

THE TWO PREMIERS

And What They Saw in the West.

A COMPARISON THAT WILL FILL CANADIANS WITH PRIDE.

[By Geo. Johnson, Dominion Statistician.]

In 1886 Sir John Macdonald made his first and only trip to the Pacific Ocean via the Canadian Pacific Railway. In the course of his journey he visited different parts of the province of Manitoba, the Qu'Appelle valley and several points of the Northwest Territories then traversed by the C. P. R., or within easy striking distance of the railway. Everywhere he was received with great enthusiasm as the man by whose decision had resulted the construction of the inter-oceanic railway, the last spike in which had been driven a few months before he crossed by it to Vancouver city, then non-existent, except in the form of ashes and four houses untouched by the fire, now bright and cheerful with a population of 35,000 souls to make it so.

In 1905, nineteen years later, Sir Wilfrid Laurier visited the Northwest Territories to inaugurate the creation of the two new provinces, by his decision brought into the sisterhood of nine (magic numbers) provinces forming the Dominion, and incidentally to turn the first sod of a second and already needed inter-oceanic railway. He, too, was received with great enthusiasm.

In the score of years intervening between the visits of these distinguished men, what mighty changes have been wrought in the condition of the regions they visited. I think it was Charles Sumner, who once gathered together in a magazine article some of the happier prophecies concerning America. A similar task might be performed with the happy prophecies concerning our Northwest, and as a contrast, a collection easily could be made of the prophecies of a dismal sort that have been uttered about the same region—a land fit only for ranching purposes; then a land waving wheat and oats and the granary of the empire.

In 1886 Sir John traveled over long stretches of vacant country with here and there a farm house. There were in 1886 about 7,000 occupiers of land in the new provinces with about 200,000 acres of cultivated land. This was a great increase over 1881 when the occupiers numbered 1,014 and the cultivated lands were 28,833 acres. Taking Manitoba and the new provinces together there were 24,570 occupiers of land in 1886 and about 950,000 acres of land under cultivation.

In 1905 Sir Wilfrid could say there were over 4,000,000 acres in wheat alone, besides one and a half million acres in oats, barley and flax, to say nothing of the acres of sugar crops, such as potatoes, roots and peas, etc.

In 1886, the total population of the new provinces was about 48,000 of whom 21,000 were Indians, making with Manitoba a total of 157,000. The population must now be fully 800,000, as a simple calculation will show. The 157,000 persons had 950,000 acres under cultivation, or about seven acres to the individual. The 5,500,000 acres divided by seven will yield a population of about 800,000 in round numbers. Sir Wilfrid in 1905 could look out of his car window and realize that there were, say, 650,000 more inhabitants in the region than Sir John could sum up in 1886.

Sir John saw many smiling children under 15 years of age including youthful Indians. Sir Wilfrid would learn from the statistics that there are now enrolled in the schools after their summer holidays, fully 100,000 children, to say nothing of the babies who have not attained sufficient leg-power to warrant their parents sending them to school.

When Edmonton celebrated the other day, the parade of school children was the feature that must have attracted Sir Wilfrid's special notice. They were in regiments according to ages from five years old to twelve years old, waving Union Jacks and cheering at the top of their shrill voices, every observer asking where they all came from and prophesying cheerful times antagonistic to race suicide.

When Sir John visited Winnipeg, that city had a little over 20,000 inhabitants. It claims to have 90,000 now.

It was a lively city in 1886. It had five banks, the Merchants Bank of Canada which opened in 1873, the Bank of Montreal in 1878, the Imperial in 1881 and the Union and Ottawa in 1882.

There are now thirteen in Manitoba, eleven of which have established themselves in the new provinces, the total number of branches being 182, of which 95 are in Manitoba and the remainder (87) in the new provinces.

A clearing house was not established in Winnipeg till 1893. The total clearings for 1894 were 50,600,000.

If he looked into the Year Book of Canada Sir Wilfrid would see that the transactions recorded amounted in 1904 to \$294,600,000, or nearly six times those of 1893.

In 1894 the clearings of the Winnipeg Clearing House were 5 per cent. of all the clearings recorded in all Canada. In 1904, with six more cities having clearing houses, Winnipeg had 10.77 per cent. It now stands third being surpassed by Montreal and Toronto. In 1894 Winnipeg's clearings were one-eleventh of the clearings of Montreal. 1904 they were between one-fourth and one-third. Montreal's clearings increased 95 per cent. on \$546,606,150; Winnipeg 482 per cent. on \$50,602,600. Ottawa's clearings last year were \$105,700,000. Winnipeg's were,

therefore, 2½ times those of Ottawa.

In 1886 when Sir John went through, the wheat area of Manitoba and the northwest was considered by experts to be a rectangular block included between the international boundary and the south end of Lake Manitoba and extending west from the eastern side of Manitoba to about the middle of Assiniboia West and north of this plot of ground might be good ranching lands, but wheat lands, never. Sir John heard much of the ranches of the west and little of the wheat growing capacity. The rancher had everything his own way. Calgary was the center of a great ranching country and everyone talked cattle and horses.

Sir Wilfrid, I warrant, heard little about the ranches except that they were shrivelling up and that the erstwhile rancher was turning to wheat growing. He heard much of the happy discovery that winter wheat was just the sort for Alberta, and that Alberta south and north, was just the country for winter wheat. "Winter wheat is the thing for Alberta," said a farmer man, "40 bushels to the acre, that's success enough for me and in part of my field I got 52 bushels to the acre."

Doubtless, too, as a trained statesman Sir Wilfrid was a little troubled at the intense optimism which emanated from everyone in the west.

Sir John was; but for a little different reason.

The year 1886 was a very poor year for wheat all over the west. The drought was terrible. Around Regina I noticed large fields of wheat with a growth of scarcely a foot high and no chance of growing higher. Even the gophers were declared to go for the stalks, cutting them down for the little moisture they found within. In Manitoba 357,013 acres produced in 1885 about 2,000,000 bushels of wheat more than 184,400 acres produced in 1886, and oats were even worse. How much worse than that it was further west those who had the sore experience of that year alone can tell.

I remember on one occasion finding Sir John down in the dumps—away down. I asked him what was the matter. "Oh!" said he, "I have been bunched. The country is a desert. Aridity is king. There can be no future for Canada. We have spent our strength building a railway. What is there for the railway to carry? It may bring water from the Rockies to keep men's souls in the bodies. That's about all the freight there is."

I said to him, "Let us take a look outside." We went out and stood alongside the railway track. "That's a good substantial track," said I. "The C. P. R. company is composed of shrewd men, if they wanted to bunco the country and make their money, out of the construction they spent a good deal more money than they need. Besides, look at all these colverts. If the country is a rainless desert, why did they go to the expense of these culverts to carry off superabundant water?" The culverts did their work, and satisfied Sir John that 1886 was an exceptionally dry year. (Incidentally it may be mentioned that in the year ended June 30th, 1887 the net earnings of the C. P. R. were \$3,504,000 and in the year ended June 30th, 1905 they were, with interest on deposits, etc. \$17,100,000. Nevertheless that year gave the country a very bad black eye, the severity of which even the application of raw beef from the ranches failed to mitigate.)

It took a number of years before confidence was restored. The home-land entries dropped over 600 in 1887 compared with 1886 and in 1889 there were nearly 2,100 cancelled of 4,416 taken.

Sir Wilfrid was happier in this respect than Sir John. He could look at the statistics of 1904 and find not 2,036 entries with 26 per cent. cancelled but, 26,513 homestead entries with but 5 per cent. cancelled; and this year of 1905 is bumper year. This comparison (which might be much extended) between what the two premiers learned about the west cannot fail to call forth gratitude for the favors a kind Providence has showered on "this Canada of Ours."

TEETHING WITHOUT TEARS.

Mothers who have suffered the misery of restless nights at teething time, and watched their babies in the unhelped agony of that period, will welcome the safe and certain relief that Baby's Own Tablets bring. Mrs. W. G. Mundie, Yorkton, N. W. T., says: "When my little one was cutting teeth she suffered a great deal. Her gums were swollen and inflamed and she was cross and restless. I got a box of Baby's Own Tablets, and after starting their use she began to improve at once, and her teeth came through almost painlessly. The Tablets are truly baby's friend."

This medicine is guaranteed to contain no poisonous opiate or harmful drug. It cures all the minor ailments of little ones and may safely be given to a new born child. Full directions with every box. Sold by all medicine dealers or sent by mail at 25c. a box by writing the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Keep your eyes open and be sure that when you ask for Perry Davis' Painkiller you get just that and nothing else. Use it promptly to cure cramps, diarrhoea and all other bowel complaints in summer.

WILL NEED 12,000 MILES OF CARS.

Graphic Illustration of Immense Grain Production of the American West.

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 22.—The American farmer is a prosperous individual, according to railroad statisticians, who have figured that the grain traffic for this crop year will aggregate 1,500,000 carloads. If all this grain could be hauled in a single train of freight cars the train would be 11,931 miles long, exclusive of the locomotives that would be needed to move it.

Dividing this into trains of forty cars each there would be required 37,500 locomotives, or 355 miles of draught machinery. Adding this 355 miles to the 11,931 miles of cars, there is a total of 12,286 miles.

To hold the cars and engines require nearly every foot of four tracks extending from New York to San Francisco. The necessary single track would measure half the circumference of the globe.

These figures do not fully indicate the vastness of the wealth which the American farmer has taken from his land in corn, oats, wheat, barley and rye this year. The railroad men's estimates are confined to the grain which will be moved to market centres on the steam roads. Probably not more than a third of the grain produced will ever see freight cars. The other two-thirds will be hauled to local mills in wagons or be consumed by live stock on the farms. To hold the corn crop alone would call for a train 21,000 miles in length.

In this statement of agricultural treasure lies the reason for the unparalleled preparations of western railroads for traffic this season. If the farmer were not already well supplied with ready money and were forced to rush his grain to market, as he has done in past years, it is reasonable to suppose the railroads would be swamped with grain traffic.

The statisticians estimate the wheat and oat crops of Minnesota and the Dakotas at 326,000,000 bushels will be marketed on steam roads. They place the yield of corn at 2,566,000,000 bushels, and expect that 786,000,000 bushels will be hauled on freight trains greater or less distances.

Granting that these figures are correct, there will be 173,000 carloads of wheat and oats from the three states mentioned, or 4,325 trains of forty cars each.

The estimate for corn is 796,000 carloads, or 19,900 trainloads of forty cars each. On top of this will probably be 17,000 carloads of flaxseed to be hauled from the north-west.

To haul the 1,500,000 cars for all kinds of grain would mean a movement of a hundred trains of forty cars each every day of the year.

NOT SO GREEN.

He was looking for a rich wife and thought he was on the trail. "I love you," he said, in soft, warm tones, "more than I can tell in words."

"You'd better try figures," she replied, coldly, for she was not so green as she looked.

BEAT THEM ALL.

A Disinterested Opinion Concerning the Recent Exhibition.

Disinterested persons have but one opinion concerning the piano display made at the recent Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto. It is that the exhibit of Messrs. Goulay, Winter and Leeming far surpassed that of any other manufacturer. The Goulay pianos, so charming and luscious in their tone, were garbed in cases of surpassing beauty, representing the three art periods of Louis XIV., Louis XV. and Marie Antoinette, and the public interest was so aroused that the stream of visitors to the exhibit was constant, and the orders received extremely satisfactory. The piano is winning its way in Canada with extraordinary rapidity, a convincing proof of the real excellence of the instrument, not alone in construction, but in mellowness and beauty of tone and perfection of case.

Letters of congratulation are coming almost daily from all parts of the Dominion. Musicians will remember Mr. W. Bradford Smith, the English tenor, who recently came to Canada and was heard last season in Dr. Torrington's splendid production of "The Messiah," in Massey Hall, Toronto. Mr. Smith is now in Winnipeg, where he has established a large clientele, and enjoys an enviable reputation as a thorough musician of taste and discernment. He saw a Goulay piano in the Winnipeg show-rooms of Messrs. Goulay, Winter and Leeming and was so pleased with it that he after giving the instrument a thorough trial, he wrote as follows to the firm:

"The Goulay piano in my studio is so satisfactory that Mrs. Smith and myself have decided to use your instrument in all our recitals. The tone of the Goulay is exquisite for the accompaniment to the voice. Indeed we consider the Goulay preferable to all other pianos made in Canada."

MADE A MISTAKE.

Bilkins—I never knew Cocksure to acknowledge that he had made a mistake. Bilkins—I did once. Bilkins—How did it happen? Bilkins—He put the lighted end of his cigar in his mouth.

In Belgium death sentences are never carried out because King Leopold promised his mother as she was dying that he would never sign his name to a death warrant.

CARRIED OFF IN BALOON.

Exciting Adventure of a Sixteen-Year-Old Boy.

Binghamton, N. Y., Sept. 22.—Floyd Wallace, a sixteen-year-old boy of Oneonta, had an exciting ride in a captive balloon that got away from the Oneonta Fair grounds at 4 p. m. this afternoon. The boy had gone up in the balloon which had been pulled down in the regular manner. When it was about 200 feet above the ground the rope broke and the balloon and boy rapidly shot up in the air and soon disappeared in the clouds, being rapidly blown toward the northeast.

The balloon rose over two miles high before it disappeared from view. The boy managed to get hold of the valve rope and let out the gas, so that he succeeded in safely effecting a landing at Summit, Schoharie county, 30 miles from Oneonta, at 5.45 o'clock. The youth and balloon were uninjured.

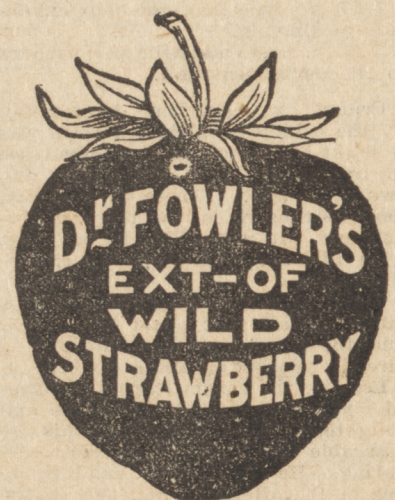
SLAUGHTER OF GERMAN'S.

Column Surprised by Natives in South Africa.

London, Sept. 22.—The Cape Town correspondent of The Times cables:—During General Von Trotha's sweeping movement in Henderlek the Witbois managed to evade the combined columns, and got to the German rear at a spot called Daap, six hours south of Kettmanshoop, Namagaland, and killed and wounded most of the escort, and captured 1,000 head of cattle and 122 waggon, some with ammunition. The commander of the escort has not since been heard of.

General Von Trotha is commander-in-Chief in German South Africa. The Witbois are a warlike tribe, which inhabit the southern part of the colony. Germany has had trouble also with the Hereros in South Africa. There are said to be about 7,000 German troops there.

Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Stomach Cramps, Colic, Seasickness, and all Summer Complaints are instantly cured by

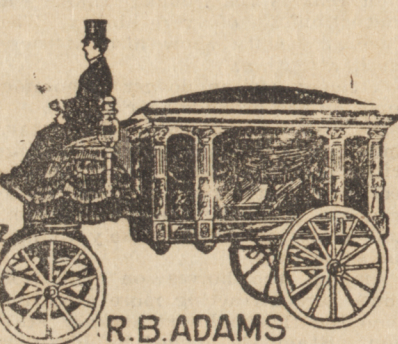


It has been a household remedy for 60 years. It is pleasant to take and does not leave the bowels in a constipated condition. Price 35 cts.

Quality First

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Prices Afterwards.



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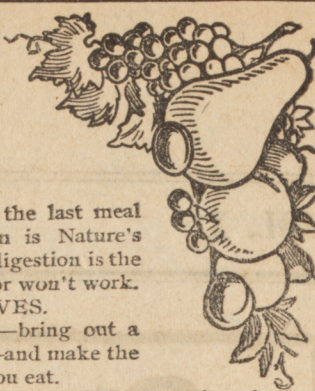
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When Indigestion Grips You



It is not merely "something you ate" at the last meal—it is weakness in the stomach. A pain is Nature's danger signal that something is wrong. Indigestion is the stomach's way of telling you that it can't or won't work.

NOW is the time to take FRUIT-A-TIVES. These fruit tablets rest the stomach—bring out a copious flow of gastric juice at meal time—and make the stomach and intestines digest everything you eat.

You know that Fruit-a-tives are doing you good—because there is no more pain—no more sour stomach—no belching gas. Fruit-a-tives keep the stomach clean and healthy—and ready to digest any sensible meal you eat while the constipation is entirely cured by their use.

"Fruit-a-tives are most valuable in the home. We have used two boxes and are to-day getting a third, which tells our opinion of their merits. I find them especially good for the children, pleasant to take and very cleansing in their action."

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Fruit-a-tives are pure fruit juices in tablet form. They act gently on all the organs of digestion—strengthen, invigorate, and cure. If there is anything wrong with stomach or bowels, cure yourself with

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or Fruit Liver Tablets.

At all druggists. 50c. a box. Manufactured by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

In Vienna fashionable women are abandoning the corset and several corset factories have closed down. This is said to be due to the extension of the "reform," or rational dress, and to a widely printed medical opinion on the evil of stays.

G. T. WHELPLEY.

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