

The Albertan

W. M. DAVIDSON, Editor and Manager.

CALGARY AND THE TELEPHONE

The long suffering business men of Calgary went on strike yesterday. They have been troubled, annoyed, vexed and harassed by the Bell Telephone company to such an extent that they decided that the time had come to take action.

As days have passed the service has got worse and worse. Yesterday afternoon the council of the board of trade recommended the city council to install an independent system and promised support for such an undertaking.

Though the poor service egged the board on to take action of this kind, that is not the only argument in favor of an independent system. The Bell company has never acted fairly with Alberta.

The provincial administration is the active telephone builder in Alberta. It is building from Calgary to Banff, then from Edmonton to Fort Saskatchewan, then from Lacombe to Stettler, then from Medicine Hat to the Pass, then from Calgary to Medicine Hat.

There is an independent telephone line in Edmonton and another in Red Deer. In all the smaller towns, with few exceptions, the telephone lines are independent.

The provincial system is the system of the immediate future. If Calgary is to keep in touch, Calgary should hook up with it at once.

FLY THE FLAG The Lethbridge Herald commenting upon the Albertan's editorial favoring the idea of flying the Canadian flag over school houses in Alberta says:

So say we. And the Albertan we hope expresses the sentiment of the Alberta Government. The principle acted upon by Manitoba is right. The principle followed in the flag flying in the front of the pupils in every room. It might be hung in the middle of the wall and at the top, above the black board.

A column by Dods

The Monarchs KING FROST

I am King, I am King, I can maim, I can slay, I can torture the children of men. When arrayed in my night, I go forth through the night, I go forth through the night, I go forth through the night.

HOW TO MAKE BLOCK SYSTEM SAFE In a secret effort to put to proof the carelessness and inefficiency of its engineers and train crews, the Northwestern railway last year made a great series of "surprise tests," resulting in the main agreeably to the best expectations.

King Coal. Forth from my tomb in the heart of the earth, I arise at the labour of man. Who is able to conquer this demon of cold? With the heat of my red heart, I am.

The Chinook. Then from the cave in the mountains, The wind whistles against the breeze, Which skinned o'er the frozen prairie, And played, mild the frozen trees.

EDITORIAL NOTES How can a man keep all his new year's resolutions and have to use a Calgary telephone? The beauty of this Calgary climate is its mild winters. Now take a day like yesterday, etc.

DARCY SCOTT ELECTED MAYOR OF OTTAWA Ottawa Also Decides to Have a Board of Control Ottawa, Jan. 7.—Darcy Scott, the second son of the secretary of state, was today elected mayor of Ottawa by a plurality of 1882.

BELYEA MAYOR OF KENORA Defeated the Former Mayor by a Majority of 64 Kenora, Ont., Jan. 7.—For mayor, C. W. Belyea defeated Mayor Carmichael. His majority was 64.

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