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In the City's Suburbs

Political Issue Discussed Before the Electors of Victoria West Last Night.

The Opposition Candidates State Their Case and Solicit Support.

Fairall's hall was fairly well filled by Victoria West electors to hear the political issues discussed by the opposition candidates.

The chair was occupied by Mr. Rich. Russell, who has filled that position at the Turner meetings there for the last three campaigns.

Mr. McPhillips, who was first called on, specified the principal issue as being opposition to the Hon. Jos. Martin, who had come into power by a misuse of the constitutional prerogatives vested in the Governor-General.

The speaker referred to the action of the Semlin government, dominated by Mr. Martin, in introducing the Alien Exclusion Bill, and of their refusal to allow him to introduce an act repealing it, which was suggested by the speaker, supported by the opposition, in February, 1899. Even after its disastrous effects were evident to the whole country, the government had prevented the opposition from accomplishing anything to mitigate the influence of that legislation.

Instead of studying the welfare of the province Mr. Martin had struck out the aid of \$4,000 a mile, which had been guaranteed to the V. V. & E., which, with the Dominion government subsidy, would have led to the construction of that road, whereas he to-day intends to build it at the whole expense of the province. "Bank experimentalist" was the term the speaker used in describing Mr. Martin—a gambler who upon his leaving each of the provinces in which he had resided was followed by sighs of relief.

Mr. McPhillips read, amid laughter, the Premier's reference to the members of the British Columbia Board of Trade, and asked his audience if they intended to support a man who held such views regarding his constituents.

He also challenged the Premier's statements in regard to the British Columbia Southern land grant, and asked the speaker the opinion of a man whom the bar of British Columbia delighted to honor—Mr. Bodwell. (Loud applause.)

He also combated the statements persistently made that Mr. Martin was a very clever man, and referred to the bungling of which he had been guilty in regard to many legal statutes.

He quoted the remarks of Hon. David Mills in regard to the anti-Mongolian clause in private bills, in regard to which the Minister of Justice said that it was contrary to British policy and henceforth, if such clause appeared in any bill, it would be disallowed.

In regard to the Alien Exclusion Act, the Federal government had disallowed it, and they had also allowed the anti-Mongolian legislation of the Semlin government.

It was childish for Mr. Martin to go about saying that as often as the legislation was disallowed he would re-enact it. The speaker entirely opposed such a senseless course.

Mr. Martin had said that he passed the Torres lands system, but that the Semlin government failed to put it into effect. Yet it was passed in February, 1899, and the act could have been made operative at once, yet he left office in July without putting it into effect. The province had been in the enjoyment of the best features of the Torres lands system in the Land Registry Act, which had been inaugurated by Sir Henry Grease. The only effect which the introduction of the system at the present time would have would be to increase the burden of taxation.

Turning to Mr. Martin's plank looking to the abolition of the \$200 qualification for candidates, he said that the Premier had subscribed to that plank in the Semlin platform, but had not raised a hand to crystallize it into legislation. The speaker would have supported that legislation.

Mr. Martin, too, had assumed the responsibility for the Governor's action. He misjudged the province, if he thought that they would endorse his Honor's course. He prophesied that the Premier would be defeated and the Governor told that his usefulness was gone.

Richard Hall regretted that the province was not as prosperous as it had been—a fact due largely to the reckless legislation of Hon. Joseph Martin. He compared the province to a joint stock company, in which the electors were shareholders, and the members directors. Power had unfortunately fallen to a director who owned no stock and who could pack up his carpet bag and leave the country at a moment's notice. Mr. Martin was a man who appealed to the prejudices of the people instead of to their reason, who would wreck a government from spite, who was as much at home among his enemies as his friends, and who was a dangerous man who should not be treated.

The Torres system would increase the earnings of the lawyers. Why disturb a system which had worked well. At this stage one of the audience who had been especially demonstrative, asked for Mr. Hall's opinion on the transmigration of souls, a subject which the speaker modestly declined to express an opinion upon.

Continuing, Mr. Hall advocated a railway to the north end of the Island, and also the building of the Kitimat road. The pretentious scheme of the Premier would leave no funds for the smaller ones. He would do what he could to have these roads built.

He thought the \$200 deposit was advisable, though if public opinion was against its retention he had no objection to its repeal.

H. Dallas Helmcken thought there was quite as much at stake in the present campaign as in 1899. He took up the Mongolian labor question, and referred to his introduction of an anti-Mongolian bill a session or two previously. Mr. Martin's plan was to hammer the im-

perial authorities until they approved of such legislation. He thought the adoption of such a line of action would be idle. But the right of agitation remained, and persistent agitation would arouse the sympathies of Canadians in the East. What the speaker advised was an emphatic though respectful protest against the advantages these people enjoyed.

This was all the more objectionable in view of the treatment of foreigners in Japan, as shown by the following extract from a resume of the laws obtaining in Japan as reported in the London Times:

"The consular report, giving the returns of the foreign trade of Japan for the year 1898, says:

"Foreigners are debarred from the ownership of real estate in Japan. The Tokio Chamber of Commerce and other associations have expressed themselves in favor of the concession being made, but there is hardly any prospect that the right of owning land will in the immediate future be granted to other than Japanese subjects. Aliens have consequently to be content with acquiring 'rights of superficies' over land, which for whatever period procurable cannot be regarded as a satisfactory substitute for ownership. Yet it would appear that 'juridical persons' that is, associations or partnerships composed of foreigners and constituted comfortably to Japanese law, may acquire the right to own land.

"No foreigners are allowed to engage in the mining industry, or to be a holder of shares in mining undertakings. It was hoped that the amendment of the mining law, which came before the diet at its present session, would remove this disability, but the amendment turned out to be merely of a technical nature and to have no reference to foreigners at all. Since then the house of representatives has adopted a representation in favor of granting to 'juridical persons,' of which foreigners may be members, the right to engage in mining enterprises in Japan. The proposal was subsequently endorsed by the house of peers."

Mr. Helmcken, continuing, outlined his plans to overcome the difficulty as indicated at a recent meeting in the A. O. U. W. Hall.

The present government could claim no monopoly of credit for seeking to improve these conditions. The principal credit belonged to the opposition.

The removal of the Songhees Indian reserve formed the theme for the next section of Mr. Helmcken's remarks. The matter had not been tackled in a business-like manner. He read the official correspondence, which he said showed that the government had taken no steps whatever to settle the matter. He advocated the building of a bridge at the foot of Johnston street and a park for Victoria West.

The government had made a great stand of its desire to protect the working man. Yet when Mr. Bodwell reported that the settlers in Cowichan had a grievance against the E. & N. railway the government had taken no steps in the matter.

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referred to this mis-report of the Vancouver World, which had asserted that the opposition had not had the courage to come out against the government.

Conceding, Mr. Turner referred to the baneful legislation of 1899; and to the part taken in introducing it by Mr. Martin.

The speaker also challenged the composition of the ministry, and dwelt on the fact that each minister, as he was appointed seemed to give the Premier an emergency letter of resignation. He characterized as contrary to the constitution of the province the present system of filling the portfolios.

Mr. Martin had said that his railway would pay from the start because he would have the handling of the interior ores to coast smelters. As soon as he advanced that in the upper country he was asked what was to become of the interior smelters, where coke was available and all the facilities for making smelting profitable.

The proposal to borrow money for building roads, etc., to be the system followed for twenty-five years and it must therefore be an endorsement of the policy of previous governments.

Referring in conclusion to the convention on Monday night Mr. Turner said he and his colleagues had previously been elected by voters of both shades of politics. He had then said that as he and his Conservative colleagues were elected they might join in a plan to have a Conservative party government after being elected by both sides. He denied any such intention and he believed his colleagues felt as he did on the matter.

By vote of the convention the chairman terminated the proceedings.

Once More Delayed

Turkey Will Settle Indemnity Claims But Ask for a Little Time

To Enable Abdul's Representative to Submit Proposals to the United States.

(Associated Press.)

Constantinople, May 10.—The matter of the settlement of the indemnity claims temporarily delayed. Well-informed circles say that the Turkish minister in Washington, Ali Ferid Bey, has given assurance that the settlement of the claims, but asks for a short delay, which is granted.

Ahmed Pasha has left Constantinople. He is going to the United States with proposals, the object of which is the settlement of the claims in an indirect manner. In the event of the failure of Ahmed's proposals, the United States government will resume negotiations with the Porte.

The impression here is that Ahmed will not succeed. The Porte has presented a new note to the embassies announcing its intention to introduce the credit in Gallipoli. The object of this movement, it is believed, is to establish a precedent for the subsequent imposition of like duties in other towns. It is expected the embassies will again refuse to assent as the measure is contrary to the treaty.

**WAS HE MURDERED?**

Friends of Miles Rumbough Ask for an Investigation.

(Special to the Times.)

Vancouver, May 11.—The Vancouver friends here, after an investigation into the death of Miles Rumbough, the gambler, who met his death in the Sandford fire. Rumbough's head was detached from his body and it is said that he was murdered. He had \$300, none of which was found after the fire. It is suggested that the murderer set fire to the house in order to cover his crime. No satisfactory explanation has yet been given as to the cause of the fire.

Vancouver bankers are seriously considering the discounting of American bank notes by ten or twenty per cent. Action will probably be taken at next Monday's meeting.

Government Construction Superintendent Charleson returned this afternoon from Queenella, where he inspected the work done on that end of the Yukon telegraph line. Ninety miles of the line has been completed and is in good working order. Mr. Charleson goes North again next week.

**SCENES IN LEGISLATURE.**

Premier of P.E.I. Threatens Opposition With Arrest.

(Associated Press.)

Charlottetown, May 11.—Owing to continued uproar in the Legislature the Premier yesterday made a motion asking permission to place two additional door-keepers in order to preserve the dignity of the House, the Premier alleging that this was necessary owing to the tactics of the opposition. This action caused tumultuous scenes, and the Premier threatened the opposition with arrest if they did not desist.

The Premier's motion finally carried by a majority of one.

**SUPPOSED SUICIDE.**

(Associated Press.)

Edinburgh, May 11.—H. H. Norrie, manager of the Union Bank of Scotland, was found dead this morning at his residence. His head was half blown away by a gun. Apparently he had committed suicide. His action is attributed to the fact that he had been suffering from influenza.

**JAPANESE ROYAL MARRIAGE.**

(Associated Press.)

Yokohama, May 11.—The wedding of the Crown Prince and Princess Sadako, a daughter of the Kujem family, at Tokyo on Thursday, was a simple ceremony. The participants drank cups of wine before the shrine in the Imperial palace. The foreign residents presented an address.

Methodist Conference

Annual Assembly of the Methodist Church Being Held at New Westminster.

The First Draft of the Stations for the Province—Proposed Changes.

(Special to the Times.)

New Westminster, May 10.—The annual assembly of the Methodist church met this year in the new Queen's avenue church, New Westminster. The ministerial session convened at 9:30 a.m., Wednesday. After an hour's devotional exercises, under the direction of the president, Rev. B. Whittington, M.A., of Vancouver, the session was duly opened and the roll of conference being called, forty members were present.

The following transfers into the conference were reported: E. Hedley Calderstone, B.A., from New Brunswick conference; A. E. Roberts, from Manitoba conference; R. F. Stillman, from Bay of Quinte conference; J. B. Westman, from London conference; Elliott S. Rowe, from Toronto conference; John Fye, from Newfoundland, and W. C. Schlichter, from the Manitoba conference.

Transferred to the Toronto conference, Rev. J. C. Speer.

Recommended for superannuation on account of ill-health, James Turner, John E. Gardiner.

The resignation of W. E. Moody from the ministry was accepted.

Bro. W. C. Schlichter was received into full connection with the ministry and will be ordained on Sunday morning.

The following are the probationers for the ministry: Of four years at college, Geo. A. Cropp, of two years, D. W. Scott, G. M. Colgate, Thomas Pearson, one year, W. G. Mahon, W. G. Tanner and G. K. Bradshaw, Dr. R. W. Large. The superannuated ministers are Cornelius Bryant, Thos. R. Pearson, James Turner and John E. Gardiner.

The superannuated ministers are: J. E. Roschke, James Joseph W. Winslow, and G. K. Bradshaw. The special ministerial session adjourned to meet at the call of the chair.

The following is the first draft of stations: Victoria District.

Victoria Metropolitan, Elliott S. Rowe; Victoria Centennial, William H. Barradough, B.A.; Cornelius Bryant, superannuated; Victoria West, John D. P. Knox; Victoria, James Bay, Robert Hughes; Victoria Chinese mission, one to be sent (T.C.T.); Victoria Japanese mission, superintended Metropolitan; Sannich, Joseph W. Winslow; Cowichan, Allen K. Sharp, A. Seymour; Salt Spring Island, David W. Scott, under superintendent Sannich; Mt. Sicker and lumber camps, Chas. W. Nelson; Nanaimo, Wallace street, Wallingford; Nanaimo, Haliburton street, James G. Yonkers; Nanaimo Chinese mission, one to be sent, under superintendent Wallace street; Nanaimo Japanese mission, to be supplied under superintendent Wallace street; Wellington, James Hicks; Cumberland, William Hicks; Cumberland Japanese mission, under superintendent Cumberland; John P. Hicks, chaplain, to Wesleyan; M. feet at Esquimalt, by permission of conference.

Vancouver District.

Vancouver, Homer street, Edmund E. Scott; Vancouver, Prince of Wales street, Whitton, M.A., B.Sc., president of conference; Vancouver, Mount Pleasant, Chas. H. M. Sutherland; Vancouver, Fairview, W. G. Mahon, under superintendent Homer street; Vancouver Chinese mission, including Richmond, one to be sent, under superintendent Mount Pleasant; Vancouver Japanese mission, including Sapperton and Steveston, Goro Kaburagi; Richmond, Arthur N. Miller; Van Anda, W. C. Schlichter, B.A.; Maple Ridge, G. Howard Osborne; Mission City, Robert Wilkinson; Agassiz and Hot Springs, Aykroyd Stoney; Atlin (under general board of missions), to be supplied.

Westminster District.

New Westminster Central, John P. Betts; Wilford J. Sippell, B.A., principal of Wilford College; Thomas Pearson, superannuated; New Westminster, West End, John P. Powell, secretary of conference; New Westminster, Sapperton, to be supplied under superintendent West End; Chinese, Westminster and Lower Fraser, Chan Sing Kai; Ladner, Eliza Munnell; Cloverdale, A. J. Irwin; Langley, W. G. Hall; Sumas, to be supplied; Chilliwack, T. W. Hall; Cheam, to be supplied (J.E.P.); Joseph Hall, principal of Coqualeetaz Institute, by permission of conference.

Kamloops District.

Kamloops, Charles Ladner; Kamloops Chinese mission, to be supplied under superintendent of Kamloops; Thompson River, to be supplied; Nicola, Thomas Neville; Salmon Arm, W. D. Misenar; Revelstoke, Samuel J. Thompson; Trout Lake City, T. W. Hunter; Golden, James P. Westman; Enderby, R. Newton Powell; John E. Rosoman, superannuated; Vernon, Ebenezer Robson; Okanagan, G. B. Kenny; Princeton, one to be sent; Cariboo, to be supplied; Ashcroft, Robert B. Laidley; Lillooet and Clinton, one to be sent; George A. Cropp to attend Victoria College.

Kootenay District.

Rossland, George H. Morden; David D. Binks, superannuated; Trail, John Fye; Nelson, John Robson, B.A.; Ymir, one to be sent (J.S.); Kaslo, James A. Wood; Ainsworth, one to be sent; Sandover and Slovan City, E. A. Roberts; Grand Forks, Geo. K. Bradshaw; Phoenix, one to be sent; Greenwood, B. Hedley Baldwin; B.A.; Cranbrook, James H. White, one to be sent; Fernie, R. Forbes Stillman; Michel, one to be sent.

Port Simpson, S. Stanley Osterhout.

Ph. D.; Albert E. Bolton, M.D., (medical missionary); Naas River, William T. Rush, M.D., (medical missionary); native agent under superintendence of the chairman; Skidegate, Q.C.I., Barnabas C. Freeman; Port Essington, Dennis Jennings; Kitsialah, to be visited from Port Essington; Hartley Bay, missionary teacher, under superintendence of chairman (G.R.); Kishpyax, William H. Pierce; Kitsloguia, native agent under superintendence of chairman (P.R.); Hingwilget, missionary teacher, under superintendence of chairman (R.H.C.)

Bella Bella District.

Bella Bella, Richard W. Large, M.D.; River's Inlet, lay agent under superintendence of chairman (E.N.); China Hat, native agent under superintendence of chairman (G.E.); Kitimat, George H. Raley; Kitlope, to be visited from Kitamat; Bella Coola, John C. Spencer, M. D.; Kimsquit, to be supplied by native agent under superintendence of chairman; Cape Mudge, missionary teacher (R.J.W.); Lower Fraser (Sardis) Laomias Crosby; native agent (Capt. J.); Cowichan tribes (Duncan), Charles M. Tate; Victoria, lay agent under superintendence of Cowichan (W.H.G.); Nanaimo, missionary teacher under superintendence of Cowichan (G.R.W.); Nitenat (Clousoe), William J. Stone; Claouaunt, one to be sent (medical missionary); Nootka Sound, to be visited; Glad Tidings left in hands of missionary board.

Newspaper Postage

Canadian Press Association Urge the Government to Remove It.

Toronto Trades and Labor Council in Favor of Labor Candidates.

(Associated Press.)

Toronto, May 11.—The Canadian Press Association at an emergency meeting yesterday passed resolutions urging the government to remove postage from newspapers and periodicals in view of the great rise in the price of paper in consequence of the destruction of Canadian mills. A resolution was also passed requesting parliament to empower the Governor-General in council to temporarily suspend or reduce the duty on news and printing paper for the same reasons mentioned above. A deputation was appointed to lay the matter before the government.

The annual meeting of the Methodist Book Room committee was held yesterday afternoon, when the year's business in various publishing departments was carefully reviewed, showing gratifying results. The sum of \$11,000 was voted to the superannuation fund, an increase of \$500 over last year.

The present system of newspaper postage was strongly condemned, and a resolution was passed urging the government to change the system.

By a vote of 48 to 10 the Trades and Labor Council of this city has decided in favor of independent political action and the bringing out of labor candidates in forthcoming Provincial and Dominion elections.

Ottawa, May 11.—A deputation of woolen manufacturers is here to-day to wait on Hon. Messrs. Fleming and Patterson requesting that the duties in these lines of goods be raised sufficiently to counter-balance the further cut which is to be made in favor of British goods.

G. W. Smallley, the New York correspondent of the London Times, is here to-day as the guest of Lord Minto.

Montreal, May 11.—The fourth case of smallpox has made its appearance. This, however, is in St. Cuneague, a suburb.

**VICTORIANS APPOINTED.**

Resident Engineer of Public Works Department in This Province.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, May 11.—George A. Keefer, C. E., has been appointed resident engineer of the Public Works Department in British Columbia, in place of J. R. Eby, who was recently made secretary of the department.

Mr. Keefer, who will go over to Westminster immediately to take up his new duties, has been a resident of Victoria since 1884, prior to that time being engaged in Ontario and other fields. Since coming to this city he has been identified with a number of public works.

**CABLE OFFER.**

(Associated Press.)

Toronto, May 11.—The Evening Telegram's London cable says: "The Morning Post correspondent correspondent says the Eastern Extension Cable Co. is willing to sell its Australia to the Cape cable if the Imperial government wishes to purchase it. This is the proposition made by Sir Sandford Fleming to the Australian cables interested in the cable service some years ago, as a means to settle the cable question still in dispute."

**JUDGE FREEDMAN DENOUNCED.**

(Associated Press.)

Milwaukee, Wis., May 11.—Judge Freedman of the New York Supreme Court, was censured by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers at last night's session. A resolution was adopted denouncing him for issuing an injunction enjoining the Cigar Makers' Union from contributing financial aid to the recent cigar makers' strike.

An appropriation of \$50,000 was made to a charitable fund to be distributed to indigent members of the order.

**AN EPIDEMIC OF WHOOPING COUGH.**

Last winter during an epidemic of whooping cough my children contracted the disease, having severe coughing spells. We had used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy very successfully for a group and naturally turned to it at that time and found it relieved the cough and effected a complete cure.—John B. Clifford, Proprietor, Norwood House, Norwood, N.Y. This remedy is for sale by Henderson Bros., wholesale agents, Victoria and Vancouver.

Advancing On Kroonstad

Lord Roberts, It Is Predicted, Will Enter the Town in a Few Days.

Burgers May Leave Work of Defending Pretoria for Foreign Mercenaries.

London, May 11.—In the lobbies of the House of Commons last evening members were freely betting that Lord Roberts would be in Pretoria in two months. The ministerialists are building confident hopes upon the comprehensive plans he has communicated to the war office.

Predictions are definitely made that he will enter Kroonstad next Monday, and it is believed that his advance is probably already reconnoitering in the vicinity of Ventersburg, where the hilly country begins again.

Beyond Kroonstad is an intricate and difficult country, and if the Boers should elect to fight, it is possible they could check the progress of the British until Lord Roberts's numerous cavalry had had time to ride around their flank and threaten their rear. From 15,000 to 20,000 is the highest estimate of the Boers under the personal command of Gen. Botha, who is said to have 46 guns. Botha and Dewet are reported to have quarrelled.

Lord Roberts is pressing hard after this force with 55,000 men and 140 guns, and more men are readily available.

Spencer Wilkinson, reviewing the military situation in the Morning Post, says: "The Boers are now approaching their final agony. Lord Roberts has 40,000 men beyond the Zand River, and with Gen. Buller there are 30,000, and with Gen. Hunter 10,000. Against the pressure of these various columns the Boers can make no effective resistance. A collapse must follow the first battle in which the Boers make a determined John Bull well beaten. Whether the Transvaal government will then submit, or will encourage the burghers to continue a hopeless struggle to the point of their general ruin, is uncertain. The latter alternative is by no means improbable."

A dispatch to the Daily Telegraph from Wellington, dated Wednesday, says: "The burghers held a meeting recently, without the consent of President Steyn, at which the advisability of submission on the part of the Free State was discussed and approved."

The Standard publishes the following: "The Standard's special agent Gen. Boers make a determined John Bull well beaten. Whether the Transvaal government will then submit, or will encourage the burghers to continue a hopeless struggle to the point of their general ruin, is uncertain. The latter alternative is by no means improbable."

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