

## E. A. PARTRIDGE WRITES AN OPEN LETTER

Calling Upon the Farmers in Saltcoats and Humboldt to Defeat the Two Discredited Saskatchewan Politicians—A Plea for Government Ownership of Public Utilities.

To the Farmer Electors of Humboldt and Saltcoats:

Gentlemen,—  
On your constituencies has been conferred the doubtful honor of being regarded as providing "sure thing" seats for two discredited politicians who could not get elected in their own constituencies. Apparently you are expected to be sufficiently deficient in dignity to accept as your representatives other people's leavings.

To seek for nomination in outside ridings is sufficiently brazen under any circumstances, but to attempt to foist themselves on the electors of other constituencies after being defeated in their own, is an impertinence as well.

They have sacrificed the dignity of their leader also. By their stubborn clinging to power after defeat they made it practically impossible for him to do anything else than aid them in their designs upon your constituencies, even though he knew they would be hard for you to swallow.

The chance of your lives to influence for good, both political methods and the attitude of the rulers towards the ruled, lies before you.

If you give Mr. Scott a well merited rebuke for his unresponsiveness to public sentiment; if you would rid public life of two discredited politicians whose views are not in accord with public opinion; if you would strike a blow at machine methods by refusing to elect candidates selected by conventions manipulated by members of the cabinet; and above all, if you would pave the way for provincial government ownership and operation of elevators at all shipping points, the acceptance of the principle of government ownership and operation of provincial railways and the provincial government ownership and operation of coal mines and timber limits, in each case to at least the extent necessary to break the power of extortion enjoyed by the greedy corporations who now levy an inordinate tribute upon our people by virtue of their possession of these public utilities and natural resources; if you would accomplish these things then you must resist the return of Ministers Calder and Motherwell, electing men representative of yourselves in their stead.

The defeat of these men can be brought about and the government impressed with the necessity of hearkening to the voice of the people most effectively by the nomination of an Independent Liberal at a mass meeting of Liberal farmers called in each constituency for that purpose.

If, however, a mass meeting be not called, let the farmers turn out in force on nomination day and after such hurried consultation as may be carried on prior to the meeting, take action similar to that proposed to be taken at a mass meeting.

These candidates must be pledged to strive for the government ownership and operation of the public utilities and natural resources enumerated above, even to the length of helping to defeat the ministry should it decline to embody the demands of the farmers in legislation, but left free in other respects to give their support to the Liberal regime.

In constituencies so overwhelming Liberal in sentiment as Saltcoats and Humboldt, where opposition candidates would not have the ghost of a chance, such action as outlined above could be taken by independent Liberals without any risk of bringing about a party defeat, as the best and most intelligent elements among the non-Liberal farmers would no doubt hasten to discourage any attempt by rabid partisans to make party capital out of a situation designed to advance in a material way the interests of every farmer in the province. Moreover they would support the independent Liberal to a man.

Even should the unexpected happen, and three cornered fights be precipitated resulting in the election of Opposition candidates, the loss of the two seats to a party now enjoying a lead of thirteen in a house of forty-one would work no injury comparable to the benefit to be derived from teaching the government leaders that they cannot with impunity neglect the wishes of the great body of electors in matters having an immediate bearing upon their prosperity.

The lesson of a candidate, elected under such circumstances and on such a platform would be an impressive and salutary one, not alone to the party in power but to the leaders of the opposition as well, who also have signally failed to take advantage of every opportunity to champion the cause of the farmers during the last three sessions of the legislature.

The writer has made a close study of economic questions for many years and hence feels that he knows better than the majority of farmers the advantages that would accrue to the growers of grain by the storage facilities being taken out of private hands and placed in the hands of the public, and also the urgent necessity for making the railways highways operated for the convenience of the public.

and without the excessive charges and discriminations which characterize private operation. He knows the viciousness inherent in the practice of bonding railways above cost of construction, as is usually the case, and getting the government to guarantee the bonds as a means of securing their construction. This practice forever precludes the possibility of afterwards reducing rates to a legitimate level, either by law or governmental competition. The growers of grain and stockmen, as the largest freight producers, are the greatest victims of the greed of private-owned railways.

The extortion of mine owners and lumbermen can only be put an end to by the government developing the natural resources so as to break by their competition, the combine now successfully demanded of the people.

Is the writer not justified in making this appeal to you, though an outsider, when so many important consequences to all of the people of Saskatchewan seem to hang upon the action of the voters in your constituencies?

This chance to teach the party in power to give heed to the demands of the farmers, towards whom they have so far turned a deaf ear, if it were permitted to go by without being taken advantage of, would leave the government of the day invulnerable to successful attack for a long time. That is a long time to wait for much needed legislation.

In hope that it may be the means of starting a series of successful attempts on the part of the farmers to convince a majority of our lately elected law-makers, that they will no longer stand to have their legislative demands quietly ignored, this letter has been addressed to you.

Faithfully yours,  
E. A. PARTRIDGE.  
Sintaluta, Sask., Nov. 26, 1908.

### THE DOWAGER EMPRESS A WONDER

(Mail and Empire)

"How did a woman come to have the power of the Dowager Empress of China?" demands a correspondent who has always understood that in China women are treated as slaves and inferiors. Because she was a wonder, is the shortest answer, but her career must be reviewed if further explanation is desired. As a diplomat the Dowager Empress T'ai-Hsi (or T'ai-an, as she was also called) must take rank with Abdul Hamid of Turkey. The problem each had to solve was the same—the preservation of an empire and the woman at the end of all died the real ruler of her country while Abdul has been relegated to the position of figurehead. This was because the empress knew when to yield whereas the Sultan never learned that lesson until it was too late. Morally there is not much to choose between the pair. The word "morals" was in the vocabulary of neither.

To form a proper opinion of the Dowager Empress T'ai-Hsi, the standard of the west must not be applied to her. Unless she is judged according to the ethics of the east nothing at all admirable will be discerned in her wonderful rise from obscurity to world-wide fame, in an empire where careers like hers are only recorded at intervals of a century apart. Her exact origin is in dispute. She herself claimed to be of Manchu blood, a claim that is natural, inasmuch as the Manchus are aristocrats of China. Others say that she was of extremely humble origin. It is known that her father, who represented himself to be a Manchu noble, and who had fallen into disgrace at Peking, where he had held a sinecure, drifted into Canton in 1838, with his wife and little family. Whether T'ai-Hsi had blue-blood in her veins, or whether she was of common peasant stock, does not affect the fact that in 1838 her family sounded the depths of poverty.

Times were so bad with them that the father jumped at the chance of getting rid of his daughter to a Chinese merchant, whose household slave she became. T'ai was a pretty child and was fortunate in her "pocket parents." They gave her considerable education, and finding her competent, left household affairs in her hands. T'ai did all the buying of supplies, and thus early came into contact with the business world. So fond of her did her master and mistress become, and so proud of her beauty, that in 1848, when the emperor Hsien-Feng issued a call for extra wives, they were pursued to find T'ai go to Peking. The emperor really didn't need the wives, having already an empress, but according to Chinese law he was obliged to have a large establishment of them, and of Manchu descent, and all between the ages of 15 and 16. Candidates for the honor were required to repair to the imperial palace to be inspected, and thither some thousands of them journeyed in answer to the command.

We can imagine that T'ai-Hsi's claim to blue blood would be pretty thoroughly sifted by the court officials, and whether the girl discovered one with an itching plan, or whether she fairly proved her birth is a matter of speculation. She was pronounced perfect physically, and was given an enviable horoscope. It was her luck to be among the first ten successful applicants. So that she was installed with a few hundred other girls in the harem, and was left free to plan her next step. Constitutionally her position was no better than that of any other slave; but it gave her a great opportunity. It was for the real empress that she laid her snares, the other girls sought to fascinate the emperor. They succeeded one after the other, but T'ai-Hsi gradually came to be regarded by the empress as her best friend, and it was she who finally recommended T'ai-Hsi to the attention of the emperor. The other secondary wives she regarded as her rivals. T'ai Hsi was her friend. Introduced thus

favorably to Hsien-Feng's notice, T'ai-Hsi ingratiated herself with him. By the time the emperor died from Peking on the approach of the British and French, in 1860, T'ai had already borne him a son. The real empress had not, but out of friendship for T'ai-Hsi she made no objection to the child being made the favorite baby of the harem.

So when the emperor died T'ai-Hsi's son was declared to be his successor. His mother and the empress were declared to be his guardians, but as there is a Chinese law to the effect that no woman shall rule in China, a council was nominated to govern during the young emperor's minority. Then, for the first time, T'ai-Hsi showed her hand. She induced Prince Kung, the late emperor's brother, to have the council set aside in favor of the two empresses, and himself to become the real regent. She also installed him as her lover, and the prince succumbed to the double temptation. A charge was trumped up against the members of the council, and they were beheaded. Prince Kung proved something of a plotter himself, and the empress had

found him difficult to deal with during the latter years of the reign. But when her son came of age Kung was removed, and the path was once more made clear for her, as her own child was completely under control. His sudden death brought the Dowager the greatest problem of her career. Here legally and logically all her influence vanished like smoke. But T'ai-Hsi took a bold course. In the name of Emperor Hsien-Feng, who had now been dead fourteen years, she adopted another son, the child of her sister, and declared him the heir apparent. Her courage and audacity and the care she had taken in the course of her son's minority to remove her enemies and place her friends in the high places, carried off this coup, and thenceforward for 40 years, she was mistress of all China.

**HARDENED**  
Tom—I'm going to ask your father tonight for your hand. Tess—But you don't seem to be a bit nervous. Tom—No, I've been a life insurance agent and a book canvasser.—Pick-me-up.

**HE INHERITED IT**  
"George, I was terribly shocked today to hear our little Jimmie tell Baby Augusta to go to blazes. Where do you suppose he could possibly have learned to use such a dreadful expression?"  
"How the blazes should I know?"

**HE KNEW BY EXPERIENCE**  
A little boy who had just this season joined Sunday school was asked by his mother how he liked it. "Why!" exclaimed Charlie disgustedly, "they don't know much. The teacher asked what was the collect, and I was the only one who knew." And what did you say, my dear? "Why I told him pretty quick that it was a pain in the stomach."

The skyscraper had at last reached the limit.  
"You are quite a traveller I hear," remarked the man who lived on the ninety-sixth floor of the Shyhy hotel.  
"Yes," replied the man who lived on the one hundred and thirty-sixth floor. "Though less than forty years old I have already visited every floor in this building."—Kansas City Times.

**HE WAS A WARBLER**  
You could tell from his hair that he was a musician or something of the sort.  
"Yes," he said to the company at large, "the greatest tenor in the land once paid me the biggest compliment I could wish."  
"Oh?" remarked some one interrogatively.  
"It was like this: I sang without accompaniment—I always have trouble with accompaniment; they're so unsympathetic, you know—and at the end of the song he said to me:—  
"Do you know when you began without an accompaniment I was surprised, when I heard you I was astonished, and when you sat down I was delighted!"  
And the sun shone down and lit up the youths' beatific smile of satisfaction.—London Mail.

**IDENTIFIED HIM**  
A tramp passing through the waiting room of the North Western depot spied a small enamelled pin on the floor. He picked it up, looked it over in a careless way and pinned it on the lapel of his coat. The same tramp a few moments later was hit and knocked senseless by a switch engine in the freight yards. The trainmen picked him up and telephoned the police headquarters for an ambulance.  
"What did you say his name was?" came over the phone from the desk of the agent.  
"Don't know, the man is unconscious," replied the switchman.  
"Any papers on him by which you can identify him?" asked the sergeant.  
"Not a thing," phoned back the switchman.  
"Does he belong to any lodge or union?" inquired the sergeant.  
"Hold the line till I look," replied the switchman, and in a moment the desk sergeant was greatly surprised to receive the information:  
"Yes, he is a Lady Macabee."—Everybody's.

**LIFE**  
Life's a game of go and hustle, life's a thing of rush and bustle; Life's a play of brain and muscle, life's all jump and buzz and whirl; Life's a game at whose beginning all the world is set a spinning, That the very thought of winning is itself a splendid spur.

Life's a thing of rough-and-tumble, life's a thing of laugh and grumble; Life's a thing of grab and tumble, life's a thing of jolt and jar; Life's a stretch of daisied meadows, life's a thing of glints and shadows, Life's a thing of maids and widows, smiles and tears and there you are.

But who plays the game a-loving, lifting, helping, never shoving, Laughing, singing, turtle-doving, through its jars and outs and ins, With a wife and little laddie or wee lass to call him daddy, Doesn't do so very badly, he's the chap who truly wins.

J. M. Lewis in American Magazine.

## STOVES, RANGES AND HEATERS

### G. R. McCOLL & CO.'S Specials for This Week

We have one carload of Stoves, Ranges and Heaters, which must positively be turned into cash before December 1. To do this we are placing on sale every Stove in our stock at LESS THAN WHOLESALE COST. This sale is now on and will be continued until every Stove is sold. The public know when G. R. McColl & Co. put on a CUT-RATE SALE they back up their advertisements by the actual facts. Come and see our Stoves and compare with values in other Regina stores.

### NOTE THE LIST! NOTE THE CUTS!

10 only Empire Steel Ranges, regular \$20.00. Sale Price \$14.25  
4 only Empire Steel Ranges, regular \$22.00. Sale Price 15.75  
3 only Empire Steel Ranges, 9-18, reg. \$55.00. Sale Price 40.75  
2 only Empire Steel Ranges, 9-20, reg. \$65.00. Sale Price 45.90  
2 only Empire Queen Ranges, 9-20, reg. \$60.00. Sale Price 44.50  
2 only Empire Queen Ranges, 9-20, reg. \$60.25. Sale Price 37.50

These Ranges are sold on absolute guarantee. They are not surpassed in Regina.

**HEATERS—**  
6 only Empire Hot Blast, No. 15, reg. \$15.00. Sale Price \$14.75  
7 only Empire Hot Blast, No. 18, reg. \$20.00. Sale Price 15.90  
5 only Sunny Empire, No. 60, regular \$10.50. Sale Price 5.50  
3 only Sunny Empire, No. 40, regular \$8.50. Sale Price 4.50  
2 only Sunny Empire, No. 30, regular 6.00. Sale Price 3.00

A few odd lines, and to clear we will sell at 20 per cent. below wholesale.

### Boys, Attention! BOKER'S SKATES BELOW COST

You will miss it if you don't come and see our Skates. Here are the cut prices:  
H. Boker's Regal, nickle-plate. Regular \$5.00. On sale \$3.25.  
H. Boker's Dominion, nickle-plate. Regular \$3.00. On sale \$2.00.  
H. Boker's Perfect Hockey. Regular \$2.50. On sale \$1.75.  
H. Boker's Charm, nickle-plate. Regular \$2.25. On sale \$1.50.  
H. Boker's Hockey Club, nickle-plate. Regular \$1.25. On sale 85c.  
H. Boker's Favorite, nickle-plate. Regular \$1.25. On sale 85c.  
Perfect Hockey, steel. Regular \$1.75. On sale \$1.30.  
Royal Hockey. Regular \$1.50. On sale \$1.00.  
Hockey Club. Regular 75c. On sale 45c.  
Also Tubes, Mic-Macs, genuine Acme, etc., at reduced prices.

### Men's Fur Coats

Men's Fur Coats, 1 doz. Regular \$35.00; on sale \$21.00.  
Men's Cloth Coats, 1 doz. Regular \$15.00; on sale \$7.50.  
Men's Cloth Coats, 1 doz. Regular \$10.00; on sale \$6.00.  
Men's Felt Shoes, from \$1.75 to \$2.45.

### SPECIAL GROCERY SALE

Canned Tomatoes, 1908; on sale at 10c tin.  
Canned Corn, 1908; on sale at 10c tin.  
Canned Peas, 1908; on sale at 10c tin.  
Canned Salmon, on sale 2 tins for 25c.  
Prunes, large size, 10c lb.  
Evaporated Peaches, 15c lb.  
Evaporated Apples, 10c lb.  
Coffee, regular 40c; on sale at 25c lb.

Cash and One Price to All. Telephone Orders Sent C.O.D. Phone 246

REMEMBER THE PLACE:

## G. R. McCOLL & CO.

Next Bank of Ottawa (Karl Boz Old Stand)

## COMIC AND SERIOUS

Johnny—Going to school?  
Tommy—Now, I don't have to; the candidate said he had never seen a more intelligent audience, and I was one of them.—New York Sun.

### WOMEN'S CLUBS ARE TRUMPS!

Winning Lady (triumphant)—I am sure none of you could guess where I learned to play bridge.  
Her Friendly Foe—You have never told me, but it was a correspondence school, was it not?

### HOW SHE KNEW

He—You seem hard of hearing and when I proposed you seemed to hear me all right.  
She—No, I really didn't hear you, dear, but you looked so foolish that I knew what you meant.

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J. M. Lewis in American Magazine.

## Save Money

### For Two Weeks

We are placing a number of Sets of Team Harness on sale at a Discount of Ten Per Cent. off regular prices.

Come with your money and take advantage of this sale.

**J. N. Stewart's  
Harness Shop**  
South Railway St. REGINA

### WE PRINT BY REQUEST

Recipe Easily Prepared at Small Cost, and Many Swear By It.

Mix the following by shaking well in a bottle, and take in teaspoonful doses after meals and at bedtime: Fluid Extract Dandelion, one-half ounce; Compound Kargon, one ounce; Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla, three ounces. A local druggist is the authority that these simple harmless ingredients can be obtained at nominal cost from our home druggist.

The mixture is said to cleanse and strengthen the clogged and inactive Kidneys, overcoming Backache, Bladder weakness and Urinary trouble of all kinds, if taken before the stage of Bright's disease.

Those who have tried this say it positively overcomes pain in the back, clears the urine of sediment and regulates urination, especially at night, curing even the worst forms of bladder weakness.

Every man or woman here who feels that the kidneys are not strong or acting in a healthy manner should mix this prescription at home and give it a trial, as it is said to do wonders for many persons.

"When we are married," said the girl, "of course you'll shave every morning. That's one of the rules of our club. We all agreed not to marry any man who wouldn't shave every morning."

"Well, what about the mornings I don't get home in time?" responded the young man. "I belong to a club too."—Philadelphia Ledger.

### THEIR HOPE. THE PEOPLE

Muskoka's Brave Battle for Needy Consumptives.

It is poor consolation to needy consumptives to say that the Government should make provision for the thousands who suffer and die from tuberculosis in Canada every year.

The Government should do a great deal more than they have yet dreamed of doing. But they are not doing it, and in the meantime twelve thousand die annually in the Dominion, from this dread disease.

As the situation is to-day, what would be the fate of many consumptives in Canada were it not for the two Houses for Consumptives in Muskoka that during the past eleven years, against many odds, have cared for upwards of three thousand patients in the earlier stages of the disease, whilst in the two sister institutions on the banks of the Humbler, those in the more advanced stages are treated. This work in Muskoka is one of pure philanthropy. From the day the first patient was admitted to the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives in April, 1902, not a single applicant has ever been refused admission because of his or her inability to pay.

The Government contributes \$1.50 per week per patient. The cost of maintenance is \$2.25 a week. The difference in the cost of maintenance of all needy patients has through these years been made up by private philanthropy.

The Secretary-Treasurer of the Association, Mr. J. S. Robertson, 347 King Street West, Toronto, writes us that, with the financial depression of the past year, the funds of the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives have suffered greatly. At the commencement of the winter season the Trustees have to face a heavily overdrawn bank account and have many obligations to meet.

Despite these financial worries every applicant is receiving careful consideration and patients are admitted as promptly as beds are made vacant. All through these years the institution has been maintained, not by any rich endowment, for such does not exist, but by the generous contributions of the masses of the people—the small sums rather than the large ones.

We frankly say that we do not know, in our experience, of a more worthy and deserving charity, and our hope is that the readers of these lines will respond to the appeal that is now made for funds for the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives.

Contributions may be sent to Mr. W. J. Gage, 34 Spadina Ave., Chairman of the Executive Committee, or to J. S. Robertson, Secretary-Treasurer of the National Sanitarium Association, 337 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario.

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