

The G.T.R. STRIKE SETTLEMENT

Mr. James Murdock, Vice-President of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, was given a great reception at the Liberal meeting on Saturday evening, and notwithstanding the fact that it was 11.15 o'clock when he began to speak the audience patiently waited to hear the facts in connection with the Grand Trunk strike and they were well rewarded. Mr. Murdock proved himself to be a platform speaker of rare ability and the convincing manner in which he presented the case from beginning to end won for him the admiration of practically the entire audience.

When Mr. Murdock commenced to speak an effort was made several times by some of Mr. King's opponents to interrupt him and he tactfully quieted them by informing them that he had lived in Canada for thirty-seven years and had voted with the opposition party ever since he had a vote in Canada. "I say that to my friends over here," pointing in the direction in which the interruptions were forthcoming during the entire evening, "and I expect to get a hearing from them."

Now then, we find honorable gentlemen on the floor of Parliament, G.T.R. men who are out of employment, members of labor organizations and others all over Canada complaining very bitterly that the G.T.R. settlement has not been carried out. It is surely deplorable and unfortunate that to-day there are a great many good, loyal and honest laboring men whom you know and I know who sacrificed their all and went out with their fellows to better their conditions who have not been returned to the service, who have not secured the benefits, the privileges, and the better conditions that were guaranteed by the settlement. But I want to say to you that some honorable gentlemen have, through ignorance or malice aforethought, been placing this blame in the wrong place all the time. (Applause.) You have seen in the papers scattered broadcast over the Dominion of Canada references made to an agreement that the Liberal Government made in settlement of the Grand Trunk strike. That is an absurdity and absolutely untrue. (Applause.) Here is the signed agreement with Charles M. Hays' signature on it (displaying), and the signatures of the chairmen of the two committees, the vice-president in charge, Mr. Berry and myself, the two executive heads of the organizations, Mr. Lee and Mr. Garretson. They signed up that agreement, ladies and gentlemen, and they alone stand sponsors for that agreement. (Hear, hear.) But it is not out of the way to call your attention to the manner in which some of these eminent gentlemen who are looking for timber to light their fires have got this idea into their heads that the Government made an agreement to settle the strike that the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and the Order of Railroad Conductors put on. I want to say to you that both of these organizations are not given to foolishly or haphazardly going into a