

ESQUIMALT FAVORS

HON. C. E. POOLEY

Electors Assembled at Parson's Bridge Give Hearty Sympathy

SURE INDICATION OF VICTORY

Speakers on Candidate's Behalf Well Received—Mr. Pooley May Speak Tonight

Three cheers for Premier McBride and Hon. C. E. Pooley, the Liberal-Conservative candidate for the Esquimalt riding. These were given at the conclusion of a meeting held at Parson's bridge last evening. The response was hearty, the rafters of the hall ringing with the hearty expression of the enthusiasm of those present.

Hon. Stuart, G. Howard Potts, W. E. Fisher, W. A. McDowall and H. D. Helmcken, Esq. were accorded generous applause, and the gathering broke up with every evidence that the residents of the district had decided to give Hon. Mr. Pooley their united support at the polls on Saturday.

Hon. Stuart referred to the unfortunate illness of the candidate, Hon. C. E. Pooley. He thought all would agree that the present was a time when all supporters of the honorable gentleman should rally around him, thus insuring his election on the 2nd of February by an overwhelming majority. (Applause.)

Two Good Reasons He wanted to mention two reasons why the present government should be returned. The first was that it was inadvisable to "swap horses while crossing the stream," and the second was that it was always wise to "place money on the winning horse."

There was no doubt that under the progressive policy of the administration of Premier McBride, the country had advanced to a condition of unprecedented prosperity. Therefore it was not wise to make a change at the present juncture. He had heard also, not from the newspapers, but from reliable sources, that the premier and his supporters were going to carry practically all the mainline seats for (Applause.)

In view of that fact he thought it would be in the best interests of the Esquimalt riding if its representative should be a supporter of the administration. (Hear, hear.)

It had been asserted that Premier McBride had no "stake" in British Columbia. He thought he had the heaviest possible stake. He was a native son and the pioneer of the province. In addition he had demonstrated his ability by the splendid fight he had made for better terms for British Columbia during his attendance at the Inter-provincial conference at Ottawa.

He was sure that the electorate would mark its endorsement of the stand taken by the premier by electing the Conservative candidate in no uncertain way. (Enthusiastic Applause.)

Mr. Fisher spoke of better terms and outlined the admirable struggle made by the premier in support of the just claims of the province. He also referred to the advancement which had been made along all lines during the past three years. He felt confident that all would do everything in their power to give Hon. Mr. Pooley a substantial majority. (Applause.)

The Government Record G. Howard Potts drew attention to the deplorable condition of the province, financially, previous to the advent of the present administration. By judiciously raising taxes and by generally wise legislation, British Columbia's credit had been redeemed and now the coffers were overflowing, and everyone was enjoying unprecedented prosperity. (Applause.)

Of the Kaituma Island transaction Mr. Potts had no hesitation in saying that the property which had been granted to the G. T. P. railway as its townsite would be worth practically nothing were it not for the prospect of railway development. There was no doubt in his mind that the government's action in selling that land for \$1 an acre had been a most commendable one. It was especially so when it was compared with that which the Dominion government contemplated giving the railway 13,000 acres of the best Indian reserve land in view of the fact that it had not been for the reversionary interest which the province held in this block, it would now be in the possession of the railway corporation. (Applause.)

The speaker mentioned the proposal of the Liberal party to change the mining laws. This, he thought, was not a commendable plank in any party's platform. It was the fact that Premier McBride had not interfered with these regulations which had induced so many capitalists to assist in the exploitation of its resources. (Applause.)

He felt sure that all would unite in support of Hon. Mr. Pooley in the forthcoming election. (Enthusiastic applause.)

Message from Mr. Pooley W. A. McDowall brought a message from Hon. Mr. Pooley, who, unfortunately, was deterred from being present through illness. He wished those present to know that he was sorry he could not attend. Mr. McDowall thought all would regret the indisposition of the Liberal-Conservative candidate. (Voice—I think you may take it for granted that those are our sentiments.)

confederation, showing that the province of Nova Scotia and other sections had had a reconsideration of the bargain entered into between them and the federal authorities. He pointed out that British Columbia had paid to the Dominion \$20,000,000 more than had been expended by the federal authorities in the province. When Premier McBride had gone to Ottawa he had been offered the paltry sum of \$1,000,000 in full payment of this claim. In view of that he believed that the Premier had been justified in withdrawing from the conference and returning to British Columbia to obtain the voice of the people. (Applause.)

Speaking of the government of the province, he asked those present to look into history and it would be found that in five years there had been no less than six changes in the government. That was had thing, such a condition conducive to instability, something that was altogether undesirable if the progress and prosperity of the country was considered.

Questions Answered H. D. Helmcken, K. C., said that he had great pleasure in meeting the electors of the district. He was gratified because of the sympathetic way in which the intelligence of Hon. Mr. Pooley's illness had been received. All through the district he had been cordially greeted. At a gathering at Esquimalt on Wednesday night he had been handed a series of questions from the Liberal Association of that centre. To these he had been given an answer by Mr. Pooley. These were as follows:

Questions asked on behalf of the electors of Esquimalt: "That the candidates for office in the Esquimalt Electoral District be asked to pledge themselves to bring in a bill at the next session of the legislature embodying the following provisions: 1. Limiting the number of hours of labor on public works (contract or otherwise) to eight hours. 2. For the ensuing five years the minimum rate of wages shall be as follows: viz: with overtime, \$3.50 per day; transients, \$6.00 per day."

John A. T. French, Esq., Secy. Treas. Sooke & Otter, Ltd., Victoria. Mr. French said that he regretted to see the Premier's name mentioned in connection with the matter. He was in accord with both propositions, viz: the eight-hour day on government work, and the scale of wages suggested. He would advocate the same at the forthcoming session.

The Issues There were two principal issues in the present campaign. The first was that of better terms and the second was contained in the query: "What has the government done to entitle it to the support of the public?" (Hear, hear.)

In respect to the former, he detailed the terms upon which British Columbia had entered into confederation. He gave the figures of the revenue contributed by the province to the Dominion and the amount expended by the latter in the West, conclusively demonstrating that there was no less than \$100,000,000 standing to the credit of British Columbia. Some would ask whether that was a legal claim. If it was, he would claim it. He had the approval of the Dominion authorities, and therefore he would insist that the amount to which the province was justly entitled. That was the stand taken by the Premier. He was not asking for a favor at the hands of the federal authorities, but for the rights of the country. (Applause.)

He pointed out that as a result of the courageous stand taken by the Premier it had been conceded by the recent interprovincial conference, that British Columbia, owing to its peculiar physical features, should be accorded special treatment. But when it came to a settlement, the paltry sum of \$1,000,000, spread over ten years, had been offered. Premier McBride had properly refused, and had withdrawn from the proceedings. (Applause.) He did not see the question of better terms was a complicated one. But it was of vital importance to all British Columbians that the matter should be satisfactorily settled. (Applause.)

In regard to the question of increased taxation, he thought that everyone understood that it was a course which the government had to take under the circumstances. He felt that the province had been lifted from practical bankruptcy to prosperity, it was the intention to increase the rates provided by the Assessment Act. (Applause.)

Indicating a map of the northern coast of British Columbia, the speaker pointed out the location of the townsite granted the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway by the province. He contended that the bargain was one in the interest of the public. He drew a comparison between that deal and that which the federal authorities wished to enter into with the aforementioned railway corporation to give the latter a large block of the Indian reserve lands in that locality. That proposed transaction, however, had been effectively blocked as a result of the firm refusal of the provincial government to waive its reversionary interests. (Applause.) Thus had a total of 40,000. Diphtheria cases are increasing. A proclamation by Health Commissioner Whelan calls on people generally to cancel their social engagements for the time being.

Spanish Troubles Madrid, Jan. 30.—A state of siege has been declared at Valencia owing to the labor agitation there. The authorities here have learned that in spite of all their precautions, Don Jaime, son of the Spanish pretender, recently paid a visit to the Carlist leader at Barcelona.

Selling Indian Reserve Broadview, Jan. 30.—Fifty thousand acres of the Creekside Lake Indian reserve are now being sold. The Broadview, has been bought from the Indians by the Dominion government, and will be surveyed and sold in quarter section parcels.

Pennsylvania Scandal Harrisburg, Pa. Jan. 30.—A resolution called for an investigation of the expenditure of \$9,000,000 for furnishing and decorating the new state capitol, which passed the house Monday night, was adopted by the senate today and signed by the governor.

Manitoba Fuel Famine Snowflake, Man., Jan. 30.—John Drew & Son are now bringing out the snowflakes from the farmers' elevator to burn in their stores. Others will have to follow their example, if the blockade is not raised in a few hours the situation will be serious.

JAPANESE QUESTION ON PACIFIC COAST

United States and Japan to Conclude New Treaty in a Short Time

Washington, Jan. 30.—After two hours' conference at the White House tonight regarding the Japanese question on the Pacific coast, the California delegation in congress authorized the following statement: "The California delegation has held a very full and harmonious discussion with the president, the secretary of state and the secretary of the navy, on the serious questions relating to the Japanese on the Pacific coast. The character of the discussion leads us to feel confident that a solution would be reached satisfactory to all concerned."

The result of the meeting, that the delegation has tonight telegraphed to the president of the San Francisco board of education and the superintendent of schools to come to Washington at once for a conference with the president and the secretary of state.

The present treaty between the United States and Japan will expire on March 12th of next year. President Roosevelt has assured the members of congress from California that he would seek a new treaty with the Japanese empire, which would meet with their entire approval and prove satisfactory to the Tokyo government. The Californians have insisted upon an exclusion act to bar Japanese coolies out of the United States, but it is hinted tonight that as a result of the conference at the White House, Senators Perkins and Flint, and the California representatives have practically agreed to waive their demand and to leave it to President Roosevelt to negotiate a new convention which will keep Japanese coolie labor out of the United States. Japan has made it clear that she will only consider a treaty that is mutual. What provisions the American government has been asked to make have not been made public. It is admitted at the Japanese embassy tonight that Viscount Aoki, the Japanese ambassador, has discussed the proposed treaty with the president and that they are in perfect accord. The second secretary of the embassy, Mr. Hara, refused to say what concessions had been promised by the American government or what would be satisfactory to the Japanese government. He says, however, that Japan does not encourage her laborers to come to the United States. Members of the California delegation who participated in the conference have been pledged to secrecy, further than what is contained in the statement of the California delegation.

PASSENGER RATES ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Mr. Borden's Resolution on Two Cent Limit Discussed in the House

Ottawa, Jan. 30.—In the House today Mr. Borden moved a resolution that the railway commission should immediately hold an inquiry into the tariffs of Canadian railways to ascertain whether the maximum passenger rate should be not to exceed two cents. After a debate maintained by Messrs. Lancaster, Maclean, Reid, Hall and Johnston, Hon. Mr. Emerson, minister of railways, moved an amendment negating the Borden resolution. The argument made by the minister was that the railway matter, and by next session expected to have sufficient data to deal with the question. The motion was not passed to a division, the matter being still under discussion when the House adjourned at 6 o'clock.

Mr. Lomenx, who had introduced an announcement respecting increased salaries for postoffice employees would be made shortly.

Mr. Fielding told Mr. Taylor that W. W. B. McInnes resigned on December 31, and his resignation was accepted Jan. 5.

Mr. Stenson, superintendent of forestry, told the agricultural committee that the lumber industry in the North were being rapidly decimated by consumption. He had urged the government to limit and restrict the export of lumber. The liberal senators and members gave a banquet to Hon. G. W. Ross. The affair was a great success.

Chicago's Epidemics Chicago, Jan. 30.—Three hundred and fourteen new cases of scarlet fever were reported here today, making a total of 40,000. Diphtheria cases are increasing. A proclamation by Health Commissioner Whelan calls on people generally to cancel their social engagements for the time being.

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DAVID SPENCER, LTD. THE GREAT EMPORIUM OF THE GREAT WEST

Unprecedented Opportunities This Day for the Admirers and Seekers of CHOICE GOODS At THE STORE'S Phenomenal Sale Prices.

In the Basement: The Newest and Choicest Haviland China Direct From Limoges, France.

- DINNER PLATES, 8 1/2-inch, regular value 50c. To-day's special, each 25c.
SOUP PLATES, 7 1/2-inch, regular value, 40c. To-day's special, each 25c.
DESSERT PLATES, 6-inch, regular value 35c. To-day's special, each 25c.
PLATTERS, 14-inch, regular value \$2.50. To-day's special each 25c.
COUPE BOWLS, 8-inch, regular value 75c. To-day's special, each 25c.
ROUND ENGLISH CHOP DISHES OR TEA TRAYS, 14-inch, decorated in crown drier, also with red and green border, trimmed with gold, regular value \$2.50 and \$3.50. To-day's special, each 25c.

Whilst in the Basement, Four Other Special Lines will attract you. They are:

- AUSTRIAN SALAD BOWLS, 8-inch, assorted decorations, regular value \$1. Today's special, each 50c.
FANCY GLASS VASES, plain base and ruby top, regular value \$1.00. Today's special, each 50c.
ENGLISH SEMI-PORCELAIN DINNER SETS, 98-piece, blue decoration, regular value \$18.00 each. Today's special \$13.50.
PLAIN TALL GLASS JUGS, regular value 50c. Today's special, each 25c.

In the Basement: The Newest and Choicest Haviland China Direct From Limoges, France.

House Furnishings Department

- NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS—250 pairs only, very suitable for dining room, parlor or bedroom, regular values \$3.50, \$3.75 and \$4.75 per pair. Today's special, each pair \$2.50.
SWISS LACE CURTAINS—75 pairs only, very suitable for front bedrooms—Regular values \$2.50. Today's special, per pair \$1.50.
Regular values \$3.90. Today's special, per pair \$1.50.

The Carpet Department

- JAPANESE MATTING—50 pieces only, striped and figured effect, regular values up to 20c. Today's special, per yard 12 1/2c.
JAPANESE MATTING—Better quality, striped and figured effect in blues, greens, and reds. Today's special, per yard 25c.
TAPESTRY CARPETS—Bodies only, regular values 50c and 65c. Today's special, per yard 35c.

"After Stocktaking Inducements" in the Stationery Department

- LINEN PAPER—100 boxes, regular value 25c. Special today, each 15c.
FIVE-SHILL NOVELS—150, cloth, a large range of titles. Special today, each 25c.
SOAP—50 boxes only, regular value 25c. Special today, each 15c.
PERFUME IN FANCY BOXES—85 bottles, regular value \$1.75, \$1.50, \$1.25 and \$1.00. Today's special, each 25c.

DAVID SPENCER, LIMITED

VOL. XLVIII. SEEKERS FOR LOOK TO ISLAND Change Noted in Demands of Invest RESIDENCE LOC Several Transfers Within the Past Have Been

Victoria real estate in demand as was ago. The flurry which unwarranted increase subsided and now the doing a steady, substantial business. The number in the city can be gathered, a arrive in the course. These people are ex considerably buying residential, second-hand. The general opinion is reaching a nature. The outcome of this there is scarcely a holding in different city and its suburb far. Those who are for the most part, a ple hailing from the to their homes, or investments of British ital.

somewhat inter reported yesterday an acre and a half a Victoria. The chaser was from C Victoria House of Lineham made a lot in the western to a Ross invest sum involved was \$ It is a noteworthy real estate firm, the surrounding a and. Only recently investors discov land, prey upon the lated, are within c reach of Victoria. fact it is predicted expands the demand the Premier and ot ing to that archip tremely heavy.

GERMAN SOCIAL MET CRUS Recent Elections Few Reich

Berlin Feb. 6.—T the Reichstag electi red throughout the emphasized the gove January 25. The in Socialist circles, more than held the its now reformist, storn of nearly half tabulation prepared with that which heard from, gives seats in the new Re Reichstag. He has returned only from Saxony, as a in 1907.

The enthusiastic gathered around the last night formed or fifty thousand s marching through t the latter a large ceeded to the pal Chancellor von Bue speech, expressing confidence the peop Government, as show

The vast convoc to the palace of th another demonstration Reichstag electio said in part: "I t my heart for the me today. It is consciousness of having toward the fatherla our chancellor, th rise if she will, has Atmly convinced th unite harmoniously not only ride, but ov dose." Emperor William ed as being in good suits of yesterday's Reichstag electio such spontaneous en self as he did last 50,000 strong, the streets to the p nor had he fill su him and the peopl, the Emperor was hearing a lecture o spreading toward Majesty's automobili and he was scarce the palace, where them. He did, and received with prolong Government now co