

THE ALBERTAN

W. M. DAVIDSON - President and Editor
A. A. MOORE - Business Manager
W. W. CHEELY - Managing Editor

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THE CHURCH, A SOCIAL CENTER

Dr. Ward of Calgary university, who has begun to draw public attention to the necessity of greater facilities for social intercourse, through the churches, has chosen a very opportune moment to bring his ideas before the public. In the next five years about \$2,500,000 will probably be expended in permanent church buildings of the most modern pattern in this city.

If Dr. Ward carries out his intention of visiting all the foremost social centers in American cities, while he is abroad this summer, and brings back to Calgary definite plans, and information for the wise spending of church funds, this alone will have justified the efforts of the promoters of Calgary university who have made such services available to the city.

Within the past two years, about one million dollars have been spent on church buildings and property in this city. These buildings have been designed for use for only about five hours each week; except for a dozen little societies each year these huge expensive buildings—samples of the finest architecture in western Canada, stand with locked doors for six days out of every seven. And this means that for these six days the large numbers of homeless young people in this city are practically forced to accept such crude social relaxations as are afforded by commercial agencies. Aside from the efforts of the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A., both of which are inadequate to meet the needs of the city, no organized effort is being made by any Christian body to direct or assist the young people from one Sunday to the next. They are left to drift from boarding house to moving picture show to public dance hall. The western Canadian cities offer the most meagre opportunities for social intercourse, for healthy amusement and legitimate entertainment, of any communities in the Dominion. Life is crude and raw; until very recently the theater was a very second-rate institution with a very second-rate offering; athletics are not very well organized and even now there is a scarcity of properly equipped playgrounds. Good lectures, musicals and concerts, such as may be heard almost any night in a large eastern or old country city, are rare. And added to this is the fact that almost half the population is homeless, living in crowded boarding houses and cheerless back bedrooms.

Yet with these problems to face and with a million dollars in cash to spend,—much of it acquired through increased values in real estate, the Christian churches have found no larger use for their money and energy than to erect unnecessarily expensive auditoriums, designed especially for use for four hours of each week, and Sunday school class rooms for but one hour each week. Beyond that the church has had no ambition to develop. With thousands of dollars in the treasury, the church has been content to see its hungry congregation wandering by the locked church doors for six nights of the week, in search of such doubtful pleasure, and coarse entertainment as is provided by commercial agencies animated wholly by a desire for gain.

The blame has not been on the ministers and church boards, however. Calgary has grown too rapidly for anyone to realize the necessities of the community fully; and the expenditure of the first million dollars in permanent church buildings has been directed according to the best standards of the community. But it is evident now that the pioneer church has a greater opportunity than has been realized. If the church people of Calgary are shown how to better serve the needs of the community it is likely that future expenditure will be directed to provide facilities which will alter social conditions considerably.

The idea of the institutional church has already been promoted extensively in Calgary by Rev.

G. W. Kerby, who was for nine years pastor of Central Methodist church, and who built up in the face of very great obstacles the nucleus of a splendid social center. Central Methodist church was the first church in western Canada to keep open house between Sabbaths, the first church to establish a gymnasium, a reading room and gathering place for the young men of the community, and the first church to open its kitchen for lunches for business girls.

Calgary has now outgrown the efforts of this one church, although for several years, the work was so comprehensive as to be an outstanding feature of church work in the three prairie provinces. It is time for a more ambitious scheme of organization.

THE TARIFF CHANGES

The government has spoken, and declared that it has nothing to offer in the way of tariff reductions for the western farmers. Britain has successfully withstood the attack of the interests with their tariff reform schemes, the United States is revolutionizing its fiscal policy, but the Tory government in control at Ottawa makes no change, sees no handwriting on the wall, and practically keeps the tariff where it was.

Considering the extension of the lead bounties, and the added protection given in that way by the government, the increase in the duty on some of the smaller items of food, the threatened change in the regulations respecting fruit in British Columbia, which is a protective measure, the government has really increased the burden of Canadian people rather than decreased it.

The duty on linotypes has been removed. That was provided for in the reciprocity pact. Linotypes are not manufactured in this country and the duty served merely as a toll upon the industry and enterprise of business firms which were using them. The duty should have been removed years ago. The government should have added type to the other printing machinery.

The reduction in the price of cement is not very extensive and means but little. It is very doubtful if it will result in any reduction in the price to the consumer. The reduction in the duty on sugar, is so slight that the consumer will know nothing about it except by the reports in the papers.

The increased protection to British Columbia fruit men which will follow the change in the regulations respecting the importation and sale of fruit, will many times more than counterbalance any change that has been made by the government. There is a gradual increase instead of a decrease in the duties.

There is nothing in this tariff announcement for the western farmer. He does not use linotypes or traction ditching machinery. He is not aided in one single move suggested by the finance minister.

COMMISSION GOVERNMENT.

The commission form of government has been adopted in most of the progressive cities in the United States. This method of administration has been very much of an improvement over the old form. It is the application of modern business methods to the management of a city. It means the elimination, particularly in the United States, of much that is undesirable, particularly base partisanship.

So successful has been this form of administration that there is a movement to take another step and apply this form of government to the state. The governor of the state of Kansas has suggested the establishment of a commission composed of the governor of the state and twelve well-trained administrators. That would take the place, doubtless, of the present legislature.

It may be some time before such a radical change in the administration is enacted. It practically means the abolition of the present form of government and the substitution of an administration of specialists. It will be some time before any state will give up its party organization.

But it might be better if it were so. Our system of party administration has its advantages, but the disadvantages are much more apparent. It is most unbusinesslike. No business conducted along similar lines would last for any time. There is too much waste effort in it. Provinces would be better administered, as a rule, without party organization.

This attempt to substitute a business organization for a party organization will be watched with considerable interest.

Editorial Notes

There was a time when the Conservatives were alarmed because the balance of trade between Canada and the United States was so greatly against Canada. But now it seems to be more against us than ever before and the finance minister is not very much alarmed about it, in fact, thinks it is a fine thing. The economics of the Conservatives in the latter state is somewhat sounder than in the former state.

If the Canadian senate does not throw out the navy bill it should look up the front door and admit that its members have been getting paid under false pretenses. The only excuse for a senate is that it may check hasty legislation and any legislation that is passed against the wishes of a large portion of the people without their consent is hasty legislation.

The new tariff changes will not put a cent of money in the pockets of any person in western Canada except the proprietors of newspapers who are buying linotypes. That is a poor substitute for the tariff legislation upon which the Laurier government staked its existence and went down to defeat.

Mr. Southam's Calgary paper believes that it is sacrilegious for any Liberal members of parliament to complain that the railway commissioners are a little slow getting round to a decision upon the freight rates question. No institution should be above criticism if it is not doing the work that the people expect and the criticism is not confined to Liberals, the chief critic being W. F. Maclean.

It is now 691 days since R. L. Borden in this city promised that if elected to office, he would before one day had passed take steps to place the control of the natural resources in the hands of the province. But 692 days



"Knack"

"Knack" is not needed to make good coffee every time. Follow the directions in each sealed tin of Red Rose Coffee; and in six minutes the small crushed grains give you the full strength and brisk flavor of this choice coffee. There is no dust, so Red Rose Coffee requires no "settling." No chaff, so no bitter taste. You will surely like Red Rose Coffee.

have passed since he took office and Mr. Borden has done nothing to fulfill the sacred promise which he made.

The Western Canada Milling company is now asking Calgary what it is going to do about inducing it to locate in Calgary and other manufacturers are asking what inducements we have to offer, doubtless meaning bonuses and such like. Calgary is in the position of not knowing what it can offer or what it has offered the milling company. So far the action of the city has been most unbusinesslike.

The provincial government is handing over the money to the farmers to start the co-operative elevators, and it is only a few minutes ago that Mr. Southam's Alberta newspapers said that the province had no money at all for that purpose.

And the Calgary Branches are still prancing about on the top rung of the baseball ladder and yet the magazines or what it has offered the milling company shows that baseball fans are never just quite satisfied.

The new White-Borden tariff is not likely to affect the cost of living to any considerable extent in this part of the country.

Mr. McKinnay, the possessor of forty clearwater votes, which is one more than either of his opponents, says that he will resign whether he is elected or not, because it seems as though there were election irregularities, which is a very good decision. However, these election irregularities, by whomsoever committed, should be chased down and something done about them. Until election wrongdoers are pursued to the limit there will be election wrongdoing. By this we do not mean to say that Mr. McKinnay knew anything about the election irregularities.

Calgary quietly and diplomatically turned down the Industrial Bureau's bill board proposition. That was right. It is to be regretted that the only new publicity proposition evolved by the bureau was one which made Calgary people ashamed of its enterprise.

It is a bold, bad and strangely constituted man who makes any boast of being a water drinker at this season of the year.

Let us hope that the long drawn out decision about the site of the armories is at an end and will stay there. The city acted wisely in reserving McWata Park, for park purposes, even if it cost some money to do so.

And while the Conservative papers are trying to make their readers believe that people who do not believe as they do are separatists, the man who is doing the biggest stunt for the Conservatives in the house of commons is a gentleman who once told of his delight in shooting imaginary holes in the British flag if he got a real good opportunity.

The Calgary city council decided to discourage the erection of bill boards in the city. We shall see if the people of Banff will allow in that beautiful resort what the city of Calgary has declined to place here in Calgary.

DAWSON POWER HOUSE DESTROYED BY FIRE

(Special to The Albertan.)
Dawson, May 13.—The power house of the Electric Light and Power company was totally destroyed by fire on Friday and the loss will amount to \$100,000. The city depended on this plant for its power, light and water. It is now without fire protection and water for domestic purposes has to be supplied in the old-fashioned way by means of water wagons.

One-Room House for \$45,000.
London, Eng., May 13.—Among the London properties submitted for auction recently was the so-called "smallest house in London." This is in Hyde Park Place, and was described at the sale as living up to its title, as it only consisted of one room. That solitary room, however, was of some value, since the property was eventually bought in for more than \$45,000.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY



A Group of 75 Ladies' Coats in a Two-Day Clearance at \$15.00

REGULAR \$19.00 TO \$25.00 MODELS

EVEN with the many remarkable bargains this store has extended in the past, none have been of a more attractive character than this one for today and tomorrow. It includes some of the smartest styles of the season in fashionable striped tweeds, in fawn and tan mixtures, plain tailored covert cloths, tan, brown and gray blanket cloths, French gray and Copenhagen blue broadcloths, navy blue worsted diagonals, mixed tweeds in light tan, fawn and reseda, gunmetal bedford covert cloths, red chevrons and diagonal serges, Copenhagen blue and gray cheviot serges, small black, white and mixed check coatings, tan mixed diagonal tweeds, navy blue men's wear serges. The styles are principally in 7-8 and full lengths with a few 3-4 Johnny Coats; all sizes. An exceptionally good opportunity to secure a coat for very little cost. Regular \$15.00 to \$25.00. Today and tomorrow **\$15.00**

Our Beautiful Stock of Marabout Stoles, Boas, Scarfs, Muffs, Hand-Bags

TWO DAYS ONLY Wednesday Thursday **HALF PRICE** Wednesday Thursday TWO DAYS ONLY

A NOTABLE collection of all that is new and lovely in Marabout Stoles, Boas, Scarfs and Handbags. A gathering that has already created much enthusiasm among Calgary society who admire the beautiful. These are all fresh, new stock, having been bought for the new store. They include the most advanced styles. Only on account of insufficient room for proper display have we been compelled to reduce them to such proportions. Half price brings news of remarkable character that warrants record selling.

The collection comprises a large variety of dainty colors and most becoming styles and in most cases you will find the muffs to match. Shades are shell pink, light blue, amber, white, cream, black, brown, gray, iron, etc. As well as very effective color combinations. Regular prices from \$2.95 to \$35.00 each. Sale price **\$2.00 to \$17.50**

Pretty Wash Fabrics Priced for Clearance

We are looking forward to a busy morning's selling in Cotton Foulards and Cotton Voiles, for it's the lowest price that such desirable and seasonable fabrics have been offered from this store. And for no other reason than the fact that we are overcrowded for room.

On one point, however, all ladies will agree, that the values are remarkable. Splendid quality Cotton Foulards and Cotton Voiles, highly mercerized, in a good variety of colors and designs in stripes, spots and bordered effects; 27 inches wide.

Regular 30c to 50c yard. **20c**
Today
Regular 12 1/2-2c to 15c **8 1/2c**
Today
Regular 12 1/2-2c to 15c **8 1/2c**
Today

A Little Lot of Barrettes Priced for Little Today

They're odds and ends, a few of this and a few of that, but bargains every one. Of course, when lines sell down to a few, they are immediately set aside for quick clearance.

These include a variety of pretty Barrettes, stone settings, in light and dark shell and plain barrettes; good strong clasps. Regular 75c and \$1.00 each. Today **50c**

Cushion Cases and Table Covers In a Bargain Shower

It is impossible to say just how long these will last after doors open this morning; for this is a rare opportunity that is bound to make a hurried clearance. Add one to your drawing-room or den at today's price.

Silk, Leatherette and Velour Cushion Cases and Table Covers, the majority embroidered in a good assortment of colors. Regular prices \$2.50, \$3.50 and \$5.00 each. Today **\$2.00**

MARK THIS NEWS

200 Axminster Rugs on Sale Today

\$1.95 EACH

We can't tell you all about these splendid Rugs, for space doesn't permit. What will interest you most is the fact that we've never extended greater money's worth. Inspection on your part will be our most convincing argument. Some are displayed in the window.

Axminster Rugs, 200 of them in the lot and all one size, 27 by 36 inches. They come in beautiful two-tone effects, in old rose, plain gray and brown, chum pagne, green and numerous other shades. Some in the old motley effect obtained through using all odd wool left over from making larger rugs at the factory. We bought them at a price-advantage and are sharing the benefit with customers of this store today. Many of them would sell under the ordinary course of business events at \$3.00 to \$4.00 each. Others again would sell at high as \$5.00. On sale today **\$1.95**