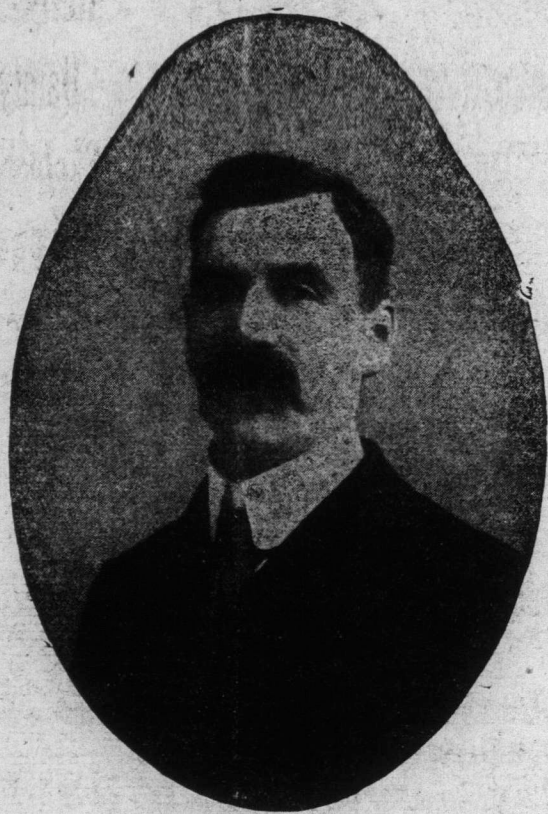


LAST NIGHT'S MEETING.

East End Liberal Campaign Opened

MESSRS. KENT, DWYER AND RYAN THE THREE CHOSEN CANDIDATES—THE MOST ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION EVER ACCORDED THREE PUBLIC MEN IN THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTRY—RECORD ATTENDANCE, BRILLIANT SPEECHES AND UNBOUNDED ENTHUSIASM—LIBERAL SENTIMENT STRONGER THAN EVER—HOW THE PEOPLE'S RIGHTS ARE BARTERED AWAY BY THE PICNIC GOVERNMENT—RUINOUS STATE OF COLONY—MR. KENT, B.A., K.C., SHOWS UP THE EXTRAVAGANCE AND WASTEFUL EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC MONIES—SIR ROBERT BOND A STATESMAN—PICNIC PREMIER A SPENDTHRIFT.



COUNCILLOR CHARLES RYAN,
the New Liberal Candidate for the East End.

Never before in the history of the oldest elector of this country was there such an enthusiastic political committee meeting, attended by such a vast concourse of people as that which took place in the Mechanics Hall last night, when the campaign for the three Liberal candidates for St. John's East was formally begun, showing conclusively that the reign of the present Government would soon cease and that the picnickers, who placed the Colony heavily in debt, will have to get out. The meeting stands unparalleled in many respects, chiefly because of the loyalty of the standard bearers of the Liberal Party, which is invincible in St. John's East.

The meeting was solely and simply intended to form up committees to begin the campaign. It was not meant as a public or mass meeting, because no announcement of such had been made, but from the time the doors opened until the appointed hour to start the meeting arrived, a tremendous flow of people wended their way to the hall, which was actually chinked. Fully 1,000 stalwart voters were present in the building and hallway while standing room was at a premium and enthusiasm exceeded all bounds.

Punctually at 8 o'clock our venerable friend, Councillor M. W. Myrick, took the chair and business was proceeded with. On motion of Messrs. J. J. St. John, Jr., and Vintcombe, Mr. J. J. St. John, Jr., was appointed as Secretary. The chairman then intimated what the meeting was called for, never anticipating to behold such a monstrous gathering, and referred briefly to Mr. Geo. Shea, who he was sorry to say was retiring from public life, and who had represented the District for such a length of time. Chairman Myrick intimated that the meeting was arranged to form up the different committees to begin the campaign work and then called on Mr. Geo. Shea to address the meeting. On rising, Mr. Shea was given quite an ovation. In opening he sincerely thanked them for the loyal and hearty support the Liberals of the District of St. John's East, which he had the honor to represent in the Legislature for thirteen years had given him. He regretted, however, that he was unable to ask the electors for their continued support, owing to his retirement

from public life. He emphasized that his reasons were two-fold for retiring. First, his principal reason was that his health was far from satisfactory and he was told this when he had a consultation with physicians when he was abroad a few months ago; secondly, he was of the opinion that the time had arrived when he should withdraw from the political field and let younger blood get into harness and take a trick at the wheel. He again stated emphatically that these were solely his distinct reasons for dropping out of the fight. Some newspapers, in an endeavor to make political capital, the speaker continued, will say that I am getting out of the rain, before the deluge comes; but Mr. Chairman, in my opinion, never before was the Liberal sentiment as strong as it is at the present time, and I feel sure that when the standard bearers of St. John's East march to the polls with the Liberal flag in October next, that they will return with larger letters of victory inscribed on it than ever before. At this juncture there was an outburst of tumultuous applause. He (Mr. Shea) was glad to know that a respected and esteemed fellow townsman was to take his place in the person of Councillor Charles W. Ryan, who, said the speaker, needed no word of introduction, as he is, I have no doubt, personally acquainted with the majority of those in this assembly to-night. In concluding, Mr. Shea said that his successor was one whose record was before the whole country; a splendid type of citizen, possessing all the attainments that constitute a real and true man and he had much pleasure in proposing Councillor Ryan to be nominated as a Liberal candidate for St. John's East District in the coming election. The motion was seconded by Mr. S. Knight, and on being put by the Chairman, was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Ryan was then introduced and given a most enthusiastic reception. The newly chosen candidate, although partly taken by surprise, made an able address. He sincerely thanked the meeting for the honour conferred on him in selecting him as a colleague of Messrs. Kent and Dwyer in the forthcoming election contest. From all parts of the hall came the slogan "Can't Lose." Mr. Ryan assured the gathering that he

had not the slightest conception that he was going to be put in nomination for candidature and he thought he owed the supporters of the Liberal Party a deep debt of gratitude. He said that although fresh getting into harness he felt that in view of facts that he was associated with such invaluable aids as Messrs. Kent and Dwyer and with the party support and co-operation of all the stalwarts present, he felt well prepared to champion the Liberal cause under the guidance of such an able, honest and honourable Statesman as Sir Robert Bond. In conclusion he thanked Mr. Shea for his kind references and expressed his gratitude to one and all for being nominated as a Liberal candidate.

The next speaker was Mr. John Dwyer who was greeted with thunderous applause that lasted for several minutes. Mr. Dwyer, was as usual, unconsciously humorous, but his speech was marked for its effectiveness. He reiterated that what a previous speaker said in effect that the sentiment of Liberalism was stronger than ever throughout the District of St. John's East. He had reason to believe that the Tory opponents who have already begun campaigning are using unfair means. They are scheming and using fake cries in order to catch votes, but he said, despite all the trickery that is being carried on the people will stand by the Farmer and his colleagues and the "Pullett and his young ones will be sent home to roost."

Mr. James M. Kent, B. A., K. C., leader of the ticket for St. John's East, followed. On rising he was cheered to the echo. He was thankful for the enthusiastic reception given himself and colleagues. Yet he said that the meeting although exceeding the most sanguine expectations, and surpassing all previous campaign meetings was not a surprise to him. It was only what he expected from those who had come to carry the Liberal flag, which, despite many a hard battle, since the days of Responsible Government, still stands to-day unblemished and untarnished. In looking around the hall to-night, the speaker continued, he noticed the faces of many heroes of a hundred former fights and young men who are going to vote for the first time. The latter were fulfilling the duty which they owed to themselves, their fathers and to the country they belonged. He regretted, owing to ill-health, the retirement of his former colleague, Mr. Shea, who was a valuable ally and one of the wisest councillors that the Colony possessed. Our new colleague, Mr. Ryan, is a man of honesty, integrity and worth, with plenty of energy and enterprise and one whom every workman in the country was acquainted with, and citizens of St. John's East will find that he will be faithful to the trust which they place in his hands. Continuing, Mr. Kent, in plain, comprehensive, yet forceful language, clearly pointed out the wanton expenditure of public monies and the heavy debt which the Colony is bearing at the present moment.

Two parties, said the speaker, are now appealing to the people for their vote. One is the present Government and the other the party led by the Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Bond the greatest statesman the country has produced. Now to compare the doings of both Governments while they were in power: In looking back through the years no man can count but that Sir Robert Bond's record is one which stands unique in the Colony's history. He has stood more political fights than anyone else in the Colony and the worst his bitterest enemy can say of him is that he is an able, true, honest and honourable statesman. He is a man who has prominently identified himself with the affairs of the country for over thirty years. In consequence of Sir Robert Bond's inability to guide the destinies of the country for the last four years there is every evidence to-day of being in a bankrupt condition. Four years ago, after the Liberal party had spent two terms of office in power, the people thought they would give another man a chance to see what he could do. To-day we find the people in a state of indignation over the way our affairs are being handled. Take Newfoundland with its population of over 240,000. The people are not a wealthy people and consequently are not able to bear heavy burdens of debt. During the past four years the public debt of this country has been increased by over \$7,000,000. Everyone throughout the Island has been bearing his share of this heavy debt. The worst part is that the in-

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crease arises not from an obligation that has passed, but by contracts for the construction of railways, which we were told would cost \$4,000,000 and which really cost the country \$6,000,000. Five railways are in course of construction, but neither one is completed. This will mean the borrowing of another \$6,000,000. The Bonavista and Ferryland Branches are not yet equipped, while work on the other branches is only in its initial stage. What has the Colony to show for such a wasteful expenditure of public monies. As I stated last year, the Government of Sir Robert Bond, with smaller revenues and less borrowing has produced better results than the present Government. The promises made by Sir Edward Morris in his Manifesto were not carried out. When Sir Robert Bond left he not only left the Colony in a healthy state commercially and financially, but left a million of dollars to its credit. The present Administration have run the Colony heavily in debt and should be discharged, and a Government more in sympathy with the people substituted. At greater length Mr. Kent showed up the extravagance of the Picnic Government and before resuming his seat was applauded vociferously amid cheers, loud and long, given by the entire assembly, without a dissenting voice, for the Liberal Party.

Mr. A. Cornell followed in a brief but stirring address. He appealed to all, especially to the young voters, not to be hood-winked or bluffed by the scare cries that are being circulated by the Tory organs, but to stand by the Old Liberal Flag for freedom and right. He said that he was an independent Liberal and that the District of St. John's East was going to make this election the Banner Victory for St. John's East. After concluding his address Mr. Cornell was given three hearty cheers and a tiger.

Mr. J. G. Giles was the next speaker, and in his own stirring and captivating manner, reviewed the lavish givings-out of the present Government; the financial state the country was in at the present time and how the public money was being fooled away on fakes, etc., by the unscrupulous gang now in power. Mr. Giles stated that the lowest means conceivable are being used by the Tory gang to catch votes. One cannot walk the streets now without being button-holed by political spies and heelers of the Picnic Party, and as far as he could see most of them were civil servants, getting paid and drawing fat salaries, too, for doing campaign work. Such a condition of affairs, gentlemen, is disgraceful and dishonourable. Mr. Giles impressed upon all to scorn the Tory clique and to bring back from the polls on October 20th, a triumphant victory for the Liberal Party of St. John's East. The speaker then referred to Mr. George Shea, whom he knew well, and regretted his departure, owing to ill-health, but rejoiced at the fact of the acceptance into the Liberal ranks of such an able candidate and campaigner as Councillor Ryan. When Mr. Giles finished thunderous cheers were given for Sir Robert Bond and the three Liberals for St. John's East. Messrs. Kent, Dwyer and Ryan. The Chairman then asked those willing to give voluntary service on the committees to come forward. This request met with a most cordial response as two assistants to Secretary St. John had to be employed and not less than 800 persons signed the roll. That the sentiment of Liberalism is stronger than ever in St. John's East was clearly demonstrated last night and this being so, BOND CAN'T LOSE.

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