

EVIDENCE GIVEN ON ALLEGED IRREGULARITIES AT MONEYMORE

Case Enlarged For Argument of Counsel—Condition of Poll No. 8 at Opening Voting—The Sexsmith and Shannon Episodes—Many Witnesses Could Not Remember Exact Happenings.

All the evidence in the charges of irregularity at poll No. 8 in Hungerford at the January elections was put in Wednesday and the case was enlarged until next Wednesday for argument.

At the resumption Wednesday in Belleville Police Court the case in which John Burley, D. R. O., is charged with violation of the secrecy of the ballot and with allowing a man to vote after he refused to be sworn, Clarence Carleton was the first witness called. He said he voted and saw Mr. Wm. Coulter present himself as an open voter. "Had you an opportunity to tell how he voted?" "I did." Witness proceeded to state that the ballot was made openly. Coulter's sons, Joe and Ernest Coulter, were there at the time of the voting. No one attempted to clear the poll. Witness saw no constable at the poll. To Mr. Butler—He thought if they wanted him to leave the poll, he would have been told to leave. No agents told him to leave. Sometimes it is a custom to remain around the poll.

Mr. A. E. Kincaid was acting as agent for Mr. Mouck at No. 8 poll, Moneymore. There are quite a few, he testified, who take open votes. Wm. Coulter, one of these, came in the afternoon with his sons. It was known that he was a man who required to vote openly. Mr. Coulter did not ask for a ballot and no one asked him any question. He walked up to the table. Mr. Burley asked him whom he was going to vote for. He read the names too fast. Mr. Coulter told the names of the men he supported and the ballot was marked by Mr. Burley. Witness knew only of Ernest Coulter being in the poll at the time and Ernest could hear how his father voted. Others might have been present.

Peter and Louis Laveques also voted openly. They came up to get their vote registered. Louis voted first. Burley asked whom he was going to vote for and read the names of the candidates. Among those present were P. Laveques, Reid, Kincaid and McLean. All could hear how Louis voted, unless they had a defect in hearing. The same condition prevailed while Peter voted.

Alex. Weir next took an open vote. Mr. Burley asked him if he would mark his ballot himself or have Burley mark it. He asked Burley to do so. Nobody was present illegally, he thought.

Harry Horton was the next to vote. Mr. Burley asked him if he was going to take an open vote or mark the ballot. He said he would take an open vote. People in the poll could hear the vote.

"I did not see any constable there at all. There was none there as I saw. John Burley, junior, was there back and forward, but I cannot recall that he typed the door."

Witness was outside when the Shannons voted.

Cross examination—This was his first time as scrutineer. He took the oath of secrecy. He admitted seeing parties during open voting who had no right to be there. He made no objection to their presence. He recalled Thos. Sexsmith voting that day. Sexsmith walked up. Mr. Burley handed him a ballot, he went into the compartment and came out, saying he did not think he would mark his own ballot. Mr. Burley read the names too fast and Mr. Sexsmith voted for two, reeve and deputy. John T. Coulter read one name—that of Mr. Stokes. He did not mention any other name. Witness could not say whom Coulter was agent for.

There are three doors to the poll, one being from outside and two from rest of dwelling. People came in and out of the last two doors at times.

"I did not object to the couch. Others did."

"In fact you did not object to anything there that day?"

"No."

Samuel Kincaid, a minor, and son of the preceding witness, was next examined. He was in the poll for twenty-five minutes or half an hour. John Carleton was present. Harry Horton came in and walked up to the table. He said he wanted a ballot. Mr. Burley asked him for whom he was voting.

"Did you hear the persons he voted for?"

"Yes."

"Were you there with John Carleton all the time?"

"Yes."

To M. Butler—"I went through the back door. John Carleton came in with me."

No one said a word to him about his presence. He tried to get in to the poll one time before but did not get away with it.

George Weir, next witness, was agent at the polls for John Carleton. He did not remain in the poll all day. William Coulter and his sons arrived. Witness could not recollect exactly what took place about the voting of Mr. Coulter. The sons and the agents heard the vote declared by the father. Witness could not see how Mr. Burley marked the Laveques' ballots, although they declared their votes openly. Witness noticed two or three outsiders present at the open voting. Witness did not make any objection to the presence of outsiders. He did not hear anyone ask a question as to why any applicants for open votes wanted to vote openly.

There was a lot of talking when the Shannons voted. W. C. Preston objected and objected to Thos. Shannon voting until sworn. But he was given a ballot and he voted. Edward and Joseph Shannon followed and were objected to. No entry was made in the poll book until after they had gone out. Upon J. T. Coulter's suggestion, a note was inserted in the poll book after the Shannons' names.

To Mr. Butler—The poll book was not completed with the Shannons' names until after they went out.

Wesley Badgley, poll clerk, could not recollect certain information sought by the crown. He told of the Shannons' visit to the poll. After the challenge Pat Shannon said. Thos. Shannon had a right to vote and then he was given a ballot. The Shannons "a" voted secretly. Witness would not say that Preston objected more than once. He remembered Mr. Coulter taking a hand in the argument regarding an entry in the poll book.

During all the open voting he did not hear anyone object to anyone being present and he could not say if anyone were actually there who ought not to have been there. He was attending closely to the poll book. People might enter the room and he might not know it as he would have to turn around from the table. After Sexsmith went in to the compartment to vote, he shouted that he could not sign it. Mr. Burley said to come out and he would mark it for him. Mr. Burley read out the names, no other invitation being given by Sexsmith. Sexsmith said "I'm as bad off as ever. I can't do it."

Witness was not able then to direct his ballot. "He was helped out a little then, I think." I could not say who it was, but I heard two or three names of candidates mentioned loud enough to be heard. It sounded as if some agent volunteered names, but he could not say who it was.

There were several agents near Sexsmith at the time.

The magistrate suggested that this was bearing on the third and latest information and Mr. Butler insisted in this cross-examination.

Mr. Sexsmith was asked to leave the poll. After awhile he got out, said the poll clerk.

Mr. Carney said Mr. Peter Sherry laid the information upon information and belief.

This closed the case for the crown. Mr. Butler said the evidence showed that there was no oath administered to the illiterate voters.

The Defence

John W. Burley the defendant was the first witness. He had lived in Hungerford 63 years. He recalled election day, January 1st, poll No. 8 being at his house. He had the office of Deputy Returning Officer.

If outsiders were in, he did not know it. He would not have allowed it if he had known it. There might have been people in, because there are three doors to the room. He had not administered an oath to Mr. Coulter. It was his practice for years to mark ballots for those who could not mark their ballots at their request, as he knew them. Nobody told him there were outsiders present when the open voting took place. What applied to Coulter applied to the others. He had quite a lot of trouble with Sexsmith.

Mr. Preston challenged Mr. Thos. Shannon on ownership. "I picked up the sheet to administer the oath," Shannon said this was a bluff game and demanded a ballot. Thos. Shannon threw down a document and I went through the deed carefully. Discussion lasted about 20 minutes. I did not recollect any further ob-

jection from Preston and I took it for granted that he waived it. Witness had acted quite a few times as D. R. O. He had acted for Sandy Grant, M.P.P. He thought the voting at the poll was more orderly than ever before. He had tried to carry out his duties.

It has been a poll free to all, little and big, unless when the D.R.O. was marking a ballot, otherwise there would be war. There would be fighting among themselves if they could not sit around, talking, spitting and chewing. He had seen in the days gone by bottle after bottle of whiskey drunk at the door of Moneymore poll.

"Those were in the good O'Connell days," said the crown.

To Mr. Carney—It was not true that the poll and the ballots and box were left unprotected at lunch hour. No one called his attention to a boy fooling around in the room. The door was open and he could see from the eating room. Agents were in the poll at the time so that nothing could happen.

For years past, he did not think it necessary to administer the declaration of inability.

He did not see anyone in the poll when an open vote was polled. He looked around. He never heard either of the Laveques say that the people were so thick in the poll that he could hardly get in.

In explanation he said the room was small 18x20 feet. Eleven men were rightly there and it was easy for some one else to come in at another door. While Sexsmith was there he told the constable to clear the poll. Witness thought Sexsmith was pretty well loaded-up with whiskey and he called witness many names. Witness ordered the constable to get him out. George Weir took Sexsmith out and Sexsmith did not come back. Mr. Burley did not remember saying "now we will clear the poll when an open vote is being cast."

The Shannons voted without the oath being administered. Preston seemed posted on his duties. Patrick Shannon complained when his son, Thos., was challenged. He had been sworn the year before, but the Shannons boys were not then sworn. Preston demanded Thos. Shannon sworn on ownership. Preston did not continue to challenge, for everything was quiet after the deed was looked over.

He remembered being in Wallace Salisbury's store in Tweed on the next day. He could not recollect saying that the Conservatives tried to run the poll, that they wanted some men sworn and that he put his foot down. He did not remember Mr. Salisbury saying perhaps he had overstepped the mark, but that he did not care. He could not recollect any conversation about poll No. 8, on January 2nd. He might have gone in the store to get warm.

Mr. John W. Burley said that Mr. Coulter's remarks "about not liking to be in his shoes" were made after the poll was closed. Witness replied that he would not like to be in Coulter's and some one else's, as if he had done wrong, others had done as much or worse.

Dominic Murphy was at poll No. 8, Moneymore. He could not distinctly remember Mr. Coulter voting, but remembered Mr. Coulter voting Laveques giving open votes. He did not know whether there were people present when there was open voting. He would have put out those who had no right to be there. He would not contradict anyone who said there were others present.

"I asked Preston the ground of his objections regarding Shannon. He replied on the point of ownership. Thos. Shannon demanded the ballot after Mr. Preston's challenge and disputed their right and produced the deed. Preston objected to the deed on the grounds that there was no seal on it. The argument lasted five minutes, not more he thought. No further challenge was made.

To Mr. Carney—Preston never withdrew his objection.

Denis Fleming, agent for Charles Genore, said with reference to the balloting of men who did not write, that the D. R. O. marked the ballots. He did not remember seeing anyone in the poll other than the scrutineers when open voting took place. He remembered seeing one or two come in for open voting. He did not recall some others being in the poll.

After Thos. Shannon produced the deed, he demanded the ballot the second time and he got it. As to whether Preston again objected after deed was produced, he did not know. He did not remember any agent making any remarks just as the entry was being given.

The entry in the poll book regarding the three Shannon brothers was made after they had been given their votes. Preston objected to each of the three Shannons in turn, Thos. Shannon had refused to take the oath of ownership and Discussion lasted about 20 minutes. It seemed agreeably settled that he had not refused, but that he had de-

manded a ballot. Albert Murphy who was at No. 8 poll, declared there was quite a disturbance over the Shannon boys' votes. Preston objected. Patrick Shannon said the boys had a right to vote as the deed was good.

As to open voting, he knew there were people in the poll when the open votes came in. He could not remember exactly whether there was anyone in just when each was voting openly. He knew Mr. Burley once cleared the poll. He would not say that others were not inside. To the crown attorney—Preston never withdrew his objections to the Shannon boys. The entry in the poll book was made after the Shannons had voted. All seemed agreed that an entry would be all right.

There was argument between Coulter and Burley about the management of the poll. Burley said if he was in the wrong, they were others who were more in the wrong. Witness could not remember whether any one was put out when Harry Horton was voting openly, although he had heard the D. R. O. say that the poll would have to be cleared for open voting.

Rebuttal

Wm. C. Preston, recalled, said that objections were taken twice to Thos. Shannon and witness finally forbade the giving of a ballot by the D. R. O. The same objection was taken to the other Shannons on the grounds of ownership.

Mr. Wallace Salisbury, implement dealer of Tweed, testified he knew John W. Burley. He remembered a talk with Burley in his shop not long after the election. There was a conversation having to do a little with the election in Hungerford at poll No. 8. Mr. Burley mentioned different happenings of that day. One was about the trouble he had with the agents. He mentioned disorder by the men in the poll. He also said that the Shannon boys asked for ballots, that their votes were challenged, that they were not sworn and that they voted. "I said I thought he had made a mistake. He said 'possibly he had.'"

To Mr. Butler—The reason he gave for allowing the Shannons to vote was that the deed looked good.

Editor Ontario—

Are the Aldermen and Mayor composing the City Council elected by the rate-payers, for the purpose of looking after their interests and protecting them, or on the other hand have they been elected by the rate-payers for the purpose of giving away their rights and privileges? and the monies collected from them whether for the purpose collected or not?

What leads to this question is that I noticed in the report of the proceedings of the Council, at its last meeting, that a request was made by the Grand Trunk Railway for the concurrence of the City Council in plans and profiles for the election of a new overhead Bridge covering their track on North Front Street, and as we understand from the report this is to be an iron superstructure and to be raised two feet higher than the bridge at present being used, there does not seem to have been a dissenting voice and the only question raised was whether a walk for pedestrians would be put on one side or both sides of that bridge and the main question of interest to the citizens of that locality seems to have been ignored entirely. The bridge at this point has been rebuilt several times and every time it has been rebuilt it has been raised a little higher until the roadway now absolutely closes up approaches to the nearby lots, and if raised another two feet and with necessary grading done along the roadway to conform to that elevation, still further damage to other roads will ensue and the City, by giving its consent to that erection will become liable for such damage, and damages there will be.

What are the necessities of the case? The Grand Trunk Railway desire two feet more headway than they now have and to get that headway at the lowest cost, the erection of a new bridge at the necessary elevation is their object, while by going down on their own road-bed two feet that would give the same headway, and as there is a grade both ways from this point, there should be no difficulty in getting the headway required, by lowering the track at this point. Anyone noticing the grade of the Railway at this point, will see that the grade is considerably lower at the Coleman flats and the Moira

Special to The Ontario.

Toronto, Mar. 8.—Every Government seems to have some particular loves, and one of the dearest affections of the Ontario Government seems to be the patronage system. Year after year the Opposition has been calling for the abolition of the system. The proposal, Wm. Proudfoot, K. C., M. P. for Centre Huron, and Samuel Carter, M. P. for South Wellington, were the members this year to introduce the resolution and to lead the debate against the patronage evil, but the Government once more rejected their advice.

Two specific examples of the bad results of the patronage system as carried on by the Ontario Government, developed in the debates on this and allied subjects.

First there was the case recalled by Mr. Carter where a prominent worker for the Conservative Party in Guelph at the time of the general election in 1914, swore that a certain applicant for a vote was properly eligible for registration, whereas in reality he was not. The man who had taken the affidavit was a judge that he had been "reckless" in his affidavit. That very man not long after was appointed by the Government to a position in the Civil Service and is now drawing a salary of \$85 a week, which Mr. Carter says is an illuminating example of reward for party service.

Mr. Carter also told of some guards at the Guelph Prison Farm who tried illegally to vote in the election of 1914; when the matter came out they were dismissed by the Government but were re-employed soon after.

Scott Davidson, M. P. for

Men's \$15 Suits

This is a very popular price with a great many men, you know and we all know how prices for all kinds of Woolen and Cotton Goods have advanced---and still---we have hundreds of Suits at the above price as good as you ever bought. You wonder how we do it, but we do

We would just like a chance to show them to you, under present conditions the value will be a surprise.

OAK HALL

NORTH FRONT ST. CROSSING

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AN INVITATION TO SICKNESS.

Impure Blood Means a Breakdown in Your Health.

Impure blood is an invitation to sickness. The blood is at work day and night to maintain the health and any lack of strength or purity in the blood is a weakness. In the defence against disease. Anemia is the doctor's name for lack of blood. There may be an actual loss in the quantity of the blood, or one or more of its constituents may be lacking. Its surest symptom is pallor. Anemia is particularly common in young girls. It is not, however, confined to them alone, for it is this same lack of blood that prevents full recovery after a gripper, fevers, malaria and operations. It is also present in old age and in persons who have been under unusual mental or physical strain. If you are suffering from this trouble take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. They make pure, new blood with every dose and this new blood means health and strength. Thousands have proved the truth of these statements, among them Mrs. John Hyatt, Metiskow, Alta., who says:—"About a year ago I was in a badly run down condition, my blood was watery, I was very nervous, slept badly at night, suffered from frequent headaches and found my housework an almost intolerable burden, my appetite was poor, and I did not seem to assimilate the food I took, altogether my condition seemed serious. As there was no doctor in our neighborhood I decided to give Dr. Williams' Pink Pills a trial and I have much cause to be thankful that I did so, as in a few weeks I could feel a great change for the better. I continued the use of the pills for some time longer, and found to a complete cure. I feel better than I have for years, and can therefore cheerfully recommend Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to all who are weak and run down."

You can get these pills from any dealer in medicine or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

THE PATRONAGE EVIL.

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Scott Davidson, M. P. for

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CORBVILLE SOLDIERS DIED OF WOUNDS.

No. 220,195 F. Quick, of Corbyville, who was wounded, has succumbed to his injuries.

TWO SISTERS DIE IN TORONTO

Death of Maiden Ladies Formerly of Belleville.

Word was received here this morning by Mrs. Legault of the sudden death of two elderly maiden ladies in Toronto, Misses Mary and Jennie L. McConachy. They were sisters and lived together for some years in Toronto. Previous to going to Toronto they were residents of this city and were members of St. Michael's church. They had many friends in Belleville. The older residents of the parish will remember these ladies.

The remains will arrive by the Grand Trunk this evening and will be taken to Messrs. Tickell & Sons' establishment, whence a double funeral will be held tomorrow morning.

The cause of their deaths is not known here. The sad news was sent by their nephew, Mr. Frank Phillips

DOUBLE FUNERAL THIS MORNING

Remains of The Misses McConachy Were Placed in Belleville Vault.

(From Thursday's Daily)

The remains of the two sisters, Misses Mary and Jennie L. McConachy who died in Toronto arrived in the city last evening and were this morning deposited in Belleville cemetery vault until spring when the interment will take place in St. James cemetery. The double funeral was held from Messrs. Tickell & Sons Company's morgue to St. Michael's church, where Rev. Father Hyland celebrated solemn requiem mass. The bearers were Messrs. F. Dolan, F. P. Carney, J. M. Hurley, M. Doyle, Wm. Britton and Wm. Kenny.

JOHN W. BREMNER DEAD.

John W. Bremner, of Zion's Hill, died suddenly in this city this morning from pneumonia. Yesterday he came to Belleville in a weak condition and his strength could not stand the attack. He was born 79 years ago in Scotland and for the past 45 years had lived in Thurlow. He was a farm laborer by occupation and was engaged at Zion's Hill Cheese Factory for years. He was a widower.

WOUNDED FOUR TIMES.

A cable received by Rev. Dr. W. S. MacTavish, Madoc, says his son, Gordon, has been seriously wounded. This is the fourth time he has been on the casualty list. He says he is able to get around on crutches and is happy.

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