

PREMIER TELLS A FEW HOME TRUTHS

Great Reception For Mr. Fleming in Campbellton THAT MANIFESTO Shows Up Opposition Leader in True Colors -- Refutes Misrepresentations Used in Campaign of Slander.

Opening Meeting of Local Campaign Held Last Evening. Speakers Contrast Honest Administration Since 1908 With Corrupt Government Previously in Power.

Special to The Standard. Campbellton, June 4.—One of the most noteworthy demonstrations in Campbellton in years was the reception tendered to Hon. J. K. Fleming here tonight. The reception accorded to the premier was a splendid tribute to the record of development and honest administration established by Premier Fleming and his government during the four years he has conducted the affairs of the province. The result of the visit to the town must serve to demonstrate that the people of Resigouche are in hearty sympathy with the policy of the government, and that this country will help to further the continuance of this policy by electing the government candidates Messrs. Culligan and Stewart with an overwhelming majority.

Premier Fleming arrived in this town this evening at 7 o'clock on the Ocean Limited from St. John. At the station he was met by a large delegation of Campbellton's most representative citizens. He was driven through town in an automobile and given an opportunity to see the wonderful strides made since the work of rebuilding the town has been completed. At 8 o'clock he addressed a meeting at the new Opera House. The spacious building was taxed to its capacity, a number of the audience coming from points out of town, despite the heavy rain which fell during the afternoon and evening.

The meeting was presided over by W. W. Doherty and on the platform with Premier Fleming were the two government candidates, Mr. Robert Culligan, David Stewart and Arthur prominent residents from all over the county. The meeting was most enthusiastic in tone. Premier Fleming on his appearance was given a magnificent ovation. His address was able and eloquent, being interrupted frequently by applause as he refuted the false statements circulated by Mr. Copp and his colleagues of the opposition in their attempts to discredit the efforts of the present administration to legislate an enactment for the progress and betterment of the whole province. He dealt effectively with the manifesto of Mr. Copp, and in dignified language showed up the leader of the opposition in his true colors, and by his able marshaling of facts and figures exposed the misrepresentations contained in the manifesto.

The premier traced the various movements made by the government to promote the welfare of the province. He showed up the frantic efforts of the opposition to prevent every move towards the inauguration of a policy of honest administration, their attempts to impede every progressive step, and the government's closest attention of the vast gathering. The chairman, W. S. Montgomery, on opening the meeting tendered on behalf of the opposition a most hearty welcome to Premier Fleming. He introduced the candidates for Resigouche, Messrs. Culligan and Stewart, and W. S. Montgomery, who were heard in brief addresses.

Good Work Done. The candidates referred in glowing terms to the honorable record of achievement established by the government during the past four years, their term of office, short though it had been, had seen the inauguration of a number of reforms, and of progressive movements. The people of the North Shore in common with the rest of the province have shared in the benefits which have accrued to the province. Resigouche, he said, will be in line on the twentieth of this month to return the government to power, so that the good work so auspiciously begun may be continued. Mr. Stewart and W. S. Montgomery also addressed the meeting, their able replies to the misrepresentations made by the opposition candidates recently, arousing great enthusiasm.

The chairman then introduced Premier Fleming. On arising he was accorded another ovation, the applause continuing for three or four minutes. Premier Fleming in opening his address expressed his surprise and pleasure at the extent of the development of Campbellton since the disastrous fire, which wiped out the town two years ago. One of the greatest pleasures he had enjoyed since his connection with provincial politics was he said, the privilege of having had an opportunity to bring about the passage of the bill to grant \$5,000 annually for 10 years to help Resigouche rebuild the ruins and devastation caused by the fire.

Copp's Manifesto. He then launched into a powerful

COPP'S MANIFESTO MERELY A QUOTATION OF CHARACTERISTIC DELUSIONS OF OPPOSITION

Remarkable Political Document Replete with Misrepresentations and Falsehoods. Exaggerated Statements Regarding Increase in Debt Disproved by Facts-- Opposition Harps on Broken Promises but Fails to Indicate what Pledges were Not Redeemed--Comparison of Records of Old and New Governments Reflects Creditably Upon Latter.

ment of Mr. Copp has very little force. He says "in judging this alarming addition to the public debt you first should consider the fact that when the former government resigned office it had just succeeded in obtaining for the province of New Brunswick the annual increase of \$120,000 upon the Dominion subsidy account. The first payment of this large permanent addition to the ordinary revenue of the province became due when the Hazen-Fleming government assumed office. Thus during these past years of power it has received on your account from the Dominion treasury \$120,000 more than the former government received. It is not until December 1907, and appears in the accounts of that year, that the annual revenue of the province was decreased, a second payment was made. Notwithstanding that the Robinson government received \$120,000 more from the Dominion than any other government had previously received when it went out of office, the present administration has added to the public debt the sum of \$1,057,960.17, an increase of more than \$1,000,000 in its four years of office."

This statement is wholly untrue. The permanent debt upon which the people pay interest, in 1908 was \$5,719,978, an increase of \$229,952 and not a million dollars as truthfully stated by Mr. Copp. Of this increase of \$229,952 the government was responsible for only \$150,000. The remainder was due to the legislation of the old government. Of this increase of \$229,952, an increase of \$11, and in 1911 to \$230,825, an increase of only \$14,414.

Compare this with the record of the old government, which Mr. Copp swears so faithfully that they awarded him \$1,425 for services of a very doubtful character in connection with the Central Railway. In 1905 when the old government commenced to issue bonds, the permanent debt was stated in the auditor general's report to be \$3,697,846. In 1908 when all the business of the old government was cleaned up, the debt of the province was \$5,254,523, an increase in four years of \$1,556,677, or a million dollars annually. For each of the nine years between 1900 and 1908 inclusive the average annual increase in the permanent debt under the old administration was \$366,621, and besides this they expended on current account the sum of \$28,000 received from the Dominion Government in settlement of the Eastern Extension claim.

Following this assertion regarding the increase in the debt, the commission explained the haphazard recklessness with which accounts were paid, the vague seemed to be to pay the bills first and afterwards find some way out of the difficulty. Money was paid out all over the province, and there was not even a scratch of a pen to show that the money had been employed for the service for which it was paid. In three years in the department of public works alone over \$20,000 was paid out in a manner without account. By the introduction of business and a more perfect system of disbursements this kind of transaction has been made impossible under the present government.

Cheaper School Books. Reduction in school books, another of the things accomplished by the present government in pursuance of the pledges of 1908 was the reduction in the price of school books. "The opposition derided our first efforts in this direction," said Mr. Fleming, "claiming they had made every effort, and further attempt would be futile. But only three months after the present administration went into power I succeeded in my service bills were entered into with Gage and Co. by which the reduction was secured. In January last the contract was renewed and we got besides another 10 per cent. reduction. Mr. La Biloni doubted if an investigation would find a reduction in French books, but within a few months the same reduction as for English books was secured. As an example of the conditions found on going into power, we found the company bound to another company a take-out of 10 per cent. The latter company neither bought, sold or handled, but got the rake-off.

Not Extravagant. "Let me remind you," Premier Fleming said, "that these appropriations are all voted by a resolution of the house. For four years it was my duty to move the supplies and in all that time I never had one suggestion that there was a single appropriation too great.

broken pledges of the administration for four years and in his manifesto he plays the same old tune, but there Hazen before the election of 1908 to which neither Mr. Copp or any other member of the opposition or any newspaper supporting the opposition ever refers. Mr. Hazen promised to give the people of New Brunswick honest government. That he and his successor, Mr. Fleming, have done so, has never been disputed. Neither does any opponent of the government assert that the people have not been greatly benefited by the pledge made by Mr. Hazen to give them honest government. In view of these facts what force is there in this statement made by Mr. Copp in his manifesto. "The government does not point out nor can we find one provincial service which has been essentially improved by the expenditure of that half million of dollars. No trace of it is found by improvements in the public roads and bridges of the province. What part of it has been devoted to the relief of agriculture or to meeting the needs of education?"

What wastefulness does Mr. Copp pretend to say that the expenditure in four years of \$99,104 on the bridges of the country, as compared with \$340,420 by the old government, has not improved the condition? Does he attempt to say that the expenditure in four years of \$14,000 for agriculture against \$112,000 for the same period by the old government has not been of benefit to that important branch of industry? Under the Hazen-Fleming administration every public service of the province has been improved by the wise and judicious expenditure of the extra subsidy from the Dominion and of the large increase in the territorial revenue of the province, which was the direct result of the honest administration of the present government.

Same Old Tune. Mr. Copp has been harping on the fact that he was a member of the government ticket as a farmer's candidate. The placing of a farmer on the political tickets in the different counties in the province has been suggested by a resolution passed at the recent meeting of the Farmers' and Agriculturists' Association. He referred to the fact that he himself was a farmer from the parish of Rothesay and of a fourth generation of farmers living on a farm which had been granted to one of his ancestors, a United Empire Loyalist.

One reason that farmers could well support the good government of the Hazen-Fleming administration was the increased aid given to agriculture in 1908 when the government assumed office they found \$2 agricultural societies while in the present year there were 104. These societies received in 1908 the sum of \$8,000 of which the farmers received the benefit in the way of seed, fertilizer, pure stock, and other advantages. The total amount was \$14,000 and the sum set aside in 1912 was the same.

Mr. Dickson also referred tellingly to the appointment of the Agricultural Commission, the encouragement given to the farmers through the importation of pure bred stock, thoroughbred horses, etc. The government had also done much to encourage fruit raising and the splendid apple orchards held in St. John last year and the year previous showed what had been done in this line.

In conclusion, Mr. Dickson pledged himself to use his utmost efforts to further the interests of the agriculturists of the province, if elected.

Cheers for Geo. B. Jones. George B. Jones was next called upon and like the previous speaker was heartily received. He devoted himself chiefly to the roads and bridges of the county and said that while the roads were not yet perfect, the present government had made a great improvement in them and would continue to do so if returned to power. When the present government came into office they found the roads in very bad shape and it had been necessary to do much more work on them than would have been the case if the former government had done its duty. He was prepared to place the record of the government in the matter of roads and bridges beside that of the gentlemen who criticized them, and let the people take their choice.

Not only had the former government neglected the roads in scandalous manner, but the work they did do was not honestly done and there were hundreds of dollars spent of which there was neither account or voucher. In the year 1903 the amount spent on the roads was neither account or voucher, and of this sum \$2,690.99 had been expended in Kings county.

In 1904 the sum of \$5,960.42 had been spent on the roads for which there was neither account or voucher, and of this \$1,111.28 had been spent in Kings county. From 1905 to 1908 the money went the same way and in fact every year up to the change. In December of 1907 and January and February of 1908 there was more than \$4,000 spent on the roads of Kings county or supposed to have been spent. He challenged any man to say that this money could have been spent in these months honestly and with the best results to be obtained.

Bridge Expenditures. Passing to the bridges of the county Mr. Jones quoted the auditor general's report to show that the total expenditures on ordinary bridges for the years 1904 to 1907 were \$341,420.66 as compared with a total of \$685,194.94 for the years since that time. This showed that the expenditure had more than doubled and that a total of 2,528 bridges had been built or repaired during the present government as compared with 1,122 by their predecessors.

Dealing further with bridge expenditures, Mr. Jones said that the reports of the auditor general showed that sums of money had been paid to "various persons" and asked for more definite information. Mr. Jones in answer said that under the old government there was nothing more in the account of the bridge expenditures than the name of the bridge and the total expended. In accounts of bridge expenditures under the present government, the cost of lumber was always given and the "various persons" included only those who had received money for labor on the bridges. If the names of each were to be printed the auditor general's report would have to be many times enlarged to hold them. The bridge accounts, however, were all before the public accounts committee of the House and there had been no objection to them there even by the men who were now raising the criticism. He also noted that the bridge accounts in the Province of Nova Scotia were published in the same form as those of the former government and in each case no information was given.

The J. P. McAulay Matter. Continuing, Mr. Jones said the Telegraph had referred to the fact that J. P. McAulay formerly an employe in the firm of Jones Brothers, Apohaig, in which the speaker was interested, had sold some lumber to the government. Continued on page two.

SUNBURY HAS A WINNING TEAM

Rousing Convention Nominates Big Men VICTORY ASSURED

The People Still Place Unbounded Confidence in Former Members, Geo. Perley and Parker Glasier--Great Enthusiasm.

Kings Co. Candidates Open Campaign in Eastern End of Constituency. Hon. James A. Murray, George B. Jones and Hedley V. Dickson Greeted by Enthusiastic Audience.

Special to The Standard. Westfield, June 4.—The opening gun in the electoral campaign in the western end of Kings county was fired tonight in the presence of an enthusiastic audience well representative of the party of Westfield when Hon. James A. Murray, George B. Jones and Hedley V. Dickson, the government candidates in Kings county, discussed the issues of the campaign in a manner which left no doubt in the minds of the audience as to the great superiority of the honest, capable administration of the Fleming administration compared with the maladministration of the gentlemen who were in power prior to March 2nd, 1908.

D. W. MacKenzie presided and introduced Mr. Dickson as the first speaker. A Farmer's Candidate. Mr. Dickson opened by referring to the fact that he was a member of the government ticket as a farmer's candidate. The placing of a farmer on the political tickets in the different counties in the province has been suggested by a resolution passed at the recent meeting of the Farmers' and Agriculturists' Association. He referred to the fact that he himself was a farmer from the parish of Rothesay and of a fourth generation of farmers living on a farm which had been granted to one of his ancestors, a United Empire Loyalist.

One reason that farmers could well support the good government of the Hazen-Fleming administration was the increased aid given to agriculture in 1908 when the government assumed office they found \$2 agricultural societies while in the present year there were 104. These societies received in 1908 the sum of \$8,000 of which the farmers received the benefit in the way of seed, fertilizer, pure stock, and other advantages. The total amount was \$14,000 and the sum set aside in 1912 was the same.

Mr. Dickson also referred tellingly to the appointment of the Agricultural Commission, the encouragement given to the farmers through the importation of pure bred stock, thoroughbred horses, etc. The government had also done much to encourage fruit raising and the splendid apple orchards held in St. John last year and the year previous showed what had been done in this line.

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Not only had the former government neglected the roads in scandalous manner, but the work they did do was not honestly done and there were hundreds of dollars spent of which there was neither account or voucher. In the year 1903 the amount spent on the roads was neither account or voucher, and of this sum \$2,690.99 had been expended in Kings county.

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