevin, and the notorious Curran bridge affair; the Tay canal and many others; but in the year 1896 the party was not an ordinary political victory; it changed the front and destiny of Canada.

Happier Days. "It is undeniable that the country is and has been since the change of government, highly prosperous; that business of almost every kind is progressing—nay, flourishing; that there is an abundance of remunerative labor; lots of work for every honest man to turn his hands or brains to. Our great natural resources and transportation channels have been and continue to be developed. Immigration is flowing our way and the tide of prosperity seemed to turn our way almost concurrent with the change of government, and it has flowed in increasing measure year by year ever since.

Evidenced in Alberta. "In no part of Canada does the record of the Federal government find more convincing evidence of its merit than in Alberta. Prior to the advent of the Liberals to power in 1896, the West was barely known, and what little was known it was not creditable as it had been left to rot along by itself by the Conservative party when in power. A great portion of this province was pronounced worthless and in consequence very little population came into the country. What a change since then! The Liberals came into power and shook up the dry bones and started out to show the world that Western Canada was the brightest gem in the Canadian crown. The government pursued an aggressive immigration policy throughout Europe. They advertised our country in every land and told off the rich and the poor, and the old and the young. People read and were astonished. They came across the waters or over the boundary line and settled upon land that few years ago had been classed as worthless.

"The prosperity of this country today is the policy of the Liberal government at Ottawa. Their record all through has been for the upbuilding of Canada. Facts and fig-

ures tell the tale and our Conservative friends cannot combat these arguments and so they talk of scandals, forgetting their own record of corruption of only a few years ago. The Conservative party has made insinuations but up to the present they have failed to present any direct charges. Compare that with the attitude of the Liberals in the McCreedy and Langevin scandals. At that time the Liberals on the floor of the House of Commons made direct charges, furnished the evidence and prosecuted their case. Today we have men in the Conservative party who have been proved guilty of tactics not creditable to public men—refer to Messrs. Foster, Fowler and others connected with the insurance scandals, and yet they are allowed to occupy the high seats in Mr. Borden's following. It is high time our opponents had a house cleaning themselves instead of travelling over the country making insinuations that up to the present they have not furnished the evidence to substantiate. The Liberal government can trust the affairs of our country to men of that calibre.

The Conservative leaders declare they laid the foundation stone. It reminds me of a story of a farmer, when down in Ontario. That was in the middle of the road, scraping and throwing dirt and making a tremendous fuss, and a man came along and said to the farmer: 'What are you doing?' 'I am building a road,' said the farmer. 'A corner stone was laid over at the church yesterday and the fact is, the road is being built by the people.' 'I know it to be a positive fact that not only in this country was everything at the lowest possible ebb in Ontario, but the farmers were not making a living. Many of them went out of business; sold their farms for a great deal less than their value; sold off their stock for a mere song and left the country. Prof. F. W. Hodson, of the Agricultural College at Guelph, stated at that time he saw no hope for Ontario. The tariff wall in the United States was so high that Canadian farmers could not be exported into the United States, and he did not see any hope of things improving.

What the Change Wrought. "But a change of government came in 1896. What happened? Where the Conservative government failed to make terms with the United States, the Liberal government succeeded in making such arrangements with the United States that immediately Canadian cattle went up five and ten dollars a head. The policy of immigration and the breaking his own neck, now the farmers all over Canada—East and West—are prosperous, and notwithstanding the increase in prices in some places this year the increase in prices and the demand for the products of the farm cannot be met. The result was that in 1896 the per head of the population was fifty dollars and some, but in 1900 it was forty-four dollars and some, so there has been an actual reduction of the debt. The government has made improvements of six dollars per head in the population.

"For three years before the change of government the interest of five friends had deficit after deficit. In the first year of Liberal administration the broken bank of the country was a divided responsibility. There was a small deficit. Then the Liberal administration obtained a firm grasp on public affairs. This applied to this Canada has never known a deficit. Take the ten years up to 1900 of the present Liberal administration and the whole period of eight years of the Conservative party, and what do we find? The country has had a few million surpluses, we have surplus running into millions. The legislation and administration of the government in the interest of the people has been a beneficent and radical character.

Sweating System Abolished. "The Liberal government appointed by the Liberal government to investigate into the sweating system reported that practically all the military and other clothing manufactured for the government during the last five years of Tory administration had been manufactured through sub-contractors who employed women and girls to do the work in their own homes for a very meagre pittance and under improper and unsanitary conditions. As an illustration of the low wages paid it might be mentioned that in Montreal women manufactured heavy government clothing for two and a half cents an hour, or twenty-five cents a day of ten hours.

The Liberal government, when these facts were disclosed, promptly abolished the evil system and made provision against it in government contracts.

In concluding, Mr. Cushing paid a warm tribute of praise to the energetic local member, J. B. Holden, and mentioned the energetic attention he gave to his duties.

Senator Talbot also addressed the meeting, receiving a cordial reception from his hearers.

Banquet to Mr. Cushing. Following upon the public meeting was the banquet tendered to the Hon. Mr. Cushing. As the young town had not any public place available suitable large to accommodate the banquet party, Brinscopes' store was cleared and decorated, and tables placed there with covers for 150.

A fine report had been received, was for sale there has been some talk among baseball enthusiasts here about purchasing it, but nothing of a definite nature has been done. It is interesting to note that an Eastern League could be made to pay in Hamilton if it had an energetic manager. The

talk, so far, however, has been more of a league, and the suggestion has been made that Oswego and a couple of other New York State cities go in with Toronto, Hamilton, and London in a six-team league. Some baseball authorities in this city think this would be a paying proposition, and more may be heard of it in a short time.

GOVERNORS FOR NEW UNION. Toronto, Nov. 1.—An executive meeting of the Argonaut Football Club was held last night at the King Edward Hotel, with Mr. Robt. McKay, its president, in the chair. It was decided to suggest to the Inter-Provincial Union of Inter-collegiate football, consisting of men of prominence in all four cities Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton and Ottawa, to be formed with power to decide upon the status of all players, whose standing may be questionable. The Hamilton club is agreeable to the suggestion and it is understood that both Montreal and Ottawa are agreeable. The men in view are as follows: Toronto, T. P. Galt; Hamilton, A. B. Steele; Montreal, Leslie Boyd; Ottawa, P. D. Ross.

LABOR REPORT. J. A. Kinney, the Edmonton correspondent of the Labour Gazette, published by the Department of Labour at Ottawa, reports as follows on the conditions in the Edmonton labor market for last month: Labor was employed to about the same extent as last month. While the number of mechanics and laborers working is about the same as last year ago, the demand for labor does not show the usual increased activity evidenced in other years at this season. The supply of mechanics exceeds the demand. A permit was issued by the Provincial government for the erection of a new three-story, thousand dollar building to be used as a temporary legislative hall. Building permits issued from January 1st, 1900, to the present amount to \$2,000,000, owing to the stringency in the money market, a considerable part of any services started in the year.

Work on the government telephone system is progressing, and by the end of the year, about 400 miles will be in operation. The Lacrosse settlement is finished, as is the line from Watkinson to Dayland. The lines from Edmonton to the north are being graded and are progressing favorably; so also is the rural line north from Gregrville, which will be of great convenience to the farmers. When the present season's program is completed, the Public Works Department will have built in the neighborhood of 150 miles more than the job company has in the past ten years.

The new packing plant erected by the J. Y. Griffin Co. (Swift & Co.) will be one of the most important in the province. It will be equipped all through will be modern, with a capacity per day of 5,000 lbs. of hogs, 1,500 of sheep. The president of the Grand Trunk Pacific stated that the line would enter Edmonton next spring or early in the summer. Grading between Clover Bar Bridge and Saskatoon was well under way. Steel will be on the road for bridge building during the next sixty days.

During the beginning of the present month, the case, preferred by the provincial government against the Alberta Retail Lumbermen's Association for alleged combination in restraint of trade, has been received. The case also included an indictment or combining with the British Columbia manufacturers to arrest the sale of lumber and transportation of lumber. A feature of the case was the destroying of certain documents of the Lumbermen's Association. The case has been, for the present, postponed by the Deputy Attorney General to the 15th inst.

A number of settlers (about 50) left Edmonton some time ago for the Peace River country. They are in charge of the Peace River Colonization and Land Development Company with an office in Winnipeg. They are engaged in the settlement of 1,000 acres of land made by the government some time ago to the Roman Catholic church. It comprises four sections, and is about sixty miles northwest of Dunvegan. It is the intention of the company to place a settlement of 1,000 men in the section of government land in the block.

Condition of Particular Trades. Builders—Bricklayers and masons were fairly well employed in the city. Also to painters and paperhangers, a number of whom were unemployed. Plumbers will include about 1,500 and 5,000 metres. Robson will train especially for the short distance event. He had some communication with the others and blacksmiths were busy.

Printing—Printers and pressmen were quiet. Nothing—Journemen tailors were busy. Food and tobacco preparation.—Shoers and confectioners reported fair. Cabinetmakers were busy. Miscellaneous—Barbers and hotel employees were active. Unemployed labour.—The demand was fair with supply about equal.

AMATEUR ATHLETIC MEET. Madison Square Garden, Nov. 1.—While the winter has broken on the second night of the indoor meet of the Amateur Athletic Union last night, there was a mild sensation when John J. O'Connell, of the New York Athletic club, in the 60-yard event, defeated his clubmate, C. J. Seis, the holder of the national olympic and world's record for the distance. The final scores of the games give the New York Athletic Club 77 points, and the Irish-American Athletic club 77 points. Cos. of Boston, with feet 5-3-4 inches, about three feet short of Ralph Rose's record.

At the beginning of the first hour of the 60 yard run, W. J. Keating, of the Irish-American A. C. tripped over a projecting board and fell, sustaining injuries that will keep him out of the track for several weeks, it is believed. He had to be carried from the track. The five mile run was a grueling contest, and Bonhag was grateful to exert himself to win. Elbert P. Parsons, late of Yale, won the 600 yard race from Sheppard, after a tussle, by two yards. Harry Hillman, of the New York A. C. and Forest Smithson, of Portland, Ore., each won their heat in the 400 yard hurdles, but Hillman had little trouble in defeating them in the final.

SPORTING BRIEVITIES. Otta Roehm, of Buffalo, formerly the amateur champion wrestler of the United States, won his wrestling match with Charles Weidmann, champion of Ohio, at Batavia, in two straight falls. The Ohio club took up a bigger man than Roehm, but the latter's agility and toughness familiarly with the tricks of the mat won him a victory whenever he got him. Roehm worked easily until 35 minutes after shaking hands. The second was easier, but Weidmann made a gallant struggle. He succumbed in 25 minutes. Henry J. Priestner was the referee. The event was present at the Opera House, which was held in the Dwelling Opera House.

SPORTING NEWS. FOOTBALL IN ALASKA. Albion, Mich., Nov. 1.—Sturdy young Sequinos of Alaska will soon be playing football in America. As yet, however, they do not know the joy of the sound of cracking ribs or the yells of furious rooters anxious to see the pigskin cross the goal line. But Dr. F. H. Spence, formerly of Hillsdale, Mich., will soon be teaching them the science of the game. Dr. Spence is a Methodist missionary, and with his wife, left last summer for Unalakleet, Alaska, to take charge of the Jesse Lee Home, which is filled with the children of the Snowland. Recently he wrote his son, Jesse, who is now at Albion College, asking that a first-class football be forwarded to him. The football started on its journey last evening. Dr. Spence is also going to start sports familiar to the American people. It is probable that the Sequinos in the sequel will be the first to play the game of football.

HAMILTON IN EASTERN. Hamilton, Nov. 1.—Since it was stated that the Montreal Eastern League franchise was for sale there has been some talk among baseball enthusiasts here about purchasing it, but nothing of a definite nature has been done. It is interesting to note that an Eastern League could be made to pay in Hamilton if it had an energetic manager. The

key as played here, it is suggested that the colonial and foreign teams should play one another and England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales would meet in another competition.

Of any Anglo-Saxon country, Canada is the lowest in regard to strictly amateur standing of an athlete or association, and the fault lies at the door of the body of men supposed to handle the matter.

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A unique complaint is to come up before the National Baseball Commission at its present meeting. Our old friend Silk O'Loughlin intentionally robbed the Athletics of Philadelphia out of the pennant, and the umpire has asked Ben Johnson to make an investigation. If there is anything crooked about him, O'Loughlin wants the public to know it. When Mack was not after the pennant, Silk took a couple of close decisions from him, and the manager lost his temper. O'Loughlin is one of the great umpires of the country, and gives decisions as he sees them.

THE ENGLISH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION have been asked to arrange the hockey program in connection with the Olympic games next year, and invitations have already been sent to Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the Transvaal, France, Germany and Holland, but up to the present no acceptances have been received. As England is all-powerful at hockey as played here, it is suggested that the colonial and foreign teams should play one another and England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales would meet in another competition.

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DIRECT HAL, the unbeaten pacer, and promising sire is to be sold at auction by the Easting Tipton people. At the same time will be sold King Direct, Directum Kelly, and all the other horses owned by James Butler of the East View farm of thoroughbreds, and has already blossomed out as the owner of a running track.

A UNIQUE COMPLAINT is to come up before the National Baseball Commission at its present meeting. Our old friend Silk O'Loughlin intentionally robbed the Athletics of Philadelphia out of the pennant, and the umpire has asked Ben Johnson to make an investigation. If there is anything crooked about him, O'Loughlin wants the public to know it. When Mack was not after the pennant, Silk took a couple of close decisions from him, and the manager lost his temper. O'Loughlin is one of the great umpires of the country, and gives decisions as he sees them.

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