The St. John Standard

VOL. XIII., NO. 174. | TWELVE PAGES | FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 2, 1921 | FAIR AND MILD | TWO CENTS

MOST DECIDED SWING TOWARD PREMIER DURING PAST WEEK

PREMIER INVADES "CRADLE OF LIBERALISM" AND IS GIVEN HEARTY AND LOYAL RECEPTION

Five Thousand Gather in King's Riding to Hear Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, Who Said from Beginning to End of Campaign He Had Allowed the Enemy to Choose the Issues and He Dealt With Them as They Came Up—An Awful Jolt Awaits Those, He Said, Who Are Calling for Destruction of the Government — Crowds at Brompton So Great Premier Had Difficulty in Getting Into Auditorium.

Newmarket, Ont., Dec. 1—Tonight Premier Meighen invaded the constituency of North York, referred to by some political speakers as "the cradle of Liberalism." Here Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, leader of the Liberal party, and R. W. E. Burnaby, president of the United Farmers of Ontario, are opposing J. A. M. Armstrong, former member and standard-bearer of the government.

The reception accorded the premier was a hearty one. The large rink in which the meeting was held was hung with flags and streamers and crowded to capacity with a gathering which was estimated at 5,000 people. There were few interruptions.

Premier Meighen was escorted through the crowd to the platform by a man carrying a large Union Jack. Premier Meighen said that from the beginning of the campaign to the end he had allowed the enemy to choose the issues. On every platform he had dealt with these issues as they came up, but, he said, "I cannot change the speeches of one of your candidates here. He evidently has it copyrighted and can't alter it."

"I'm not entering the field of prophecy," he went on. "I leave that to those who are bereft of argument." But he went on to predict that those who were calling for the destruction of the Government would be disappointed.

Unemployment Less

The Premier declared that unemployment in Canada was diminishing instead of increasing. He compared conditions in this country with those in the United States insisting that in New York city alone there were more out of work than in the whole of Canada.

"No nation can show more war results for two billion dollars than we can," said Mr. Meighen, discussing the national debt.

"I find that those are most alarmed about the war debt who were least alarmed about the war. Read any financial authority with the exception of Mr. King and Mr. Murdock and you will find that this country is in the best financial condition of any nation which went through the war, with the possible exception of the United States," he went on.

King a Straddler

"Look at the returns today, all you croakers about the C. N. R." said the Premier, referring to the progress of the Canadian National system.

"Mr. King leaves himself free to climb down upon either side of the fence just as he does on the tariff and every other question," the Premier said, in referring to public versus private ownership of national railways. He once more discussed the Riordon charges and also advanced his arguments in favor of a policy of moderate protection. "I wonder what you think of a platform which is always published by its foes and suppressed by its friends?" he said in referring to the tariff policy of the Liberal party. "No one need be afraid of Mr. King except those who trust his political honor."

Crowds at Brampton

Brampton, Ont., Dec. 1—The armories here proved quite inadequate to accommodate the large crowd which gathered to hear Premier Meighen this afternoon. Long before the meeting was advertised to open every seat in the building was occupied and when Premier Meighen arrived at about half past two o'clock people had crowded the aisles, were standing around the platform and filling up the doorway in an effort to get a glimpse, if not to hear the Premier. It was absolutely impossible for Mr. and Mrs. Meighen to make their entrance into the building by the front door, so a door was opened at the rear of the platform, and by means of a chair and some willing hands they were raised to the stage. Mr. Meighen emphasized the importance of the adoption of a wise and progressive policy by a government. He referred to the defence programme of the present administration asserting that the effort was merely to maintain an efficient nucleus in case of need.

After War Problems

Dealing with taxation, Mr. Meighen declared that three times the pre-war revenue was required if the Government was to deal fairly with the returned soldiers and carry on the undertakings made essential by the war. The income tax had been planned so as to bear heavily on the wealthy and lightly on the poor, he maintained.

A man with a wife and family paid nothing if he was earning less than $2,000. On the other hand there were wealthy men, who were paying two-thirds of their incomes in taxation to the Government.

Mr. Meighen compared the action of the Government in granting time to the Riordon company in which to pay its business tax with its action in granting loans to Western farmers in 1914 and 1915 to buy seed grain. Four million dollars of the latter still remained unpaid.

Favored Farmers.

"Now if there were any discrimination on the part of the Government who was it in favor of, he asked his hearers. "The farmer," replied a voice. "I should say it was, and it will continue to be," replied Mr. Meighen. "Those worry most about the war debt who worried least about the war," Mr. Meighen said in discussing the financial conditions of the country. He referred with sarcasm to what he termed the mushrooms issues which had been raised by Opposition speakers and advised his hearers to "look back over the deeds of the years which have gone, before, taking these issues too seriously."

York Conservatives Have No Misgivings About Final Result

Candidate Hanson and Ex-Warden Smith Addressed Large Audience at Devon.

Fredericton, Dec. 1—R. B. Hanson, K.C., Conservative candidate in York-Sunbury, addressed a large meeting in the Temperance Hall, Devon tonight. Ex-Warden Harry A. Smith also was one of the speakers at this very successful meeting. Devon for many years has given support to the Conservative Party in elections and will do the same by it on Tuesday next.

The Government party in this constituency has no misgiving about the result on election day. The United Farmer movement, or any other movement notwithstanding. During the past few days there has been an indication of a profound feeling in all parts of the counties which should aid the Government candidate. The low tariff argument is worse than useless in the greater part of the constituency, as the interests of the people are too closely bound up with manufacturing for them to be misled.

The returned soldier appeal has not proven so effective as opponents of the Government expected, and many returned men will vote for Mr. Hanson, not merely because of previous party affiliation, but because of conviction that the country at this juncture needs the Meighen Government to meet a surplus for another term.

JEWS HELD AT HALIFAX ALLOWED TO PROCEED TO DESTINATIONS

Halifax, Dec. 1—The party of Jews from Poland who have been detained here for about six weeks because their passports were not in order, will be allowed to proceed to their destinations in Canada tomorrow. Instructions to this effect were received from Ottawa tonight and announced to members of the party while they were being entertained at a concert given by a local Jewish club. The party originally consisted of over 200 men, women and children.

CHIEF JUSTICE HAZEN TO FACE DIFFICULT TASK

Appointed by Gov't to Investigate Claims Aggregating $22,494,979.25—659 Now Filed.

Ottawa, Dec. 1—Already 659 claims, aggregating $22,494,979.25, have been filed with Major H. Spencer Ralph, of the Department of the Secretary of State, for reparation for illegal acts of warfare committed on Canadians and Canadian property by Germany and her allies during the war. It is anticipated that many additional claims will be made and that their total value will run into many millions of dollars. Sir Douglas Hazen, who has been appointed to investigate these claims, will decide the amounts the claimants are to receive. Claims, after investigation, will be paid from Canada's share of indemnity secured by Great Britain from Germany on this account. Canada will receive 4.35 per cent of Great Britain's 22 per cent of the total reparation assessed against Germany by the Allied Nations.

Claims already submitted cover the losses through torpedoeing of merchant ships, lives of sailors and passengers, loss of property seized by Germany in other countries, restraint of persons, personal injuries following air raids, and for the mal-treatment of prisoners of war. Perhaps the most peculiar claims are those of Armenian residents in Canada for losses alleged to have been suffered by them as a result of the Turkish atrocities in Armenia. There are ninety-one of these claims totalling $1,167,168.85.

Ships and Cargoes

The department has received 140 claims for ships, cargoes and merchandise lost at sea. These claims total $16,958,379.45. There are 56 claims totalling $1,134,251.11 based on passengers losing their lives at sea, and 194 claims totalling $289,566.82 for the loss of personal effects of passengers. For the lives of sailors lost at sea twenty claims have been submitted totalling $137,659.83 and 21 claims for the loss of personal effects of sailors with a value of $7,769.25. The loss of personal effects of fishermen has brought in 46 claims, valued at $29,988.65.

The total value of the claims for losses at sea is $18,501,595.14.

Claims for losses of property on land total $2,826,315.26. Of this the largest amount is $2,111,154.65 for goods seized abroad. An instance of this is found in the claims for Canadian property seized by Germans on the wharves of Antwerp. There are eight claims for loss of life on land totalling $157,379.99, and 25 claims for illegal restraint valued at $771,699.29. Under personal injury there are 42 claims totalling $979,988.52.

Farmer Wood Makes Forecast

Calgary, Alta., Dec. 1—Ten farmers, one labor and one independent is the forecast of H. W. Wood, president of the United Farmers of Alberta, so far as the result of the federal election in Alberta is concerned. Mr. Wood returned today from a two week's tour of various sections of the province.

COL. F. B. BLACK SUCCEEDS LATE SENATOR DOMVILLE IN SENATE

COL. F. B. BLACK

New Brunswick's New Senator, succeeding Late Senator Domville.

Ottawa, Dec. 1—The appointment is announced of Colonel F. B. Black to the Senate for New Brunswick, to succeed the late Senator Domville.

The new Senator was born at Sackville, Feb. 28, 1869, the son of Joseph Laurence and Mary Jane (Snowball) Black; and was educated at Mount Allison University, from which institution of learning he received the degree of Ph. B. in 1887. He is a member of the Board of Regents of this university. Entering business life, he joined the extensive mercantile and lumbering concern established by his father in 1849, now known as J. L. Black & Sons, Ltd., of which he is now the president and general manager. In addition he is an agriculturist on a large scale, carrying on one of the largest farms in the Maritime Provinces. He has also taken an active part in politics, both provincial and municipal, having for some years been a member of Sackville Town Council, serving as Mayor 1917-18. In 1913 he was elected to the Legislature as one of the members for Westmorland.

Colonel Black has been connected with the Canadian militia since 1890, when he joined the 8th Princess Louise Hussars. On the outbreak of the war in 1914 he volunteered for active service, and went overseas in 1915 as brigade major 2nd Brigade, C. M. R. Before Messines he was placed in command of the brigade, he was wounded in December, 1915, twice promoted and mentioned in despatches.

Colonel Black is also President of the N. B. Telephone Co. and of the Maritime Advertising Agency, Ltd., publishers of The St. John Standard.

He married, in 1898, Miss Eleanor Louise Wood, daughter of the Hon. Josiah Wood, formerly Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, and has two sons and two daughters. It may be added that he is a resident of Sackville, N. B.

GOVERNMENT SPEAKERS ARE ENTHUSIASTICALLY GREETED BY ALBERT CO. ELECTORS

Alma, Dec. 1—By far the largest and most enthusiastic meeting ever held in this vicinity took place this evening in the interests of the Conservative candidates, Hon. J. B. M. Baxter and Dr. Murray MacLaren. The speakers were L. P. D. Tilley, K. C., Lt.-Colonel W. H. Harrison and Louis Smith, M.L.A., and seated also on the platform was Dr. Murray of Albert. C. W. Parsons presided as chairman.

High Characters of Candidates

Louis Smith, M.L.A., pointed out the high character and ability of the Government candidates, and compared their accomplishments with those of the Liberal opposition nominees. Mr. Smith declared that, in order to be a success in public life, a man should also be a success in his own business, as the Government candidates were. The speaker also read the platform of the "Wood-Grimmer" party, which called for free trade, and demonstrated that it was only beneficial to the western grain growers who had no sympathy or interest in common with the real farmers of the Maritime Provinces.

When Opposition is Silent.

The Liberal programme called for free coal, but the members of that party studiously avoided mentioning it in Nova Scotia, because it was detrimental to the coal interests of that province. The policy of the Liberal party also called for free farm implements, but this matter was not mentioned by their followers in constituencies in Quebec, as the Liberal leaders in that province were in favor of high protection.

Dealing with the Labor Party Mr. Smith pointed out that it had no remedy for hard times other than the conscription of wealth. The big interests of the country were now paying large sums in business profits tax towards defraying the expenses in carrying on the affairs of the country. Canada required a stable tariff, otherwise the destruction of our industries would follow, in such an event, unemployment would necessarily result. Mr. Smith declared that it could not be in the interests of the workmen of the country to support, in any manner whatsoever, a policy which would cause the loss of their means of livelihood. The Meighen Government stood for a moderate protection, which would enable our industries to continue operation and thereby afford employment to the labor element throughout the breadth of the country.

Government Aided Soldiers.

Lt.-Colonel W. H. Harrison, in his opening remarks, dwelt briefly with the benefits which were given to returned soldiers by the Meighen Government. The speaker enumerated the many policies put into effect, and pointed out that the reason he brought the subject before the meeting was owing to the unjust criticism of members of the opposition, whose statements were at variance to the true facts. The question of the disposition of the century land had been left to returned soldiers by the Government for a decision, without outside interference.

(Continued on page 2.)

SPIRIT OF CONFIDENCE PERVADING GOVERNMENT HEADQUARTERS AT OTTAWA

Decided Swing to Premier Meighen Past Week and 117 Seats Now Certain.

QUEBEC WILL YIELD 20 GOV'T SUPPORTERS

No Fewer Than 65 Supporters from Ontario Now Assured—Agrarians Losing.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Dec. 1—The campaign nears its close and as reports on the progress of the fight are being received from the constituencies, an astonishing spirit of confidence pervades Government headquarters here. Senator Calder, in the prediction which he made a week ago, claimed 105 safe Government seats. On reports, however, of a decided swing toward Mr. Meighen during the past week the Government campaign managers are increasing this claim to as many as 117 seats. Quebec, all along regarded as an impregnable King fortress, will, it is now declared, yield twenty Government supporters. This, despite the fact that a confidential Liberal inter-organization report, which has been placed into the hands of ministerial forces, concedes but eight Government wins. In Ontario, too, the Government is now advancing its claims. No fewer than sixty-five ridings are now said to be certain to enter the Meighen column, Mr. King being conceded not more than five seats.

Agrarians Losing.

While these estimates are believed by the more cautious to be over sanguine, there is, nevertheless, a universal admission that the past ten days has witnessed a remarkable swing from the camps of both Liberals and Farmers. The Agrarians, in particular, are admitted to have suffered a severe slump, the financial crash of the Farmers' Co-operative enterprise which, on the admission of its president, A. A. Powers, have sustained a loss of $300,000 this year alone, having played havoc with their political fortunes. A member of the Government, who has been all over the province, declared tonight that Mr. Crerar would not carry ten Ontario ridings.

Another development, and one that is bringing immense strength to the Meighen forces, is the outspoken pro-Meighen attitude of Labor. Apart from the few "reds and radicals" who are following the Wood-Crerar organization, organized Labor is believed to be almost solid behind the ministry. The action of sixteen important railway and Labor unions of Smiths Falls and vicinity, in openly endorsing Mr. Meighen, is taken as but an outward manifestation of the attitude of Labor throughout the Dominion as a whole.

Meanwhile the most encouraging reports come from the West, where masses of the farmers are declared to be in revolt against the domination of Henry Wise Wood, the ex-Missourian, ex-Populist and champion of class domination. As a result of the attempted domination of Wood, which has led to a serious split in the Farmer movement, it is now declared that the Government is certain of carrying five Alberta seats at least; that it will do as well in Saskatchewan, and that in Manitoba it will capture not less than eight. British Columbia, of course, is a Conservative stronghold, and here the Government expects 11 out of 13 seats.

Summing up the Dominion as a whole, the latest Government claim is as follows: Maritimes, 27 seats; Quebec, 20; Ontario, 65; Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan, 16; British Columbia and Yukon, 11; total, 117.

DEMONSTRATION STAGED BEFORE HEADQUARTERS CHINESE DELEGATION

Washington, Dec. 1—A demonstration was staged before the headquarters of the Chinese delegation to the Far East Conference today in favor of the unconditional return of Shantung, the crowd being composed of Chinese students and merchants resident in Washington, augmented by scores of Chinese who have been in Washington because of the conference. There was no disorder, the crowd gradually dispersing after addresses by the three Chinese delegates.

Beaver Harbor Gives Gov't Speakers Most Hearty Reception

Issues of Campaign Discussed by Prominent Speakers Before Large Audience.

Beaver Harbor, Dec. 1—The Conservative meeting held here this evening in the Barry and Eldridge Hall, crowded to the building to its capacity. Vigorous and able speeches were delivered by James S. Lord, St. Stephens; W. V. Grimmer, a returned soldier from St. George, and Dr. H. I. Taylor, of St. George. Jesse Holmes presided as chairman.

The first speaker was James S. Lord who thoroughly discussed all the topics of the campaign, and held the attention of the audience for over an hour, and in his discussion he showed conclusively that the policy of the Meighen Government was to the decided advantage of the Maritime Provinces and the Dominion of Canada as a whole.

Soldiers Well Treated

W. V. Grimmer pointed out the generous treatment which had been received by returned soldiers at the hands of the Meighen administration in the way of pensions, war service gratuity, Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment, Soldiers' Land Settlement Act and other legislation. He declared that as a returned man he considered that the Government had acted in a fair and honest manner towards the soldiers who had fought overseas.

Meighen Policy Needed

Dr. H. I. Taylor stated that the reports received from every part of the constituency indicated that H. W. Grimmer, the Conservative candidate, would be elected by a handsome majority. The speaker also dealt with the injurious effects on Canada which had been brought about by the railway policy of the Liberal party, and pointed out the advantages to be obtained through the medium of the protective tariff policy of the Meighen Government.

U. S. Railroads Ready To Act In Behalf of U.S.M.M.

Expressed Willingness to Terminate Preferential Contracts With Foreign Lines.

Washington, Dec. 1—Representatives of the Pennsylvania and several other United States railroads, called into conference by the United States Shipping Board Interstate Commerce Committee, today expressed a willingness to terminate preferential contracts with foreign lines after they had been told that such contracts were a menace to the success of the United States merchant marine.

B. O. Wood, representing the Grand Trunk, said if the agreement between that road and the White Star Dominion line should be cancelled, the steamship line would probably transfer its docks from Portland, Maine, to some Canadian port.

The Baltimore & Ohio representative declared that that railroad gave all shipping lines the same service.

Ballot Boxes And Election Papers Lost In Lake Winnipeg

Winnipeg, Dec. 1—The first attempt resulted in failure when a boat capsized in Lake Winnipeg in an effort to take ballot boxes to persons of Springfield constituency, on the Northern confines of civilization, by dog team. There are said to be 500 voters affected. One of the men, who accompanied the boat, walked 100 miles back to report the misadventure which resulted in all the ballot boxes and election papers being lost.