National Railway, his outline of what had been done and of progress already made, his declaration that the staff would be supported in every way in the discharge of their duty, and above all his unqualified assurance that "politics" would not be allowed to interfere with the management of this national undertaking, must have made all loyal Canadians rejoice that such a man had been selected as President.

* * * * *

PRESIDENT "CHARLIE" SUTHERLAND, and his colleagues, Messrs. Mahon and Butterfield among local journalists, were happy in their remarks on this important occasion, and their delivery in each case suggested men who were as much given to public speaking as they are experienced in summarising the speeches of others or commenting upon affairs of public interest. Following them, it was interesting to learn something of the impressions of Canada made on the Editor from Glasgow. But we cannot but repeat our regret that each and all of these so welcome visitors did not have more time to "size up" the West.

It may be permissible to record that the editor of this magazine was particularly gratified to meet the editor of the "People's Journal", Mr. George Glass, with whom, as younger men representing different journals, it was his lot to "report" not a few meetings and functions in other years.

PERHAPS EVEN SOME OF THOSE who wished to see a new government at Victoria will now be disposed to welcome the result of the bye-election at Nelson whereby Premier Oliver is once again assured of a seat; for many who were not enamoured of the government, and decidedly opposed to certain of its methods—and some of its men—may have retained a measure of appreciation for the hard-working Premier who, whatever his faults and failings, is generally admitted to be a good fighter and an honest man, and are not unwilling to see him occupy a comfortable "seat" as he grows older in community service.

Chastened a little possibly by his experience at Victoria, and then encouraged and re-inspired by Nelson's acceptance of him as its representative, Premier Oliver, provided he can retain power and fortify his government by men equally straightforward, may be able to hold on longer than the narrowness of the majority would suggest as likely.

The "Citizen" opposition at Nelson does not seem to have been cohesive or well enough organized; though the glamour of having the Premier of the Province as their representative —with all the added weight assured to consideration of local claims—would no doubt be an influence under all circumstances, especially with that not insignificant portion of the electorate who are not hide-bound partizans. Had Premier Oliver not been elected, the possibility of another election at an early date would have become almost a certainty.

As it is, all who, regardless of party affiliations, value clean democracy will look to the Premier to countenance such action in connection with investigation of the alleged irregularities in North Vancouver as will re-emphasize the application to him of the name "Honest John." If there has been any tampering with the ballot, a fearless exposure may lose the Premier's government one seat,—and yet at the same time help to prolong the life of the government.

Whatever happens, the people generally will look to the re-established government to make such changes re the "Absentee" vote as will prevent the recurrence of any procedure that can be questioned—much less create suspicion.

WANTED, A UNIFORM IMPERIAL POSTAGE SYSTEM! This is one of the things that ought to get early attention at any Empire Conferences. Why, for instance, the rate for carrying a post card from Britain to Canada should be three cents, while from Canada to Britain and also from Canada to the United States it is only two cents, is a

fair question. And pertinent to it is—How is it that many of the Old Country folk themselves seem to be under the impression that two cents is sufficient? This is proved by the constant receipt of understamped post cards at Vancouver Post Office.

THE POSTAL AUTHORITIES of Britain and the Empire's Dominions "beyond the seas" ought also to "get together" and systematize letter rates. The three-cent charge on post cards from Britain is offset by the fact that the ordinary letter rate from there is also three cents; whereas Canadians have to affix a four cent stamp. Surely "Postmasters-General" and postmasters generally in London, Ottawa and elsewhere throughout the Empire can arrange for uniformity in matters of such common and everyday imperial interest.

IT MAY ALSO BE OPPORTUNE to raise the question of imperial coinage. Canadian citizens need not be held less loyal to the Central Government at London when they suggest that the system of money division, by fives and tens, that obtains throughout the American continent has much to commend it—ahead of that of pounds, shillings and pence to which the central Homeland still clings—and which is thereby perpetuated in other parts of the Empire.

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