

J. A. MACDONALD RETIRES JOHN OLIVER SUCCEEDS

Liberal Leadership Passes to the Member for Delta --Characteristics of the Old and the New Chieftains.

The leadership of the Liberal party in British Columbia passed on Saturday from J. A. Macdonald, K. C. who for the last six years has been at the head of the party forces in this province, to John Oliver, who has been his chief lieutenant throughout that period.

The most sanguine Liberals do not disguise the fact that the withdrawal of Mr. Macdonald will be very sensibly felt throughout the party organization. On the other hand the new leader takes up his duties at a particularly trying time, when the elections are pending and probably so imminent that he will be unable to visit the different sections of his great constituency before polling day.

(From Monday's Daily.)

THE RETIRING LEADER.

The political career of Mr. Macdonald, which may now properly be regarded as closed, has in many respects been a remarkable one. Few men are called upon to exercise the responsibilities of leadership without previous parliamentary training.

Those members met in Victoria, and for half a day wrestled with the vexed question. Among its members were at least two men who had been cabinet ministers in previous coalition governments, but led and dominated by Conservatives.

Few bolder experiments have been made in the political history of Canada. Successful party leadership is not merely a matter of either hustings or committee room, but hangs largely on skillful generalship in parliament.

The history of that session is well known to all who have to follow public affairs in this province. The new leader quietly felt his way, modestly keeping in the background until he had tried out his new surroundings, and taking advantage of the experience of his principal supporters to master the intricacies of parliamentary procedure.

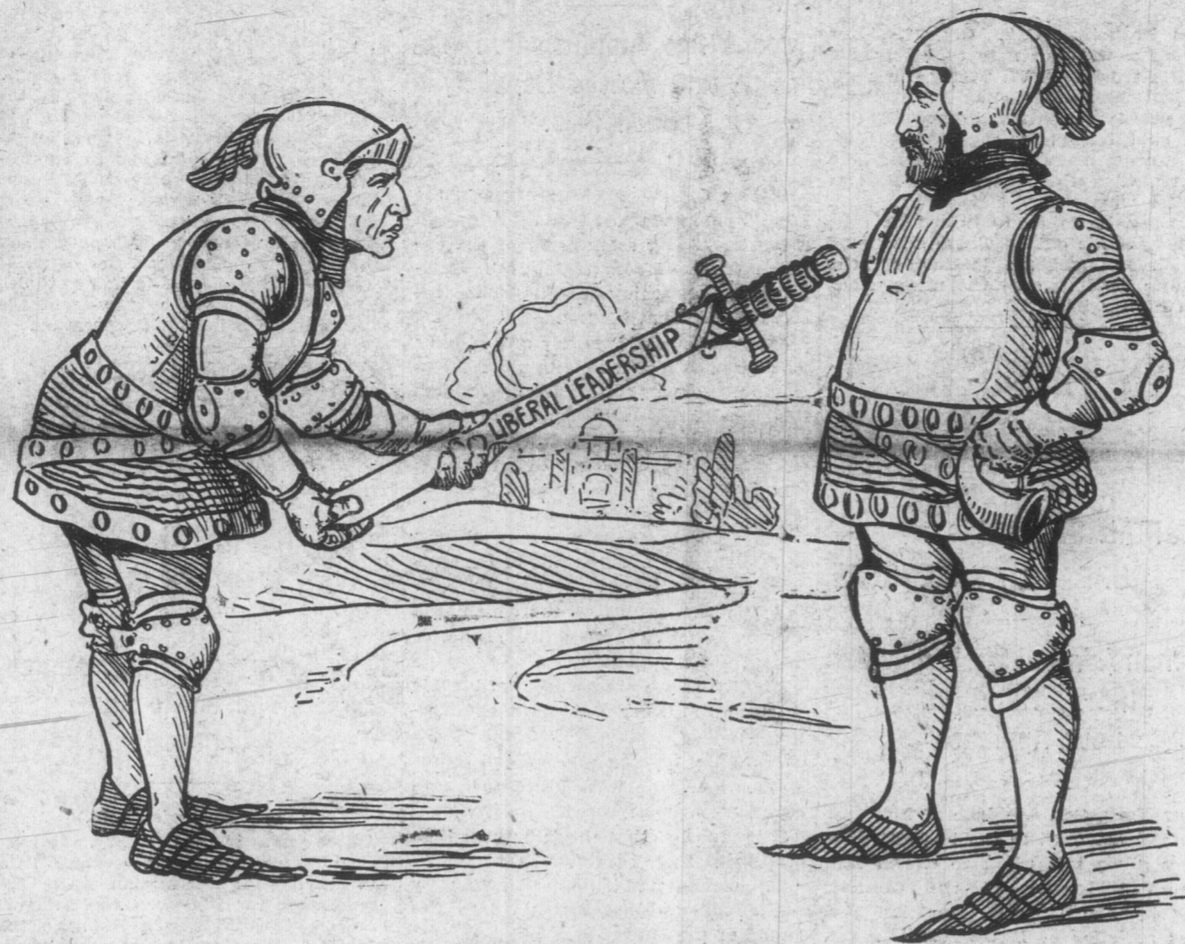
His career since that time has greatly increased his prestige, both in the House and in the country. He made his way the slower perhaps because his chief antagonist was above all things a master of the gentle art of Jolly, and it takes some time for such arts to recoil upon their author.

Mr. Macdonald's withdrawal from public life will be an even greater loss to the deliberations of the legislature than to party councils, because it was on the floor of the House that he was at his best. He was easily the leading figure in the discussion of all legal questions.

His withdrawal from the House relieves the pressure from this source, the government will be so much the happier, if public business does suffer correspondingly.

RELINQUISHING THE SWORD.

The Retiring Chief to His Successor—"A trusty blade to a trusted man, John."



Old hands in the press gallery will remember his first appearance in the chamber—a rather shy man, quiet, observant, careless of his personal appearance, but who, when he spoke, was always listened to with close attention because of the homely force and rugged strength of his opinions.

THE NEW CHIEFTAIN.

The contrast between the man who has just resigned his trust and the one who has taken up the mantle of leadership is striking. Mr. Macdonald is tall and spare, with the face of an ascetic, of judicial mien, and of habitual reserve.

He is pre-eminently a man of the people. He first saw the light in beautiful Dorsetshire, but it is questionable whether he saw as much of it

when the House got into a tangle on procedure it was to the shrewd, well posted member from Delta that it turned for light. This is a mere incident in his career, but is typical of his thorough methods.

Chief among these arbiters of procedure was the then finance minister, Hon. Mr. Prentice. Mr. Martin was another past master and there were a number of others little less proficient. Again and again when Mr. Oliver would rise and in his direct manner proceed to deal with the matter before the House he would be stopped under the rules, and be forced to listen to a weary discussion on procedure and an equally wearisome ruling by Mr.

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J. A. MACDONALD, Retiring Chieftain.

as he would have liked, for at the age of eleven he descended into the mines and joined the great army of producers. When he was fourteen years of age his parents moved to Grey county, Ontario, and while young Oliver was adjusting himself to the new conditions in the bush, in the neighboring county of Huron, young Macdonald, two years his junior, was completing his public school education.

Coming to this province Mr. Oliver drifted inevitably into municipal, and later into political affairs, and in spite of the fact that he lives in a "close" riding, he has been returned at three successive elections.

His legislative career has been full of surprises, and a revelation of the enormous reserve power of the man.

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GERMAN VIEWS OF WAR SCARE

SPEECHES AND ARTICLES REPRODUCED IN PRESS

Apprehension Experienced Over Growth of War Party in Great Britain.

(Times Leased Wire.)

Berlin, Oct. 11.—The speeches recently attributed to Lord Northcliffe, Admiral Lord Charles Bessborough and Earl Grey, governor-general of Canada, together with various magazine articles dealing with the relations of Great Britain and Germany, have been

widely reproduced and commented upon in this country. The prevailing note is one of apprehension that a regular campaign has been organized for the purpose of depriving Germany of the good will of the United States and nourishing the idea that Germany is threatening Great Britain.

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TRACK LAYING ON ALBERNI LINE

C. P. R. IS NOW RUSHING CONSTRUCTION

Gang of Men Are Now Placing Metal in Position.

With the awakening of Vancouver Island now so apparent to all observers of recent announcements regarding the development of its resources, the C.P.R. has shown a disposition to hasten to completion its plans for the opening up of the rich territory in which it has such large interests, and it was learned this morning that track laying is in progress with great energy on the branch line of the E. & N. railway which will run from Wellington to Alberni.

The company have a large force of men at work, and they are making excellent progress, being favoured as with good weather. The track is being laid at the rate of half a mile a day, and it is anticipated that construction trains will be operated to "end of track" at Nanose Bay at the end of the present week.

The branch line from Alberni has been graded to a point about five miles beyond French Creek. By the end of the year the company hopes to be operating trains to Cameron Lake, and this will enable supplies to be got into the country for the contractors and allow of the more speedy construction of the remainder of the line.

This announcement of present progress will be excellent news to the people of Alberni, who have awaited patiently the coming of the road, and with its advent the little community will experience a period of activity which will be ample reward for the disappointments of the past.

That Alberni has a future as promising as any other point on Vancouver Island is the opinion of those best in a position to judge of the situation. A glance at the map will indicate that it is excellently situated to become the hub at which will concentrate all the business tributary to that rich section. The company is desirous of getting on with the branch line with all possible speed, in view of the early arrival of the party of British immigrants who are being brought out under the auspices of the Salvation Army, and who will in all probability be located in the neighborhood of French Creek.

As the first of these immigrants are to be here in April next, it is not improbable that the people of Alberni will hear the welcome whistles of the railway engine at no very distant date.

The Dominion government, it appears anxious to assist the people of the island in securing the double train service all the year round, have intimated to the C. P. R. that it will be pleased to give the subsidy if a service be inaugurated for that period, but it is contended by the C. P. R. that were the system in vogue on the main line to be followed the community would all summer have been enjoying a double daily mail.

DOUBLE DAILY SERVICE STAYS

PRESENT SCHEDULE ON E. & N. TO NOVEMBER 15

People of Island Urged to Press the Double Daily Mail Service

The very gratifying announcement was made today in a telegram received this morning by H. E. Bessley, superintendent of the E. & N. railway, from R. Marpole, general executive agent at Vancouver, that the double daily train service on the island road will be continued until November 15th at least. This action is responsive to the vigorous request of the board of trade forwarded to Sir Thomas Shaughnessy on Friday that the service be maintained beyond the date set for its abandonment—October 15th. It may be mentioned that it has been the practice of the railway company heretofore to take off the extra train on September 15th, so it will be seen that this year there has already been secured the concession of two months' extension, and the hope is held that the C. P. R. may be able to see its way clear to maintain it all winter, though local officials have nothing to say upon that point.

The members of the board of trade are strongly of the opinion that it would be disastrous to the interests of the business men of Victoria were the service to be reduced, at a time when rival cities on the mainland are making a strong bid for the trade of this island, and while no arrangement has yet been made for a double daily mail service, it is held that people by personal visit to Victoria will be able to transact much of their business in Victoria, which might otherwise be done via Vancouver.

Those who have gone into the matter somewhat declare, however, that the various business communities on Vancouver Island having commercial relations with Victoria, and the people of this city particularly, should press upon the Dominion government the desirability and wisdom of bringing into effect in regard to the railway service on this island the practice which has been followed on the main line of the C.P.R.—that is, wherever a double train service is in effect the mail subsidy shall apply.

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RESUMING WORK AT EXTENSION

VICTIMS OF EXPLOSION ARE LAID AT REST

No. 2 Mine Will Not Open Again Until After Inquiry is Held.

(Special to the Times.)

Ladysmith, Oct. 11.—All the bodies of the victims of the Extension explosion have now been laid in their last resting places, the remains of Andrew Moffatt being interred at Nanaimo yesterday. The funeral was attended by the Ladysmith band and the local Knights of Pythias, besides a large number of friends from both places.

Nos. 1 and 3 mines resume work to-day, but No. 2, the scene of the accident, will remain closed until after the official inquiry on Wednesday next. The memorial services in the churches were all well attended.

The fund for the widows and orphans is steadily growing, and all possible help and sympathy is being extended to the sufferers. The many kind messages of sympathy and offers of help meet with heartfelt gratitude from all who have suffered in the terrible catastrophe.

HURRICANE SWEEPS ISLAND OF CUBA

Number of Small Craft Reported to Have Gone Down at Havana.

(Times Leased Wire.)

Tampa, Fla., Oct. 11.—Advices received here from Havana to-day convey the information that a terrific hurricane is sweeping Cuba and that already a number of small craft have gone down in the harbor at Havana.

Trees have been uprooted, and it is reported that a number of buildings have been wrecked. News is meagre, but it is feared that many lives have been lost. The storm is reported to be headed in this direction.

LONDON EDITOR VICTIM OF ACCIDENT

Winnipeg, Man., Oct. 11.—L. F. Amery, chief editor of the London Times, is to-day suffering from injuries which he sustained in an accident Saturday. Returning with Earl and Lady Grey from a riding trip, his stirrup caught on a post while he was going through a half-open gate, and he sustained a double fracture of the ankle, being thrown violently to the ground.

Mr. Amery is resting easy to-day, and the physicians say that he probably will be able to leave New York for London, October 24th.

Mr. Amery has been nominated for a third time as the Unionist candidate for Wolverhampton at the coming general election, and is anxious to get back to England.

STORM ON GREAT LAKES.

Duluth, Minn., Oct. 11.—A blizzard is sweeping over the Great Lakes to-day and all lines of transportation are practically at a standstill.

Lake Superior is running high and considerable damage already has been done.

WILL WED AMERICAN.

London, Oct. 11.—Announcement is made of the engagement of Hon. Ernest Victor Gibson, third son of Lord Ashbourne, to Caroline, daughter of Mrs. Frederick de Billier of New York.

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