

Sir Frederick Haultain

Frederick Haultain fought tirelessly to gain autonomy for the North-West Territories

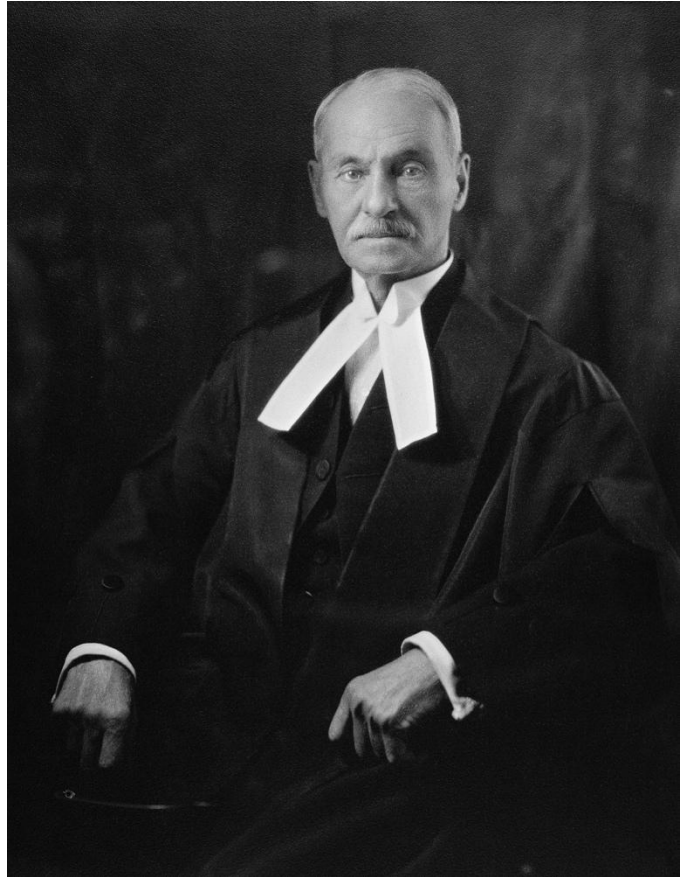
Passionate and untiring, impatient with gopher control and prairie fires when the West needed schools, roads and bridges, Haultain came to represent a restless and dissatisfied west. He served for more than 15 years as the member of the Legislature from the Macleod District, and was de facto premier of the North-West Territories. Haultain dreamed that they would form one big province called Buffalo, convinced that this could become “the largest province and the most powerful province in the greatest and most glorious country attached to the mightiest empire the world has ever seen.”

He believed that this province should control its own public lands and resources. His vision unnerved Ottawa and he was not invited to the inaugural celebrations of the new provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan in September of 1905.

Although educated in Ontario, Haultain became the first alienated western politician, the outspoken author of a manifesto that demanded “control of the public domain in the West, by the West, for the West.”

Going to London to See the Queen

As Premier of the North-West Territories, Frederick Haultain was invited to attend the coronation of Edward VII and Queen Alexandra in July 1902.



Sir Frederick Haultain wearing legal robes
Glenbow Archives NA-2642-2

Proper decorum was important to the future king. He requested that all gentlemen who attended the coronation celebration at St. James Place be appropriately attired. Haultain wore his court suit and apparently, it was a good choice. In a letter to his mother he wrote, “I don’t feel at all embarrassed in my court dress as everybody else is in [one]...”

Haultain made the most of his trip to England, promoting the Canadian west to Britons interested in emigrating. Word of his successful visit reached newspapers back home. One London observer was quoted in the *Macleod Gazette*, “The best investment your people over here have made for some time past was in sending Mr. Haultain over to represent you in London...”

Full Name: Sir Frederick William Alpin George Haultain
Born: November 25, 1857 – Died: January 30, 1942

Additional Resources

- **The Canadian Encyclopedia**
<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/sir-frederick-william-haultain>

Our Collections

Glenbow Museum

<https://www.glenbow.org>

Glenbow Western Research Centre | Glenbow Library and Archives

<https://libguides.ucalgary.ca/glenbowlibraryandarchives>

Glenbow Library and Archives | Digital Collection

<https://digitalcollections.ucalgary.ca/asset-management/2R340826N9XM?WS=PackagePres&Flat=1>