

The Albertan

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EVIDENCE OF THE PREMIER

The evidence given by the premier was somewhat of a revelation to the public, but as a matter of fact it was pretty much what any person who has watched carefully what has transpired during the last few months expected.

The manner of the premier in the box was enough to convince the public that he was not dealing fairly with the province. He declined to meet a question and give a fair and square answer, but insisted upon dodging the simplest and plainest enquiry. The public in this province and the public in any province are not prepared to tolerate that sort of thing, they want to be met as they are prepared to meet others. They want a fair and candid and full explanation. But the premier did none of these things. He declined to deal fairly by the people of the province, when he made explanations in the house. He refused to be any more candid when placed upon the witness stand.

However, an amount of information was secured from the hesitating premier. With some effort it was ascertained that the premier, though at the head of the department of railways, was only a figurehead in that position. He took the department from Mr. Cushing in an unbusinesslike way and then let it run itself, or let others run it as they pleased. He was director of the department, but did not direct. He was in no way minister of railways, except in name.

Of course, this all came out when the premier was questioned in his administration. It is possible that if similar statements of affairs would be discovered if an investigation was made into the other departments controlled by the premier.

It was ascertained in the cross examination that the government went into the transaction without any real information of a reliable nature. The premier when questioned upon this point referred to a series of conversations which he had in an unofficial way with a number of persons, but the government never made an investigation of affairs by its own engineers though it had two railway engineers of its own in its employ.

Emerging through the dim information given with hesitation by the premier, one can see a government which had one object and that was to make things right for Clarke and his associates. The railway act was changed in order to make it easy for the men from Kansas. The bond guarantee was changed. Everything was shifted. Clarke was in control and the object of the government was not to get what was best for the province, but what was best for Clarke. That has been apparent since any publicity was given to this affair. It was even more apparent through the evidence of the premier.

The chief work of the premier, apparently, was to endeavor to drag Hon. Mr. Cushing down with him. The premier was never slow to give an answer when he thought it would embarrass the member for Calgary. Clouded in evasive replies for some considerable time he would come out quick and sharp when he had a chance to attach the late minister of public works to any incident. But even if the premier had said the last word, there is need of but little explanation to put Mr. Cushing right. The statements of the premier were so unreasonable that the public cannot accept his remarkable statements. He said that Mr. Cushing in a cabinet meeting had sat silent or rather favored the transaction, though just before he had written him protesting against the transaction. It may please the premier to make such remarks, but the public find it hard to believe.

The candid, unprejudiced person could come to a conclusion both on the conduct of the government and the responsibility of Mr. Cushing. That conclusion would not be favorable to the government and not unfavorable to Mr. Cushing.

However, the evidence of the premier will be interesting, when read in connection with the sworn statement which Mr. Cushing will give.

THE DUTY ON FRUITS

The effort that is being made in Western Canada to reduce the duty on green vegetables, and certain kinds of fruit should receive support, and countless will receive considerable support. The prices of living would be decreased and such luxuries would be brought within the range of every one.

At the present time only oranges, lemons, limes, pineapples and grape fruit are on the free list.

On strawberries, cherries, grapes and cultivated berries of all kinds the duty is two cents per pound and the weight of the package is included in the weight upon which the duty is charged, thus bringing the duty up to 40 per cent. on strawberries and cherries and in some cases it even runs as high as 100 per cent. A duty of one cent per

pound would be ample on grapes, but in many instances firms purchase grapes in California at 50 cents a crate, and the duty on the same amounts to another 45 cents.

The duty on all fruits, not otherwise specified, such as cranberries, is 25 per cent. This amounts to \$1.40 to \$2.00 a barrel and from \$350 to \$700 a car, depending on the weight of the car, etc. It is thought that a duty of ten per cent. on these goods of those not otherwise specified would be ample to provide protection, as there are very few cranberries grown in Canada.

Peaches carry a duty of 1 cent per pound, which is exceedingly high, as peaches can be bought for 10 to 75 cents a box across the line, and the weight of the package is included in the estimated weight for duty charges. The wholesalers declare that they are fully satisfied that a duty of half a cent per pound on actual fruit would afford Canadian growers of peaches ample protection.

Muskmelons and melons of all kinds carry a duty of three cents each, and on this charge the importers declare that the tariff is many times in excess of adjustment. Muskmelons or cantaloupes usually run 25 to 40 to the crate and the wholesalers buy them from 60c to \$1.25 per crate. The duty often amounts to 20 per cent.

Before the last revision of the tariff, this class of melon went under the class of roots not provided for, paying a duty of 25 per cent. The duty on watermelons which would only amount to about \$2.00 a car, cannot be complained of, but on muskmelons and cantaloupes amounts to the exorbitant figure of \$800 per car.

It is true that Ontario and British Columbia produce cantaloupes and muskmelons but the quantity is so small and the season so late, particularly in British Columbia that the trade does not demand them except in the warm summer months.

Vegetables of all kinds are dutiable at 20 per cent, and mostly all vegetables on the Canadian markets are imported when the local yield is not procurable. Again as soon as the local vegetables are offered the wholesaler is compelled to handle them as the local man can grow them just as cheaply as his southern neighbor and he escapes the long freight haul charges, thus giving him an additional advantage without considering the duty at all. The freight rate is sufficient protection, if the basis of duty were changed to ten per cent. the merchants claim that one could see a good supply of vegetables on all Canadian markets during the winter months.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Let us hope that the next time that Halley's comet comes this way it will find the Calgary city hall ready for occupation.

And the most important thing to do is to cancel the A. & G. W. contract and put out of office the government that first gave it life.

The whole world mourned yesterday. The late King of Great Britain was the best known and most respected person in the world.

When the A. & G. W. contract is cancelled Alberta will have a very pretty pile of money to spend in building roads and bridges, and other useful forms of expenditure.

It will be but a few days when we can turn our eyes to the northeast from whence comes additional railway communication and see another railway creeping into this city.

It is practically impossible to find a man in this part of the country who believes that the present government can remain in power. No person can be found who has any confidence in Premier Rutherford.

Think of the condition of old man Halley, driving a comet around through space at the rate of millions of miles a day, and that comet getting separated from its rudder. That is a problem for an ancient mariner.

If Sir Wilfrid Laurier desires to have a good view of the people of Western Canada, he should make his plans so that he will visit Calgary at the time of the big exhibition. Most of Alberta and the better part of it will be here then.

If the tail of Halley's comet really turned into a water sprinkler and brought the rain, as some people believe,

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No Alum Fifty Years the Standard No Lime Phosphate

DR. PRICE'S CREAM Baking Powder

Received the highest award at Chicago World's Fair

Most Alberta people will not object if it stopped round and prolonged its visit all summer. Its keep is not very heavy.

It is possible that the refining influence of a capital and provincial university has not yet penetrated all of Edmonton's merry-ball players, but it showed its imprint upon the baseball supporters who finding a Calgary player alone on Thursday started in to kill him. Great is the thing that is called atmosphere.

The Edmonton health board about one reporter whom the chairman did not like, from a board meeting, though allowing another reporter to attend the meeting. It is surprising that these Edmonton officials do not learn sometimes that they do not own the city, but that the public has some rights and that the reporter represents the public.

News of the City Schools

Tuesday, May 24th, Victoria Day, is a statutory holiday.

Dr. Scott is spending today (Saturday) in Medicine Hat.

Miss Bickford called on the Normal Practice school on Thursday.

Rev. Mother Green and Rev. Mother Higgins are in Banff for a few days.

Miss Miss-Rattan taught for a few days in the Louise school this week.

Up-to-date eleven wild birds, six butterflies and thirty wild flowers in bloom have been observed.

Miss M. Wignall of the South Ward school was called home on Wednesday owing to the illness of her mother.

Four of the public school teachers are attending the outings regularly this summer, and greatly enjoying them, one being Miss A. Campbell, who is the authority on birds.

This week the St. Mary's school had a visit from Archbishop Neil McNeil who was travelling from New Brunswick to Vancouver. He gave a very

Heart Trouble Cured.

Through one cause or another a large majority of the people are troubled with some form of heart trouble.

The system becomes run down, the heart palpitates, you have weak and dizzy spells, a smothering feeling, cold clammy hands and feet, shortness of breath, sensation of pins and needles, rush of blood to the head, etc.

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Angus, Ont., writes: "It is with the greatest of pleasure I write you stating the benefit I have received by using Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills."

I suffered greatly from heart trouble, weakness and smothering spells. I used a great deal of doctors' medicines but received no benefit. A friend advised me to buy a box of your pills, which I did, and soon found great relief. I highly recommend these pills to anyone suffering from heart trouble."

Price, 50 cents per box or 3 boxes for \$1.25 at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

Owing to the booklet "The Mainstay of Multitudes," having been delayed on the press it has been decided to extend the closing date of the Children's Contest from April 30 to June 20

The CALGARY MILLING CO., Ltd.

course in a science which will be of untold benefit to them throughout all the lives.

Miss Morrison, who is at present teaching household science in the Ingersoll Collegiate Institute, has been chosen supervisor, with Miss Margaret Stewart as assistant. Miss Stewart is now completing her course at MacDonald college at St. Anne's, Bellevue, Quebec. Both of the above mentioned ladies are thoroughly conversant with all the branches of the work, and are fully competent to discharge their duties in connection therewith.

Weather permitting next Tuesday will be spent at Fish Creek, the party going south to Midnapore on the morning train and returning by the evening train. Provisions should be taken for two meals. Anyone interested in nature study or wishing a good wholesome day in the open air should meet the committee, who may be known by their white badges, at the station in good time for the morning train. If further information is desired it can be obtained from Mr. Reader, 222 13th avenue, west, phone 1555, or Miss M. E. Moodie, 734 4th avenue, west. It is hoped that interest aroused in these outings will result in the organization in September of a Calgary branch of the Provincial Natural History society.

At the Central school the prizes in the recent essay contest conducted by the Daughters of the Empire will be awarded. All those who wrote should go to the Central school for that afternoon, teaching there by 2 o'clock, their attendance being credited in their respective rooms. No announcement will be made of the winners of the prizes until Monday afternoon, and everyone who wrote should be present. The two prize essays will be read by the winners, and the prizes then awarded by Mrs. Pinkham, regent of the Daughters of the Empire. Short addresses will be given by Colonel Cruikshank, Dean Paget, as president of the Canadian club, and a representative of the Daughters of the Empire. It is expected that the essay contest will become an annual feature of school life.

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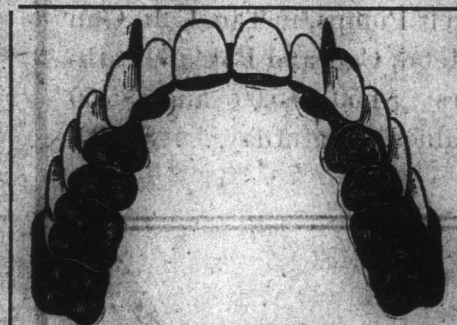


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Modern Bridgework

Our staff consists of three expert dentists having diplomas in several of the provinces of the Dominion and several of the states in the United States. We practice modern dentistry in all its branches, Bridgework, Gold and Porcelain Crowns and Painless Extraction of teeth, are specialties with us. We will please you with our permanent work and moderate charges.

DR. P. C. BRUNER, Manager.

DR. O. A. LYMAN.

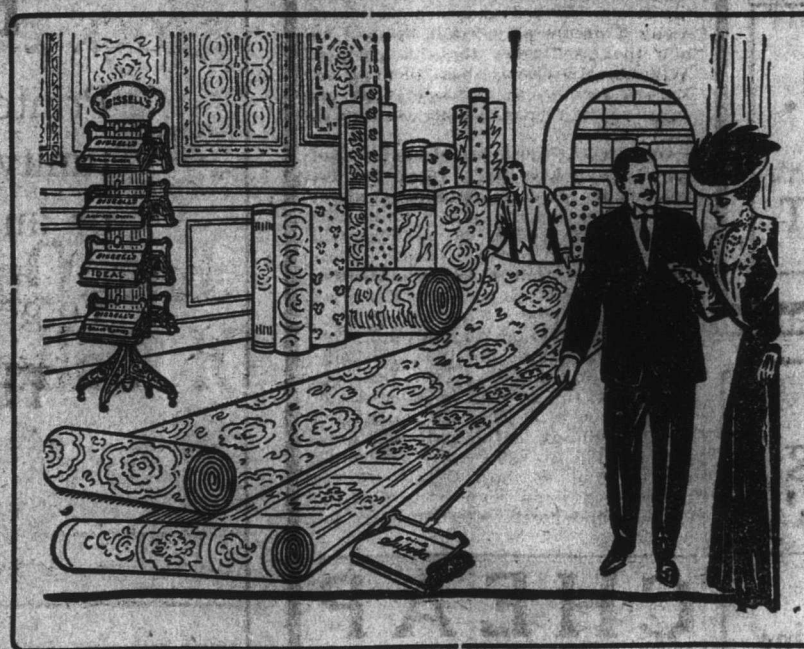
Saturday Specials in the Carpet & Drapery Dept.

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We never had a better assortment of patterns in this most useful line of Rugs. Here are special prices on the different sizes for Saturday: 6-9 x 9, only \$12.35; 9 x 9, only \$16.50; 9 x 10-6, \$19.00; 9 x 12, \$21.00; 11-3 x 12, \$27.00; 11-3 x 13-6, \$30.00.

Lace Curtains

Nottingham Lace Curtains, 3 yards long, in good scroll and conventional designs, on sale at \$2.00 per pair.



NOTE—Remember we carry an immense line of Upholstery Material, so if you have any furniture that needs re-upholstering just call us up and we will send a man to give you an estimate of the cost of re-covering same.

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