

Esquimalt Is Out Solid

All the Voters Turn Out to Listen to the Addresses by the Liberal Candidates.

Messrs. Drury and Riley Enthusiastically Received at the Naval Station.

The night was not pleasant one, the rain was coming down in torrents, but at 8 o'clock last evening every voter in the Esquimalt polling division was in the Blue Ribbon hall to listen to addresses by the Liberal candidates for this district. Some may have gone there to criticise, but all went away thoroughly convinced that for the welfare of the country it would be necessary to return Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his party to power.

The speakers of the evening were Messrs. Riley, Drury, Lt.-Col. Gregory, Gordon Hunter and E. J. Deane, in the order named. They were attentively listened to, and as they made point after point in favor of the best government Canada ever enjoyed, they were vociferously applauded. And the applause was unanimous.

Victor Howard was chosen chairman, and after briefly explaining the object for which the meeting was called he introduced Mr. Riley. The speaker gave several reasons why the Liberal party should be returned to power, and exploded some of the arguments advanced by the other side, among them being the statement that the government was opposed to the farmers. The government had made every effort to have the duty on binding twine reduced. That commodity had gone up in price owing to natural causes. He told how the Conservatives had made such a deal with the C. F. R. that Canada was practically at the mercy of that corporation. In the matter of the Crow's Nest Pass railway, the charter had been sold to the C. P. R. and they had a complete monopoly on the land. But the Liberal party was working to have freight rates reduced and it would only be a short time until their efforts would be crowned with success and then some of the money that has been given to the giant monopoly will be returned to the farmers of the country.

Mr. Drury followed, and made a most telling speech. Col. Prior would appear before the same audience to-night, and there were some things he would not touch upon. For instance, a few years ago the Colonel admitted that he did not know how the Manitoba school question would be settled. The Liberal government had settled that question, and now he would like to know if Col. Prior approved of the way in which it had been settled. If he does not approve of it he would like to hear his reason for not doing so.

In regard to the British preference he would like to know if Col. Prior approves of it. It is an issue in this campaign, and Conservatives are entitled to say whether they appeal to the voters to approve of it.

In regard to postage the speaker said that Mr. Mack was an energetic man, and took control of the mail facilities in an energetic manner in 1896. There was a deficit of \$800,000 at the time, and that was cut down to \$47,000 last year. In the registration of voters the Liberal party had also saved the country millions of dollars, and the speaker cited instances to show the way in which this was done.

The Conservative gerrymander act was an outrage of the worst type. It was an idea that had been borrowed from the other side of the line. When Sir Wilfrid Laurier brought in his bill he promised to restore the rights of the country, or tried to, but the Conservative Senate threw it out.

The Liberal government had abolished what is known as the "sweating" system, and if the Conservative party approves of the department of labor they must give the Liberal party credit for establishing that department. They have also placed a practical farmer, Mr. Fisher, at the head of the agricultural department.

In his last budget speech Mr. Fielding was proud to point to the fact that our securities were from \$2 to \$3 above other Colonial securities; and this had all been accomplished under a Liberal government.

The condition of the finance department under Conservative rule year after year was deficit after deficit; but all this had been changed under the rule of the Liberal government.

The speaker was surprised to see what was going on under the superannuation act. Under the last government the pensioners were drawing thousands of dollars, and they were not men that needed it. It was an abuse of power. He had met these men day after day, and they were in perfect health.

Every man who had been appointed to a post in the Yukon by the present government had been branded as a rascal, but none of the charges had ever been proven. In this connection the speaker called attention to the able speech recently delivered by Hon. Mr. Sifton at Brandon, in which these charges were dealt with at length.

Then the speaker read from pamphlet No. 6 to show how Sir Wilfrid Laurier was misrepresented in regard to sending Canadian troops to the front.

Sir Charles Tupper made a serious mistake when he said that Sir Wilfrid Laurier was "too English for him." It was said to excite race prejudice. The bold contrast was the remarks of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who came out strongly in favor of making this empire one of the brightest jewels of the constellation of which we form a part.

Lt.-Col. Gregory followed, and in preference said that he proposed to deal only with the corrupt methods of the Conservative party. He touched briefly on the miserable fiasco that young Charles Hibbert Tupper made at his Brandon meeting a few days ago, and said that it was

important that the Liberal party should remain in power in order to maintain political purity.

For eighteen years the Conservative party had been in power, and the party had grown very corrupt. It was simply a reign of scandals, and for years it had been kept in power by a series of election frauds.

He told of the election frauds that had been perpetrated in Manitoba in 1896, and also in other parts of the Dominion. He read voluminous extracts from evidence taken in connection with these frauds, and the eyes of the few Conservatives in the hall were opened, and their faith in their party began to ooze out. As case after case of election frauds were cited they wavered, and before the doughty Colonel had concluded those who had gone to the hall to ask questions were converts to the cause of Liberalism.

The speaker finally said: "Now, gentlemen, can you say that this is all accident? I tell you it is not, and there is no honest man who can come forward and say that it is."

Never under Conservative rule was Canada looked upon as one of the leading nations, but to-day such is its position. The government is to-day using the union label, and he was sorry that more union men were not taking an interest in the government.

The union label could not be purchased. It could only be secured by adopting union work, and a union scale of wages. Mr. Gordon Hunter followed, and said that it was important to consider who would be in power during the next five years. No government had given such satisfaction as the Liberal government, and they would certainly be returned to power. It was well to return members from this district who would be in harmony with the government. We wanted railroad connection, and to this end it would be necessary to have the ear of the government. It was a cogent reason that men should be sent who would get in touch with the powers that be. Sir Wilfrid Laurier will be the first man to ask for an appropriation to erect a monument on Parliament Hill to our fallen heroes. And this will be his answer to Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper's charge that he is "too English for him."

The National Policy of the Conservative party fostered monopolies, but it would take some years to get rid of the incubus.

The speaker concluded by again urging the return of members who would be in touch with the government. F. J. Deane was the last speaker of the evening, and in an address he told of the many good things which the Liberal party had done for the country. Chief among them was the establishment of a labor bureau, which would go far towards establishing a fair rate of wages. And then, too, labor men had been appointed to travel over the country and see that the workmen were getting their just dues.

The meeting broke up at 11 o'clock with a vote of thanks to the chairman and cheers for the candidates.

KIDNEY DISEASE AND BACKACHE.

Mr. Patrick J. McLaughlin, Beauharnois, Que., states: "I was troubled with kidney disease and dyspepsia for 20 years and have been that bad I could not sleep at nights and suffered terrible agony. I tried all sorts of medicines but got no relief until I began using Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. They made a new man of me and the old troubles seem to be driven out of my system." One pill a dose, 25 cents a box.

THE S. S. ASSOCIATION.

Inter-denominational Rally to be Held in This City.

The convention of the provincial branch of the Inter-denominational Sunday School Association will be held in this city on the evenings of the 27th, 28th and 29th of November. The president, Noah Shakespeare, will occupy the chair.

The first two meetings will be held in the lecture room of the St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, when the Rev. W. Leslie Clay, of the St. Andrew's church, seconded by the Rev. Mr. Hastings, of the Emmanuel Baptist church, will move an address of welcome. The principal business at these meetings will be the reading of papers on subjects affecting the interests of Sunday school work, by Mrs. Gordon Grant, Mrs. Loeis, and Mrs. J. M. Campbell, A. B. McNeill, L. Tait and Dr. Wilson.

On the evening of the 29th addresses will be delivered by the Rev. W. C. Merritt, of Tacoma, and the Rev. E. S. Rowe, of the Metropolitan Methodist church. An excellent programme of music will be rendered, and a question box will also be a feature of the proceedings.

It is the intention of the convention to organize a district association.

The incessant rain is interfering somewhat with progress in the construction of the new swing on Rock Bay bridge. The operations were commenced several days ago, but the present inclemency of the weather makes working conditions anything but favorable. Should this city be blessed with sunshine for the next few weeks there is a possibility of the work being completed within a month. The new swing will be a counterpart of its predecessor, as far as external appearance goes, but it will be much stronger, strength and durability being necessarily the main objects.

The Railway By-Law

Council Pass First Reading and Set Second Reading For Special Meeting.

Sir Henri Joly and Others Petition That Broom May Not Be Cut.

Railway matters occupied the attention of the city council but a few minutes last night. First the petition of the ratepayers approving of the Great Northern railway scheme was read and passed upon. Then the motion of Ald. Beckwith asking leave to introduce the by-law "to aid a railway company to be incorporated for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and operating a line of railway through certain streets of the city of Victoria and on the Mainland of British Columbia, and for the further purpose of constructing and operating a car ferry service between Sidney and a point on the said Mainland at or near the mouth of the Fraser river," was read, passed without comment. It was put through its first reading without discussion, but the second reading was deferred for a special meeting of the council to be called for Thursday evening for its consideration. Ald. Yates and Brydon wanted to have the second reading proceeded with at once, as they thought the council in favor of the principle of the measure, while Ald. Williams, Cameron and other members of the council, the latter showing that to do so would require two-thirds vote of the board, which he did not have.

A. T. Goward, local manager of the B. C. Electric Railway and Lighting Company, wrote in regard to installing some circuits on Government street at the council enter into a six months agreement in the matter.

Ald. Kinsman, however, moved that the offer be not accepted and his motion carried.

J. Jackman in another communication drew attention to the statement that in the cases in connection with the bridge suits had been settled, except that of Bigger. The writer said that there must be a mistake somewhere, as Mr. Bigger has received his award of \$1,900, and he asked how a person could claim a second award. The letter was received and referred to the city solicitor for report.

Alex. Muir asked for a rebate in taxes paid in May last; the letter also being referred to the city solicitor.

Heleen Chapman reported the destitute circumstances of the Keelers, who are known to the city council for many years, and asked that some relief be given in the case, it was becoming very serious.

The matter was left in the hands of the mayor to deal with, as was also a communication from John S. Evans, secretary of Maple Lodge, who asked if it was proposed to erect monuments in memory of the fallen heroes in South Africa. If so he would be pleased to donate the proceeds of an entertainment to be held towards a worthy cause.

Ald. Hall remarked while speaking about monuments, he might say that the Burns memorial drinking fountain yet remained uncompleted. The city had done all the work that was asked of them long ago, yet the bronze figures of Highland Mary and Robert Burns had not been mounted.

Ald. Hall cleared himself from any blame in the matter, as it rested with the Caledonia Society.

D. S. Morrison, on behalf of residents of San Juan avenue, asked that improvements and repairs be done on that street and incidentally reporting that big holes were being created through the removal of sand from the thoroughfare. The letter was received and referred to the city engineer for report.

The water commissioner reported that the cost of lighting the new pumping station would be in the neighborhood of \$12 a month. Received and laid on the table.

C. H. Topp, city engineer, reported as follows:

I have the honor to submit the following report for your consideration: Communication from R. Porter & Sons re permanent sidewalk on the northwest corner of Johnson and Douglas streets. The city engineer reports and recommends the construction of the sidewalk is complete. Total estimated cost, including granite curb, \$300; city's portion, \$170.

Communication from James Pottinger re sidewalk on Michigan street, between Douglas and St. Lawrence streets. The city engineer reports and recommends the construction of the sidewalk, 500 feet in length. Estimated cost, \$80.

Petition from W. I. Bowden and others re improvement of the old Esquimalt road. Upon visiting the above locality, I find it with gravel, and would therefore recommend the same be done at an early date. Re catch basins and connections with surface drain at the intersection of Osmont and Store streets. This morning the old box on the east side of Store street caved in, rendering the roadway in a very dangerous condition and should have immediate attention. I would therefore recommend connections be made with the brick drain at once. Estimated cost, \$70.

Petition from F. A. Jackson and others re sewerage extension on Avondale road westerly. I have taken levels over the locality in question and find it is not suitable for sewer extension in that direction for several reasons, as the same is not in accordance with the sewerage plans, etc. I would therefore recommend no action.

The report was taken up seriously, the necessity of being laid over for future consideration, and the report will be acted on at once.

The following petition from Sir Henri Joly de Lothier and over a hundred others was then read and evoked considerable discussion. It was as appended:

between Moss street and the cemetery. The broom, during the early summer, is one of the greatest attractions of our city for visitors, and no city in Canada or on the Pacific Coast can boast of anything so beautiful. When we have been provided with so very great an attraction, why should we not see to it that we do not destroy it? On a number of our suburban roads and streets this forms a natural and beautiful boulevard, and we consider that your honorable body should adopt some permanent plan towards the conservation of this probably the greatest attraction in the early summer months. We are, however, strongly of opinion that the broom should be kept within bounds, and that an experienced gardener should be employed every year to prune and keep it within bounds; limit of height could be adopted, say six feet, and the broom pruned down to that.

The future of Victoria depends very greatly on its being made and kept attractive as a place of residence, and nothing is of more importance in this way than the conservation of its natural trees and shrubberies. We beg, therefore, to urge very strongly your honorable body to lay down a permanent plan for the treatment of our broom, having it properly pruned every year, so that it does not infringe on either the roads or the sidewalks, and is not allowed to grow too high.

Ald. Kinsman thought the best thing to do with the broom was to trim it up and make a kind of hedge of it, and Ald. Hall was of the same opinion.

Ald. Williams moved that the prayer of the petition be carried out.

Ald. Yates drew attention to the funny thing of the council getting a petition from prominent residents to cut down the broom, and he pointed out that it afforded hiding places for highwaymen, and from another source a request to trim the broom and make a kind of hedge of it. He would suggest that those so fond of it should be given a twig to plant in their own gardens. He moved that the petition be received and filed and that the original decision to cut down the broom be adhered to. He remembered of talking with the man yesterday who brought the first broom to Vancouver Island. Then there were but a few plants, now it has grown broadcast and can be seen out as far as Methosin.

Ald. Beckwith was in favor of cutting down some of the broom, but Ald. Stewart wanted to see it all cut down.

Ald. Cameron said that perhaps a compromise might be effected. It was a very different matter with those who drove in carriages by the broom and those who were obliged in winter to pass it and were made wet through coming in contact with it. He would suggest that at least the broom be cut two feet back from the sidewalk. The matter was finally disposed of by referring the petition to the park committee and city engineer.

Annie B. Flemming and about thirty others wrote complaining of the insufficiency of light at the corner of Chambers and North Chatham streets, and asked that the upper part of the latter street be widened. The first matter mentioned, that of a light, was referred to the electric light committee, and the latter to the streets committee.

Ed. Murton and twelve others asked for the removal of the present slippery sidewalk of that street, for a six-foot walk in substitution thereof, and for an electric light. The petition was referred to the electric light committee and city engineer for report.

The report of the Craigflower road committee was next read, as follows: At a conference held with owners of lots abutting on Craigflower road, or their representatives, the following offers were made, viz.:

Mr. Hall would accept for portions of lots 141, 142, 143, 144 and 129, \$4,125, the number of feet taken being 15,773, equal to about 2 1/2 lots.

Mr. Fell for 612 feet of lot 130, equal to about 1 1/2 of a lot, would accept \$500.

Mr. Semple for portion of sub-division 2 of lots 104, etc., would accept rebate of tax for present year on this lot, viz. \$120, and would move his fence back; amount of land taken, 200 feet.

Mr. Mitchell would accept compensation for lot 127, on same basis as Mr. Semple, viz. \$120, viz. \$120, amount of land taken being 64 feet.

Mr. Blaquiere, for sub-divisions 3, 4 and 12, of 104, etc., values his four lots at \$500, and wants payment at the proportionate rate, viz. \$1,100; cost, proportionate value being \$215.28.

Mr. and Miss Ellison, for sub-divisions 6, 7, 15 and 16, of 104, etc., value their lots at \$475 each, and will take the proportionate amount for land taken, with cost of removing house from lot 6 to lots 7 and 8 added; amount of land taken being 4,545 feet; proportionate value, \$441.87; cost of removing house, \$100.

Thos. Bedding, for sub-division 24 of 104, etc., will accept compensation at rate of assessment for land taken, viz. \$14.45, and will move his building, if found necessary, at his own expense.

Total amount of compensation, as detailed above, \$2,040.

The following were neither present nor represented at the conference, viz. F. J. Peatt, G. B. Ordano, Thos. Shortbolt, Fanny Westwood.

Ald. Beckwith moved that the report be received and laid on the table, and this course was the one approved.

The electric light committee reported that there was no money available for two electric lights asked for in different parts of the city.

The fire wardens' report recommended that a hydrant be placed in position at the corner of St. Charles and Fairfield roads. Carried.

The standing committee on finance recommended the payment of accounts amounting to \$4,168.

The committee which was appointed to inquire into and see whether some equitable arrangement could be made between the corporation of the city of Victoria and the owners of lots fronting on Broad street assessed for the extension of Broad street from Pandora to Corcoran streets, reported as follows:

That, in the opinion of your committee, the city, by virtue of your committee, was benefited. That in view of such benefit it would be fair and equitable that the city should assume and pay one-third of the cost of such extension.

That the owners of all lots assessed for such extension should, after a by-law has been passed, carrying the above recommendation into effect, be notified of the same and called upon to pay such portion of the remaining two-thirds of the cost of the said extension as shall then be due; and in the event of their or any of them refusing so to do, your committee would