

SOME BRIGHT SPEECHES.

At the Edmonton Inaugural Celebration.

SIR WILFRID LAURIER'S TELLING COMPARISON

Edmonton, Sept. 2.—The whole west and, indeed, all Canada may be congratulated on the success of the Edmonton inauguration. Alberta, the newest Province in the Canadian confederation, which in a political sense had lain bound by Federal restrictions, was released, and, like a young giant stretching forth his limbs, exhibited its latent powers. The "farthest north" city in Canada, the new capital showed the products of Alberta wheatfields in profusion, and claimed rank with the prairie lands of Manitoba in fertility, with the additional attraction of superb conditions for mixed farming. Vegetables, and even apples, were there to rejoice the heart of an easterner. But above all, the demonstration embodied the spirit of the new and hopeful west, whose buoyant confidence is only equalled by its amazing resources. It is a city in a Province of today. It has no past that the residents of today do not know, except the legends of the furtraders, who paused in their journey to the barren lands of the Mackenzie basin. The fur-trader still thrives, but Edmonton is now a city sustained by agriculture.

The first settlers are yet here, and when the men of middle age marched in yesterday's procession they told of the pioneer struggles almost of yesterday. The Red River cart was there, but it has been supplanted by the railway, soon to increase to three transcontinentals. The old freighters and the new-comers are fusing, and a community is arising, proud and cultured, wealthy and self-contained. The Canadians and the Americans are as one, the French and the Germans are being assimilated, and the tastefully dressed Galician babies in the arms of mothers still wearing the head shawl of middle Europe foretell a generation of loyal Canadians.

OLD TIMERS AND NEW.

The "old-timers" were a picturesque feature of the inaugural procession, but they faded before the healthy enthusiasm of fifteen hundred school children—column after column of cheering, well-dressed boys and girls, each waving a small Canadian flag, and bearing such mottoes as "We'll Grow," "The Coming Citizens," and "Prairie Flowers." They furnished a sight to thrill the nerves of the most unimaginative Canadian. Young men marching with the veterans recalled recent service for the empire in South Africa, and hundreds of toilers reflected industrial occupations already planted in this remote centre. Through crowded streets, overlooked by immense new business blocks, and spanned by a half dozen great grain arches, the columns filed, amid an enthusiasm which could not be restrained. The sun, which had been obscured, came forth and brightened the pathway down the hill and through the polar-scented air to the Exhibition grounds. Already, this beautiful plateau on the brink of the great Saskatchewan had been peopled by the Mounted Police.

TROOPERS' EXHIBITION.

Earl Grey, who had witnessed the procession from the Edmonton Club, overlooking the deep gorge, presently was driven to the grounds, where he was received with rounds of cheering. The Mounted Police, those stern guardians of justice in the wilderness, were inspected. Then they gave a series of dashing evolutions, the appreciation of which must have warmed Commissioner Perry's heart. With such an efficient body of troopers d'eter of Paul Wickson's canvas portrayal of the settler, who told the red-coat that he had "No complaints."

The evolutions over, the Governor, who had been joined by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Lady Laurier, Hon. Wm. Paterson, Sir Gilbert Parker, Mr. Wm. Mackenzie, Mr. Byrton E. Walker, and other visitors, was escorted to the canopied platform. Meantime the artillery filed off to a distant hill top and when the hour of noon came the valley echoed with the volleys of their salute. Mayor Mackenzie read an address, assuring Earl Grey of the welcome which was his, and his Excellency replied happily, as has been already telegraphed.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANHOOD.

His Excellency paid a deserved compliment to the beauty, culture and prosperity reflected in the gathering at the previous evening's concert, and went on:—"I consider it a great privilege to be allowed in my capacity as Governor-General to take part at the coming-of-age festivities of your people, whose assumption of the responsibilities and obligations which attach to British manhood all over the world you celebrate today, the day which marks the addition of a new self-giving Province to the Dominion, and thus to the galaxy of self-governing States which makes the British Empire the brightest constellation of the world has ever seen. (Cheers.) The day which marks all this is indeed a red-letter day in the history of the government of the King. That the Province of Alberta will bring, as time goes on, in ever-increasing measure an ever-added strength and lustre to the British Crown, and prove worthy of the illustrious Prince whose name your Province has the honor to bear, is my sanguine hope, and after my experience of last night and this morning is my confident expectation. (Cheers.)

"You, the people of Alberta, are

justified in anticipating a steady flow of intending settlers into your Province, for there are many who seek to better their conditions both in the new world and in the old, who are already counting the hours until they can embrace with both hands the rights you are able to offer them from out of your abundant treasury, for the rights you offer are the greatest that any land has to bestow upon mankind; they are represented by the happiness, the health and the wealth which your soil and your climate and your geographical position offer to all those who are willing to apply to the cultivation of the soil honest and persevering and intelligent industry. (Applause.) That you, the people of Alberta, may quickly assimilate to yourselves all who come to you in the hope of making for themselves a new home in a new country, and that you may grow altogether a united, a prosperous, a cultured, a God-fearing and a righteous community, I, the Governor-General and representative of his Majesty the King, reverently hope for you from the bottom of my heart." (Loud cheers.)

THE SWEARING IN CEREMONY.

The ceremony of swearing in Lieutenant Governor Bullock was brief. In response to the kind address of congratulation read by the mayor, His Honor expressed his thanks, and promised to labor honestly and faithfully in the discharge of his new responsibilities.

THE PREMIER'S SPEECH.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier was naturally called upon, and as the prime minister stepped forward his face reflected the joy he felt in the consummation of his latest effort in parliament. Sir Wilfrid's reception was kindly in the extreme. In addition to what has been telegraphed he said:

"I have an advantage over His Excellency the Governor General, who now visits the city of Edmonton for the first time. I come here for the second time. It is many years since I was here, so many years that since I only you have forgotten it, but I only have not; I can tell you to the day. It is just eleven years this day, this month of September—1894—when it was my privilege for the first time to visit this immense portion of our common country, which extends from the western shore of the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains, which for two centuries and more was known as Rupert's Land, as the Northwest Territories, and where today are springing into existence to take their rank and stand in the confederation of Canada two provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Eleven years have passed, and if someone had told me at that time that my next visit to Edmonton would be in connection with the auspicious event which has brought me here today—His Excellency the Governor General, this throng, not only from the province, but from the neighboring provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba and from the provinces of the east and I am glad to say from our neighbor to the south, the American republic—(cheers)—I am sure that if this had been prophesied then I would not have believed it.

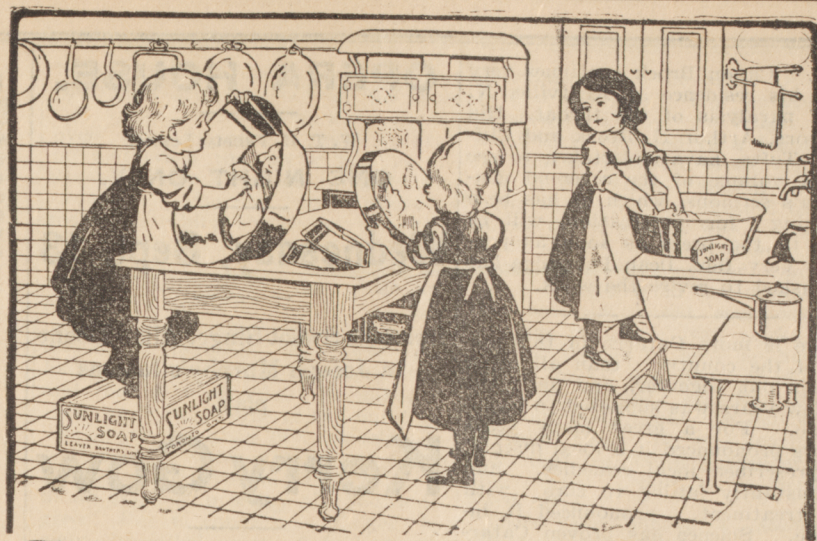
THE DOUBTING PERIOD.

"Eleven years have passed, and, as has been hinted a moment ago by the new governor of Alberta, many and many changes have taken place. In 1894 the expectation which you had indulged in of rapid development for this new territory had not been realized. The sun shone, the rain fell, the soil responded generously to the efforts of the settler, but the markets were far, the means of access were few, the profits of the farmer were scanty and small. Agriculture, upon which all industry depended, agriculture from which all wealth is derived, agriculture was sorely depressed, and agriculture being depressed everything suffered in consequence. The city of Winnipeg, the pioneer city, after making a splendid start, had reached the rank of a provincial town and seemed to have reached its furthest possibility. The five cities that now adorn the new provinces—Regina, Moose Jaw, Calgary, Edmonton and Prince Albert—were nothing but struggling villages. You know as well as I do that at that time, Regina had nothing but its name; Moose Jaw was not far removed from the primitive condition that its name implied, a name in which the inhabitants gloried; Calgary had made a splendid start, but stood still.

"Of Edmonton, what shall I say? I am sure that I will not offend the pride of any citizen when I say that I could count upon the fingers of two hands, the number of buildings, public and private, which constituted the present capital of Alberta. But, sir, everything is changed. Edmonton is making gigantic strides. Only four years ago—at the time of the last census—I had the honor of representing in the parliament of Canada the third largest city of the Dominion, the old city of Quebec, but now I am sorry to say that I have to take a back seat to make way for some other, and the honor of representing the third city in population no longer belongs to the representative of the old pioneer city of Quebec; it now belongs to the member for Winnipeg.

NO JEALOUS EYE.

"In the name of the people of Quebec let me say I am not jealous any more. I say to the other two cities of the older provinces, Montreal and Toronto—the largest and the next largest—that if they are going to



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keep their supremacy they had better look out—or, to use a western phrase, they had better hustle right away." (Cheers.)

Sir Wilfrid contrasted with this picture the present rapid development, and added:

"Now, gentlemen, what is the cause of this change? Well, sir, if I were addressing a political audience, perhaps I might find many causes for this change—(laughter)—and perhaps also there might be gentlemen on this broad platform who cannot agree with me upon these reasons, but this is not a day of political controversy, this is a day of national rejoicing. (Hear, hear.) This is a city where we only remember one thing—that we are Canadians, British subjects. (Cheers.) Therefore, ladies and gentlemen, I will abstain from giving the causes. But sir, whether we agree or whether we disagree there is one thing upon which we all agree—that the prosperity of this new province, past, present or future, is undoubtedly connected with the question of transportation with railway facilities. Well, sir, I will not go further, because, perhaps, I might trespass upon the ground from which I want to abstain."

HON. MR. PATERSON'S SPEECH.

Hon. William Paterson was heard with much pleasure. He enlarged on the extent of Canada, and said that perhaps another province might yet have to be carved out of the territory washed by the Arctic Ocean. He concluded: "Though we grow thus in our material resources, though our possibilities are unbounded, I am sure as men and women we will not forget that to which much is given, of them much will be required, that we are here in the possession of all that makes citizenship dear to every man who loves freedom. We will not forget that we have a duty to perform to build up this confederation, this Canada of ours, to build it up on sure and lasting foundations, of principles, of justice, of truth and of right."

SIR GILBERT PARKER.

Sir Gilbert Parker, M. P., on being asked to speak, claimed to be a fellow-Canadian, and confessed to having written some books about Canada. "But whether I have written truly or not is a matter of no consequence here today," he added.

"Yes it is," answered a man in the audience, with western candor. "You are in a true sense the men behind the gun." Sir Gilbert proceeded, "because you are the fighting forces, fighting farther and farther northward, making for England that food supply which is her absolute necessity. In peace or in war she must look to the Dominion of Canada before all other parts of the empire for the sinews for that war, the food of her people, the blood of her soldiers, and of her sailors."

The author of "The Seats of the Mighty" went on to say that in the west lies the fulcrum of the power of this northern part of the continent. They could build on new foundations for the present and the future without regard to the past.

"Have the older races halted? Do they drop and end their mission? Wander over there beyond the seas, We take up the task eternal, And the burdens of the lesson Pioneers! Oh, pioneers!"

"The future is with you, you young Canadians out here upon the borders of civilization carrying that civilization farther and farther northward; with you lies the opportunity and the power to add to the glory, to add to the position of the Dominion of Canada, not only in the empire, but in the great confederation of nations belonging to the empire in its influence upon the civilized world." (Loud cheers.)

OTHER FESTIVITIES.

The afternoon field sports were witnessed by upwards of 1,200 people. The state ball in the evening was in every way a success. A man from the self-conscious east who thought bullets would fly if he brought a dress suit arrived to find a gathering as stylish and well dressed as he would see in any eastern city.

His Excellency, Sir Wilfrid and Lady Laurier, Hon. Mr. Paterson and the other distinguished guests attended and mingled freely with the workmen. Several clergymen were present, one of them being the picturesque figure of the Bishop of the Diocese of Mackenzie.

No woman need worry over the sarcastic remarks her husband makes about her Easter bonnet. The poor fellow is entitled to something for his money.

Praise among women, like gold and precious stones, owes its value chiefly to its scarcity.

COMING TO FREDERICTON.

Fredericton citizens will learn with interest of the coming visit of Mr. Bernhard Lindman, the celebrated Truss expert of Montreal. This eminent specialist will be at The Barker House, Fredericton, on Sept. 18th and 19th, where he will treat all cases of Rupture—no charge for examination or advice. Read the following letter, which is only one of many hundreds:

2670 St. Catherine St., Montreal, 19th May, 1904:
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Dear Sir—On the 29th December, 1902, you fitted me with one of your trusses. I may say that I wore it for one year as per instructions. Having left off the truss in January last I think I can say that it has made a perfect cure. The wearing of the truss caused me no discomfort whatever after the first week.

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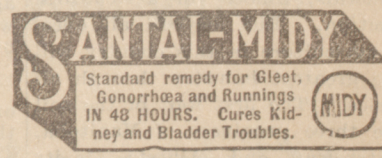
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