

THE HERALD

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The Roblin Conservative Government of Manitoba swept the Province in the general elections held on Monday last. The returns show that 27 Conservatives were elected to 14 Opposition. This result was achieved right under the nose of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who spoke in Winnipeg on the day after the election.

Current Comment.

(Calgary Daily Herald.)

The trip which Sir Wilfrid Laurier is taking for the purpose of pouring oil on the troubled waters will be ineffectual. The feeling of resentment against the party in power in Ottawa is too strong and the betrayal of the people by the government of Alberta has been too complete for the people to be brought into subjection by the pleasant smiles of a most affable gentleman.

(Hamilton Spectator.)

A million dollar graft steal has been uncovered in the government printing bureau at Ottawa. The chief of the conspirators is gone and five of the employes have been dismissed. There seems to be no chance of getting back any of the stolen coin, which belonged to the people. Incidentally this is one of the departments which the Conservative opposition demanded should be investigated, but which the government refused to investigate. Next!

(Edmonton Journal.)

The spectacle in the province of Ontario of thousands upon thousands of people of all shades of politics travelling miles to hear R. L. Borden tell of the scheming and chicanery which has been used to divorce the Dominion from its wealth and resources indicates a new awakening in the public conscience of the people of Canada, giving reason for the belief that henceforth the grafter will answer with his political life for any traitorous action toward his public trust.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

Sir James Whitney declares that Mr. Borden does more real work for the country than any group of Cabinet Ministers. This is true Mr. Borden is the master of every detail of administration. The Cabinet Ministers charge themselves with nothing beyond the care of their own departments. Mr. Borden is working all the time. The Cabinet Ministers do nothing between sessions and very little when the House is sitting. Half a dozen of the Ministers are at this moment touring Europe at the expense of the people of Canada.

(Hamilton Herald)

Of course Canada is able to spend very much more money for public works now than she was able to spend a decade or two ago, because her revenue is very much greater. And yet there is good reason for giving heed to Mr. Borden's comments on the fact that, while \$367,650,000 more public revenue has been collected in the last ten years of Conservative government, the national debt has been increased \$78,000,000 since the Laurier government assumed power.

(Toronto News.)

Mr. Borden's severe arraignment of an enfeebled government has awakened marked interest in all parts of the country, and he has developed a penchant for effective phrases which remain in men's minds. His characterization of the projected Laurier fleet as "an Order-in-Council navy" will live, and the electors heartily approve his sentiment, that, "if we are in the Empire in time of peace, we must be in the Empire and for the Empire in time of war." His insistence that Canada should do its duty by Great Britain in the naval arena is highly approved in every constituency.

(Vernon News.)

Mr. Pugsley while he was in power paid his own private telegraph bills out of the public purse and kept the fact quiet. When there was a change of government and the legislature investigated matters, then—and not till then—did Mr. Pugsley refund. He admitted that the account was improper. He knew that he was milking the treasury to his own advantage. He kept on doing so as long as he was shielded and made restoration only under the spur. Yet Sir Wilfrid Laurier permits a man of such loose ideas respecting trust funds to preside over one of the greatest spending departments of the federal government.

A Humorest Wanted.

It is charged against Mr. R. L. Borden by the organs of the Liberal party, fearing the effect of the triumphant tour of the province of Ontario by the leader of the opposition; that he lacks a sense of humor. That the quiet heart to heart talks, Mr. Borden had with thousands of electors in that province have struck a note of dismay in the Liberal ranks is demonstrated by the clumsy efforts to belittle the tour. It is solemnly stated that no man should aspire to the position of premier of Canada who is not a humorist. There is in this suggestion more than appears at the first glance. The people who for ten years, after having an opportunity of learning what it was, and is, continued the Laurier government in office, must be heartily fond of a joke, even when it is at their expense. Both in its personal and its work the Laurier government is a practical joke upon all those who by their votes prolong its reign of power. Take that fine old comedian Sir Richard Cartwright. His record is funnier than the quips of any "end man" in a minstrel show. People who judged him by his long opposition attitude put him down as a vigorous hater of all jobs, jobbers, waste extravagance, corruption, and the elements of protection in the tariff. He was announced as the leading Ontario statesman who was determined to keep the hands of political thieves out of the public treasury. The old joker showed his humor by watching the rascals with an eye which saw not, by winking when jobbers passed his way in the course of their business, by snoring away calmly when the public outlay was being increased without reason, and by assuming the responsibility of rewarding with office besmirched political workers other ministers hesitated to countenance. Then there is Hon. William Paterson, the daddy of the cabinet, and minister of customs. In his way Mr. Paterson is a laugh producer of the first rank. It was he who being interested in the bakery business injected into the tariff a little joker which must have been much appreciated by the free traders. He increased the duty on biscuits.

So much for Mr. Paterson.

Mr. Graham, who left the cold shades of Ontario provincial Liberalism after the Whitney cyclone swept the province is also counted among the funny men. He comes from Brockville that home of political humor, where there have been perpetrated such merry quips as stuffing a ballot box with Pritchett paper and thereby sending a Conservative candidate to grass instead of to Ottawa. One thing is certain: Mr. Borden has never shown any such humor as these gay blades of Ontario Liberalism. It is doubtful if he could rival Mr. Fielding in getting off those annual surplus jokes, and persuading some of the people that they are growing rich by what he saves of their taxes while all the time he is adding to their debt by what he borrows to keep the political machine running and please the men who like big appropriations for the day no matter what may be the final result, or who hasto foot the bill. And surely Mr. Borden can never expect to meet on an equal footing Mr. Pugsley who is by popular acclaim regarded as a party to the famous Richibucto joke that got a political friend \$5000 of public money for a \$700 slab and sawdust wharf. Nor could Mr. Borden expect to equal the sardonic humor of Mr. Oliver as shown in those regulations concerning the admission of Englishmen and other immigrants which have made one half of the Canadian people ashamed and all of them angry. It was the department of the Interior also that was responsible for what priceless piece of humor, the western timber limit deals, which system worked out in practice so that no matter how much study a stranger gave to the conditions of his offer, somebody who seemed to know generally got the plum, for just a trifle more than the highest outside bid. And such waggery as ministers perpetrate individually is naturally outdone when they combine their wits and act collectively. There was for instance that funny affair, the launching of the National Transcontinental Railway scheme. A great first class railway they said was to be built from Moncton to Winnipeg. The Tory constructed Intercolonial and Canadian Pacific were to be entirely put in the shade. The whole was to cost \$51,400,000. Mr. Fielding even had an actuarial calculation to show that all the treasury of Canada would be called upon to pay could be provided by the investment of a portion of his book-keepers surplus of 1903. The joke is that the read is not to be shorter or better than the Intercolonial, that it is not to make the CPR look like a siding, and the cost will be over \$200,000,000. Allied with the National Transcontinental was the Quebec bridge joke. The government agreed to back the bonds of a company formed to construct this work, the promoters of which showed their long-headed wisdom by refusing to venture in it even as much of their own money as would pay for the plans. An engineer in the government employ who knew something about bridges and who was given the duty of reporting on the plans disapproved of them, but he was ignored. The company went on with the bad construction, and the ministers went on giving security for its debt, till the whole thing toppled into the river through inherent weakness. Then the ministers who by use of the public credit had provided the money for the work bought from the company at a big price the title to the ruins which are yet, years after the disaster encountered with the bodies of some of the 80 victims of a folly that amounted to a crime. The story of the Intercolonial, under these ministers who have a superior sense of humor, has been almost a continual joke. The climax was reached this year when it cost \$120 in operating and maintenance outlay to earn \$1 in traffic receipts. Mr. Borden's friends will admit that he is deficient in the sense, humorous or otherwise which sees anything light or amusing in these matters. At the present time Canada wants grave men with ability to cope with grave problems, and not mountebanks and wearers of the jesters cap and bells.

Minard's Liniment cures Distemper.

Sir Wilfrid's Tour.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, accompanied by Hon. George P. Graham, minister of railways, E. M. Macdonald, M. P. for Pictou, F. F. Pardee, M. P. Liberal whip for Ontario, and Senator William Gibson, has left for a tour of the Northwest, and addressed a meeting at Fort William Saturday evening. On July 12th, the day after the Manitoba elections, they held a meeting in Winnipeg, proceeding thither over the Port Arthur branch of the Grand Trunk Pacific. If properly conducted, this should be a most interesting tour. The premier will have an opportunity of explaining how it is that the portion of the Transcontinental from Winnipeg to Moncton which is being built by the government was originally estimated to cost \$51,300,000, and, according to the figures quoted in the house on December 31st last, will cost at least \$500,000,000. The length of the road is 1,804 miles, and it was estimated by the finance minister that this would cost \$25,000 per mile. Instead of that the expenditure in eight amounts to \$111,000 per mile. He may also be able to explain how the contracts let represent a cost for extras over the original estimate of 60 per cent. Mr. Macdonald, M. P., will also be on the spot to explain at least a part of this enormous discrepancy, as he was the chairman of the committee which was appointed to investigate the Lumsden charges. It will be recalled that Mr. Lumsden, the chief engineer, resigned as a protest against the manner in which extras were being allowed on the construction of this road. An investigating committee was appointed composed of a minority of Conservatives. The majority of the committee refused to have a counsel appointed to represent the taxpayers of Canada on the investigation, and, as a result, the Conservatives refused to act on what was obviously a white-washing investigation. That it was a whitewashing investigation, was proved in most humorous fashion by the ultimate finding of the Liberal majority. Mr. Macdonald and his colleagues succeeded in discovering that there was absolutely no wrongdoing in connection with the allowance of extras for contracts, and that there was nothing in the allegations of Mr. Lumsden that prices were allowed contractors for rock cutting where no rocks existed. The upshot of the investigation was that the chief engineer was placed in the remarkable situation of having resigned his position, and the handsome salary attached thereto, as a protest against the abuses in awarding extras to contractors, when in reality no such abuses existed. The reduction to an absurdity Mr. Macdonald will no doubt be able to adequately and eloquently explain. In connection with these facts and figures, Hon. Mr. Graham, as the responsible minister, will also no doubt be able to contribute much valuable information of an explanatory character, which may or may not convince the audiences who will gather to hear the distinguished party.

Then there is Mr. Pardee, the Liberal whip for Ontario, who so valiantly acted as sponsor for the American company which has undertaken the greatest raid on Canada's natural resources that has, so far, been undertaken. He it was who fathered the bill which aimed at granting to the great electrical corporation of the United States the right to dam the St. Lawrence river at Cornwall, and generate there some 800,000 h. p. He is who led the house during the celebrated all night session, when five members of the government sat in the front row, lending their moral support to what was nominally a private bill, and at stated intervals found it necessary to arise and formally impress upon the house that though they were there to back the measure, it was not a government bill. It was on the same celebrated occasion that Hon. Mr. Emerson patriotically sided with the opposition against the job that was being put up, and was instrumental in bringing forward information that the chief engineers of three government departments had investigated the proposition, and unanimously condemned it as dangerous to Canadian property, and liable, in the case of accident, to flood the suburbs of Montreal, but that the same three engineers had been ordered later on to make another report on the same project, and, strangely enough, had pronounced in favor of it, notwithstanding the physical dangers which, they so vividly realized when making their first report. Even usually Mr. Pardee's bill went through with the active assistance of the government, after several

important amendments had been forced into it by the Conservative opposition.

So far as Senator Gibson is concerned, he has no sins to answer for, and is probably taken along as a make-weight, and in order to add to the joyousness of the tour by the exuberant radiance of his genial personality.—Ottawa Citizen.

Destructive Conflagration

The town of Campbellton, N. B., was swept by fire on Monday of this week, and practically wiped out. The fire started during the afternoon in Richards' Lumber Mill, and soon got beyond control of the local brigade. Campbellton had a population of 5000, and when the sun rose Tuesday morning practically the whole community was homeless. With the exception of a few scattered private residences, lying on the outskirts, nothing but smoking embers remained of what was one of the most prosperous towns of New Brunswick. Help was asked from the fire brigades of nearby towns, but before assistance arrived the flames had gained such headway that nothing could be done to check the conflagration. All the hotels are gone; five mills were burned, and one child was suffocated. The property loss is not less than \$2,000,000, and five thousand people are homeless. Richardsville, a village three miles distant was also completely destroyed, and it is reported that a number of men perished in an explosion. The fire burned all Monday night; but after six o'clock in the evening, the people gave no attention to the saving of property, but only thought of saving themselves from the flames. Assistance to the sufferers is coming in from different sections.

Most Modern Cattle Accommodations at the Dominion Exhibition.

The most modern of live stock accommodations will be afforded exhibitors at the Dominion Exhibition in St. John, N. B., September 5th to 15th. Indeed the new facilities embody the latest and best approved ideas, and will be appreciated by both exhibitor and sight-seer. In the cattle barn proper 500 head will be housed within easy eye-range. In connection with each stall there will be running water and other modern improvements. A patent litter carrier suspended from a rail track in the ceiling will be utilized to remove all accumulations, while the drainage will be perfect. Sheep will be accommodated in keeping with most modern ideas. From central elevated walkways spectators will be afforded an excellent view of the animals as they wander around their six-foot pens. The carpentry will be open or picketed, assuring constant circulation of air. The fignery will follow the same plan of erection, special attention to ventilation, freedom from over-crowding, lighting and sight-seeing. Heretofore exhibits of horses have been made in rows of box stalls only, but this year special provision is being made for harness horses in new barns arranged with broad aisles. Conveyors and the Stock are to be shown in what was formerly known as Agricultural Hall where much more space is available and a comprehensive display is possible.

It is rumored from London that the King and Queen will make a tour of the Empire.

D. A. Vail, a prominent business man of Sussex, N. B. was terribly and probably fatally injured by the explosion of a soda water cylinder which was being charged.

Walker Wellman and Melvin Vaniman will attempt this coming fall, to cross the Atlantic Ocean in the dirigible balloon America, which was built for the Wellman Polar Expedition and has twice been tested in voyages over the Arctic Ocean North of Spitzbergen. This is what is reported from New York.

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New Reversible Ingrain Rugs \$5.00 and \$9.00.

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OLD RUGS

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 Axminster Rugs, 3x3 1-2, \$55; Brussels Rugs, 2x1-4x2 1 2, price \$11; Brussels Rugs, 6x3 1 2, price \$20; Brussels Rugs, size 3x4, price \$26; Brussels Rug for best room, size 3x3 1-2 for \$24.

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