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PROSPERITY--THAT IS THE BIG ISSUE TODAY--VOTE LIBERAL PUGSLEY DENOUNCES G. S. MAYES' CHARGES AS THOSE OF A LIAR WHO ATTEMPTED BLACKMAIL AND FAILED

Laurier Continues His Triumphant Tour Through Quebec

Unbounded Enthusiasm by Thousands at Two Great Meetings

Premier Repeats His Remark About Tory Office-Holders Causing Scandal in Their Departments and That Dismissals May be Necessary--Is Sure of Fifty-Five Seats in the Province--Desperate Tactics of York County Tories.

(Special to The Telegraph.) Farnham, Que., Oct. 12--Sir Wilfrid Laurier spoke here today. About 5,000 people gathered to meet the premier, who was accompanied by Hon. Sydney Fisher, and Hon. L. P. Brodeur.

On arriving at the station Sir Wilfrid was met by several hundred citizens, and was presented with an address of welcome by Mayor D'Artois, of Farnham. A procession was then formed to escort Sir Wilfrid from his private car to the hotel, a mile distant.

Dealing with general politics, Sir Wilfrid said no one could find out what sort of policy the Conservatives were offering. Last year there was the Halifax platform of Mr. Borden, which proved a still born infant, forgotten as soon as born, and in this election it was not heard of.

The Liberals in 1893 called a convention and laid down a policy, and this was still being followed. "It is charged by the Conservatives," said Sir Wilfrid, "that we have abandoned our principles. That is a strange objection. If our principles were had made it, it might be reasonable, but why should the Conservatives, when they have nothing better to offer?"

As to the charges of extravagance, Sir Wilfrid Laurier argued that there had been an increase of revenue which fully justified increased expenditures. "The Tories," he said, "are economical in opposition, but when they control the purse strings, they are very very in better than other men; in fact I think they are worse, as, in days of the Pacific scandal, the Langevin and McCreery, and Wellington Bridge scandals. Now they are out of office and they are trying to bring us to the same level as themselves."

Proceeding, Sir Wilfrid dealt with the charges brought against the government by the Conservatives, declaring that they had brought only general charges against officials and employes, but not against the government itself.

"These charges are against officials and employes," said Sir Wilfrid. "Perhaps in 1896 we made the mistake of not dismissing Tory officials, because it is Tory officials who are implicated in these scandals. Perhaps we did injustice to ourselves in this way in 1896, but if we did so on this occasion, it was not too late to do what should have been done then." (Applause.)

With regard to the Marine investigation, Sir Wilfrid Laurier paid a high tribute to Hon. Mr. Brodeur, whom he characterized as not only an able man, but one who would do his duty fearlessly.

MINISTER SAYS THAT MAYES TRIED TO COMPEL HIM TO BUY HIS DREDGE UNDER THREATS OF DIRE EXPOSURE

His Answer Was to Order Contractor Out of His Office--Never Received Any Money Except for Professional Services, and That Was Long Before He Went to Ottawa--Hon. Mr. Pugsley Tells of the Whole Plot--It Failed, He Says, and Then Mayes Tried to Turn it Into Political Capital--"An Infernal, Miserable Scoundrel."

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 1908. What Hon. Wm. Pugsley indignantly characterizes as a sensational attempt at political blackmail, without parallel in the history of New Brunswick politics, came to light last night as the result of an alleged affidavit read at the Whitney-Hazen meeting by Premier Hazen, the affidavit being that of Gershon S. Mayes, dredging contractor.

In this affidavit Mayes made charges against Hon. William Pugsley, minister of public works, and George McAvity, of the city, alleging that they had made use of their political influence to obtain money from him improperly.

Mr. Mayes wanted \$150,000. "Mr. Mayes wanted \$150,000 for it and the superintendent said it was worth \$100,000 at the most. I said positively from the first that on no account would I go beyond the superintendent's price and that any claims he had for extras must be treated simply on their merits."

Mr. Mayes said that he had been asked to purchase the dredge, but that he had refused to do so. He said that he had been told that if he did not purchase the dredge, he would be exposed as a scoundrel.

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"BLACKMAIL," SAYS PUGSLEY, IN ANSWERING MAYES' SLANDER BEFORE PRINCE WARD ELECTORS

Minister Tells of \$20,000 Offer for Campaign Fund If Dredge Were Bought.

Dr. Pugsley Makes Ringing Reply to Defamatory Assertion and is Cheered and Cheered and Carried: Shoulder High from Platform to Street at Close of Speech--Addresses by Messrs Pender and Lantulum--The New Dredging Tenders.

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 1908. A magnificent reception was accorded Hon. William Pugsley last evening at a meeting in McLean's building, the Liberal headquarters in Prince Ward. The minister in an eloquent and telling speech, dealt specifically with slanderous charges made by G. S. Mayes, referring among other things to efforts made by the owner of the Beaver to sell the dredge to the government and characterizing his action as blackmail.

Mr. Pugsley said that he had been offered \$20,000 for the dredge, but that he had refused to do so. He said that he had been told that if he did not purchase the dredge, he would be exposed as a scoundrel.

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LIBERAL ESTIMATES FROM ALL PROVINCES INDICATE G'T MAJORITY OF 65

Table showing Liberal estimates from all provinces, indicating a majority of 65 seats.

MAINE PREACHER CHARGED WITH INCENDIARISM

T. V. Hunter in Jail at Houlton Accused of Burning House and Barn at Island Falls.

Houlton, Me., Oct. 12. T. V. Hunter, who, on 18th months ago was in charge of a church in Monticello, is now confined at the county jail, charged with incendiarism at Island Falls on September 28, when a house and barn were burned.

LIBERALS WILL SWEEP PROVINCE

James Robinson, ex-M. P., Tells Winnipeg Free Press Pugsley Will Win, and Liberals Will Carry Ten Out of Thirteen New Brunswick Seats.

(Winnipeg Free Press, Oct. 8.) James Robinson, of Miramichi, N. B., former member of the Dominion house, is a guest at the Royal Alexandra, and leaves with a party of friends for Regina tonight to attend the auction sale of western lands which is to take place there on October 12 to 17.

The new House of Commons will consist of 221 members, thus giving the Government a majority over all Opposition, if this forecast is correct, of 65.

White Plains, N. Y., Oct. 12. Justice Mills in the Supreme court here today committed Harry K. Thaw to Matteawan Asylum for the criminal insane.

When asked how he accounted for Premier Hazen's carrying the provincial election, Mr. Robinson replied that Premier Hazen did not appeal to the people on party lines.