MC2289

POOR DOCUMENT

ERAL ENTHUSIASM RUNS HIGH AT MAGNIFICENT BANQUET TO THE HONORED MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS

(Continued from page 2.)

McSweeny and Senator Gilmor. The orchestra, under the direction of Fred. C. Jones, furnished the following programme:

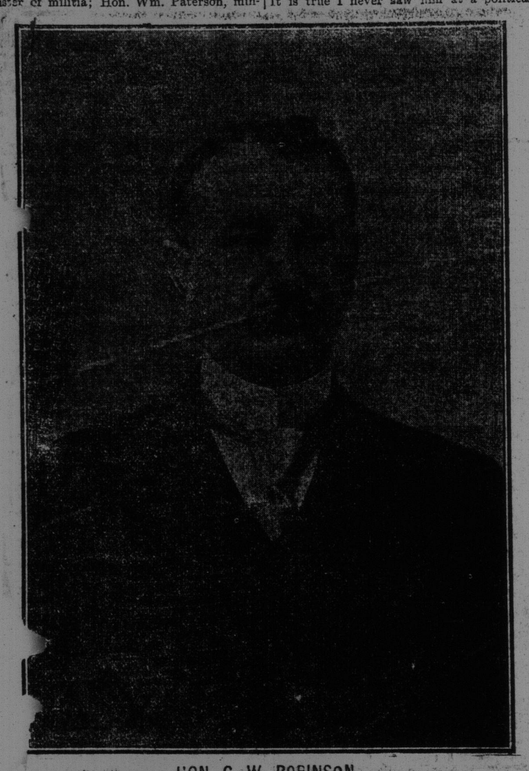
Opening March—Washington Greys.
Overture—Poet and Peasant.
Waltz—Ciribiribin.
March—Merry Irish Widow.
Selection—English Airs.
Intermezzo—Hearts and Flowers.
Overture—Mosaic.
Selection—Faust, Clarinet Solo.
Selection—Humming Birds, Piccolo Solo.
March—Under the Double Eagle.
Selection from Lucia di Lammermoor.
Selection—Operatic Gems.
March—White Squadron.

The First Toast.

It was exactly 11 o'clock when the chairman arose and proposed the health of the King, which was most heartily responded to by the singing of the national anthem.

Telegrams of regret at their inability to attend were then read from the following:

Wilfrid Laurier, prime minister; Hon. S. Fielding, minister of finance; Sir Richard Cartwright, minister of trade and commerce; Hon. L. P. Brodeur, minister of marine and fisheries; Hon. George P. Graham, minister of railways and canals; Hon. Sydney Fisher, minister of agriculture; Hon. A. B. Aylesworth, minister of justice; Hon. Frank Oliver, minister of the interior; Sir Frederick Borden, minister of militia; Hon. Wm. Paterson, min-



HON. C. W. ROBINSON.

ister of customs; James Lowell, M. P. P., O. H. Hickman, Dorchester; Michael McLeode and R. E. Armstrong, of St. Andrews. The reading of the letter from Sir Wilfrid Laurier was received with great applause. It was as follows:

Ottawa, Sept. 25, 1909.

My Dear Sir,—I regret exceedingly that unavoidable engagements will not permit me to avail myself of your kind invitation to be present at the dinner which is offered by his Liberal friends in the province of New Brunswick to the Honorable William Pugsley.

It would have afforded me the greatest possible pleasure to join with Mr. Pugsley's friends and admirers in his native province, and to give my personal testimony to the ever growing esteem in which he is held by all those who have associated with him, since he was called to the

Dr. D. H. McAlister, M. P. for Kings.

dominion cabinet and entered the arena of federal politics. His great abilities and varied talents were well known, even beyond the limits of his native province, and such as was expected of him, it is only the simple truth that he has far exceeded the expectations of his most enthusiastic fellow wishers, and in a very short time he has won the entire confidence of his political associates as well as the respect of his opponents.

Be so kind as to be the interpreter of my regret to the friends of Mr. Pugsley that I cannot be with them, and convey to them my warmest wishes for the success of the demonstration in his honor.

Yours respectfully,
WILFRID LAURIER.

Heber S. Keith, Esq., St. John (N. B.)

The chairman then offered the toast of the Governor-General, coupling with it the names of Hon. Charles Murphy, secretary of state, and Hon. Mackenzie King, minister of labor. The chairman referred to the splendid qualities of the present incumbent of the gubernatorial chair who has so ably administered the affairs of his office.

Hon. Charles Murphy.

Hon. Mr. Murphy on rising was greeted with prolonged cheers and hand-clapping, all present rising to their feet to give vent to their applause.

The secretary of state, who has a commanding figure, spoke eloquently for nearly an hour on questions of national interest. He said: "Mr. Chairman and fellow Canadians, I thank you for your cordial reception and for the kindness shown me in your prosperous city today. In Ottawa yesterday just before I left I was handed a telegram saying I was expected to reply to the toast of the governor-general. As it was not dated Halifax, or so far as I knew had nothing to do with Oriental immigration, I concluded it was not a "forgery." (Laughter).

Not "Typographical Error."

On looking a second time I found it was not dated at any place where railroad reports are drawn up and so I concluded it was not a "typographical error." On looking more closely I saw it bore a name whose signature is a guarantee of good faith in St. John or in Ottawa—the name it bore was that of Hon. William Pugsley. (Applause).

"I couldn't see why I should reply to the toast of the governor-general. While I may have impersonated other men I have never yet impersonated the governor-general. I might say that the governor-general is a constituent of mine, inasmuch as he resides in the county I represent in parliament, and he is a model constituent. It is true I never saw him at a political meeting and I never saw him vote, but I do know that he has never asked me for a job." (Laughter).

Hon. Mr. Murphy thanked them for giving him an opportunity to reply to a toast on this happy occasion, but said he did not think they would expect a speech from him. "However," he said, "I haven't come to St. John without the intention of saying something. I want to say something in honor of my colleague, Dr. Pugsley, and I will say that I would travel twice as far to do him honor. I have long cherished a desire to again visit the province of New Brunswick, for this is not my first visit here, and my interest has been stimulated by the kind of men New Brunswick has sent to represent it in the past.

It was my privilege to know the late Hon. A. G. Blair and few better men ever sat in the parliament of Canada. I also knew Hon. H. R. Emmerson, a stalwart of the party, and a man whose ability as the minister of railways and canals was recognized throughout Canada. It is also my privilege to know another valiant man, one whose services were much appreciated in the last campaign. F. B. Carvell is the man to whom I refer. Then there are your present representatives, all good men, of whom we are proud, such men as Col. McLean, Turgeon, Todd, McAlister, Reid, Michaud, LeBlanc and also your senators, and last but not the least distinguished is the Minister of Public Works, in whose honor you Liberals have assembled here tonight. His qualities which you admire are qualities which are appreciated in all parts of Canada. (Applause.) He is a big man, and he realizes that big works are needed in this dominion, works that a lesser man could not successfully cope with. His grasp of affairs so wide and true are recognized from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and he administers the public works not for one province but for the whole dominion, and it is fitting that you should recognize it and I am glad to be with you to do him honor. (Applause).

In Dr. Pugsley's address he will doubtless make allusions to his western trip, which, I may say, developed into a triumphal march, but one thing he won't tell you that I will is that he gained friends wherever he went. He won the respect of not only the Liberals but of men in both parties, and if at any time he should leave his native province he could have his pick of any one of twenty constituencies in the west; but I know he is too deeply in love with his own province to ever leave it. While we did not travel together, I met him out on the coast, and everywhere I heard nothing but good words for him.

Let me tell you of some of the discussion we see nowadays in the newspapers. We read that there is some discontent between the east and the west. That each is claiming the other is exploited to their disadvantage. I want to say that there is no antipathy in either east. It has been pointed out that one must not be boomed at the expense of the other, but each must be exploited and each must grow.

Referring to his tour through the west Hon. Mr. Murphy spoke of the immense amount of grain which it had been stated by Sir Edward Clouston would add $100,000,000 to the national wealth. He told also of the big cattle ranches, the vast coal areas being opened up, the fruit growing and lumbering operations in British Columbia and of the success of John Hendry, a New Brunswicker, who was probably the biggest and wealthiest lumberman on the Pacific coast, who was among those present at this gathering.

Due to the Government.

All this improvement and increase was a direct result of the immigration policy of this dominion government. (Applause.) "Under the old government," he said, immigrants came in but they did not stay, the settlers coming now are the kind that stay and build up the country. Since January 1, 1897, more than 1,500,000 immigrants have been brought in. Economists say that these settlers are worth at least $800 each to a country, some say $1,000 each, but taking the smaller figure they represent to Canada an asset of $1,200,000,000.

The Influx of Americans.

Mr. Murphy referred also to the large influx of Americans, a very large proportion of whom were naturalized. He assured them that they need have no fears about this American invasion. The country, he argued, had been enriched direct and indirect to the extent of over two billion dollars by this influx due to the immigration policy of this government, inaugurated by Hon. Clifford Sifton and since continued by Hon. Frank Oliver.

The government did not, as some opposition papers claimed, give free passes to immigrants, nor did they bring in skilled artizans, but the class of people they were after were agriculturists. "I will not attempt to take up the question of the tariff as that is not my long suit. (Laughter.) I will let Mr. Fielding answer for that. My attitude is like that of Mr. Dooley, who says: 'Thim that the tariff takes care of will take care of the tariff.' (Laughter.)

Transportation.

Mr. Murphy spoke of the increase in the government's transportation facilities, pointing out that close on to 9,000 miles of railways had been built since this government came into power. The Liberal government had also originated the policy of keeping the lands for the settlers and were not giving them away like the previous government.

The formation and its advantages were referred to and the building of the Grand Trunk Pacific was spoken of as the most important step in transportation that had fixed the eyes of the world on Canada. It had formed another grain spout for the western grain and there was no telling what other fields it might open up.

He also touched upon the work that had been done in improving the waterways and remarked that if he could judge of what he had seen in St. John yesterday afternoon, the same scheme of improvement would be carried out here. (Applause.)

Those Absurd Charges.

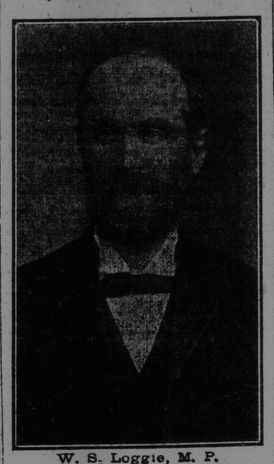
He spoke of the absurdity of the charges made by the opposition that Sir Wilfrid Laurier was elected by Quebec and showed by figures that Laurier had a majority in all English speaking provinces. Sir Wilfrid had said he would like history to link his name with that of the G. T. P., but he believed history would accord him something greater, it would accord him a place in the list of the world's great nation builders.

Mr. Murphy reviewed Sir Wilfrid's statesmanlike administration and said his greatest achievement was the unifying of the people of all creeds in the dominion. Sir Wilfrid, he said, appeals to all men for their support and especially to the young men. He wanted to make the Liberal party, the party of the people and he appealed to all to assist. As Hon. Mr. Murphy sat down he was cheered to the echo.

Hon. W. L. McKenzie King, Minister of Labor.

Hon. W. L. McKenzie King on arising was greeted with great applause. He said in part: "Mr. Murphy referred in the course of his speech to a telegram he received just before leaving Ottawa yesterday afternoon to the effect that he was supposed to respond to the toast of the governor-general. I also received a telegram which informed me that I would respond to the toast of the parliament of Canada. Now, I have thought all day as to what I would say and I find that toast is not on the list, that Mr. Murphy has already responded to the toast of the governor-general and that I am supposed to follow along the same lines. There are one or two thoughts in my mind in connection with the subject. One cannot but feel the deep responsibility and great honor which membership in the Canadian parliament brings but I feel there are many in this gathering who are more capable than I of responding to this toast. Before, beside and around me I see men of political experience, capacity and ability far greater than mine but I ask you to accept the position as it is and consider my limitations.

"The toast to the governor-general is one any man would be proud to respond



W. S. Loggie, M. P.

to. The chairman has referred to the splendid democratic ideals of Earl Grey which have endeared him to all. We have been fortunate since Confederation in having had as governors-general English gentlemen of great character and ability, but none of them have won a more worthy place than the present distinguished incumbent. (Applause).

"There is no finer chapter in all history than that of self-government within the empire. It runs back to the days when the rights of the people were first asserted as against the privileged classes and comes down to today when our own people are forced to contest against the classes.

Here was the Beginning.

"One of the honors of the maritime provinces is that here was the beginning of representative institutions. In Halifax last year they celebrated the anniversary of the beginning of representative institutions. Sir Sandford Fleming, that distinguished Canadian, gave to the people of Halifax a tract of land for a monument—such a monument as no nation or empire can equal as it stands to commemorate the liberty of the people, not of a province or of a dominion, but of a mighty empire. And that spirit of liberty first germinated here has spread to different parts of the world. We have now a splendid federation of Australia and South Africa and some day we will have a splendid federation of India. These are all and will be modelled after the Dominion of Canada to which we have the honor to belong.

A Remarkable Incident.

"One of the most remarkable incidents of British history occurred in London when Laurier, the premier of Canada, and Botha, the soon-to-be premier of South Africa, both representatives of conquered nations, met and clasped hands over the Union Jack, under the aegis of Westminster, both proud to be representatives of that glorious empire which stands for the truest liberty. This meeting was made possible only by an empire, founded on the principles of right, liberty and justice, to the common people, a foundation as enduring as anything in the world.

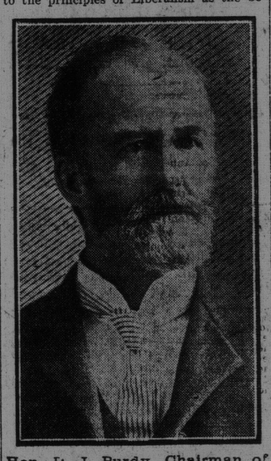
"Just before leaving Ottawa I had a long letter from the attorney-general of South Africa in which he expressed his thanks to Canada for the labor legislation

Col. H. H. McLean, M. P.

and for industrial disputes and an act modelled upon the Canadian act will be put upon the statute books of South Africa. In South African history we can see the marks of Canada, the handwriting of Laurier appears all across the South African constitution as it is today.

Proud of Laurier.

"We are proud of what Sir Wilfrid Laurier has done in the development of Canada but the day has come when we can see what the influence of Laurier and of the dominion has helped to secure for other lands—liberties which we prize and which we bought at a pretty dear price. Mr. Murphy has referred to a rebellion, but it was a rebellion of Liberals against a Tory oligarchy and of a kind that has helped to bring about those liberties. Mr. Gladstone in one of his speeches referred to the principles of Liberalism as the be-



Hon. D. J. Purdy, Chairman of the Banquet Committee of Arrangements.

lief in the many tempered by prudence and the principles of Toryism as the belief in the few tempered by fear. This has been the record of the two parties in many countries and the province of New Brunswick has spoken in no uncertain terms as to its belief in the many."

A voice—"And the few are in fear."

"There are many things I would like to say to you about Earl Grey, but this gathering is called together to honor one of the ablest and wisest of his advisers. By a strange paradox it has been left to the youngest and most inexperienced of all his advisers to respond to the toast of his health. His excellency has set a great example to the whole of Canada. He has shown his belief in its past and its present and whenever he goes abroad he sings the praises of its future. Imperialism is dear to his heart, but if he holds any stronger belief it is that Canada will be the dominant factor in directing the affairs of the empire. Two of Earl Grey's wisest advisers, Mr. Murphy and Dr. Pugsley, have followed his example of becoming acquainted with Canada by traveling through it. They have been in the west and by their action have helped in the view that all the Canadian problems are as one and it is impossible to take up any question in any department unless we have an intimate knowledge as to how it will affect the whole. (Great applause).

Dr. Pugsley Admired.

"Were it not that I feel it somewhat presumptuous to attempt to eulogize a veteran like Dr. Pugsley on his own heath and surrounded by friends who know him so well, I could speak at great length of the admiration we of Ontario and of the west hold for him. If I am brief it is because I feel it would be distasteful for me to pronounce on the merits of one whom I should feel grateful to be associated with. However, I can say that Dr. Pugsley stands for the very best traditions of the maritime provinces. He is as generous and as broad in sympathy as he is courteous and affable in his manners. He is as strong, as able and as competent as any minister could be in the administration of his department. He has the foresight to realize Canada's greatness and Canada's needs and is determined that the administration of his department shall be such as to meet them. There is no department in the public service capable of rendering such great service to Canada as the department of public works. I believe in taking chances on the future because I believe the future of Canada will far outrun our dreams or expectations and what is wanted in a minister of public works is a gentleman who has the foresight to see the future greatness of Canada and plan for development to that end. Such a minister in the highest degree is the Hon. William Pugsley. (Applause).

Reason to Feel Proud of Him, He Says.

"He can administer his department to the complete satisfaction of the maritime provinces, of Ontario, of the prairie provinces, and of the great Canadian west. You have reason to feel proud of him and he has reason to feel proud of you, knowing him as you do, you feel he is worthy of your esteem.

"I would like to refer to the first conversation I had with Dr. Pugsley after coming into the department of labor as minister. It is my duty in the government to safeguard the interests of labor, not as opposed to capital, for I believe they should work together—each is as necessary to the other as the two blades of a pair of shears—but I had occasion to ask Dr. Pugsley to provide larger accommodations for the department of labor, we having outgrown our facilities. He promised at once and the result is that this very week we are moving into a new building in which we will be able to do better work.

Minister's Other Duties.

"Dr. Pugsley is also called upon in his department to guard the interests of Canadian laborers in the public works department. That he does this I can evidence from the fact that while he was in British Columbia in one case the fair wage schedule was not inserted in a public works contract. I called his attention to it and he emphatically replied that as long as he was minister of public works the Canadian workmen would be protected and he had the clause inserted." (Applause).

Mr. King then dealt briefly with industrial conditions in Canada which, he said, were most hopeful and harmonious. In the province of New Brunswick there had been but fifty strikes, lockouts or disputes in ten years, an average of five per year, which was an excellent showing. Industrial peace was a valuable asset to any port competing for trade, commerce or government support. St. John in this vicinity had an excellent record, and citizens should see it is kept so.

A Man of Large Vision.

In conclusion he said: "In the ministry of public works we have in Dr. Pugsley a gentleman of large vision, courage, determination, capacity, persuasive powers and genius, carrying out what he undertakes, who will carry out his belief that there lies in front of Canada a destiny and a future unheard of. I believe St. John and New Brunswick will play in that future a part equal to their past and worthy of all. For these and many other reasons I hope Hon. William Pugsley will have long tenure of office, long life and happiness, come what may."

Every point made by Mr. King was enthusiastically applauded, and at the close he received a veritable ovation.

Hon. William Pugsley Heard in Able Speech.

Mayor Bullock in an excellent address proposed the health of the guest of the evening and Hon. William Pugsley on rising to respond was given a magnificent reception. So intense and prolonged was the applause that it was some minutes before he was able to be heard. He said:

"After hearing the very able and eloquent speeches of Hon. Mr. Murphy and Hon. Mr. King I am sure you will agree that whatever mistake Sir Wilfrid Laurier made in selecting me as a member of his cabinet he made no mistake in choosing Mr. Murphy or Mr. King." (Applause, and a voice "Laurier never makes a mistake.")

"The government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier was strong before but it is far stronger for the entry of Mr. Murphy and Mr. King and when the time comes for him to appeal to the people, which will be in four or five years, they will, I am sure, respond to that appeal more fervently and more enthusiastically than ever and heartily renewing their confidence in them. (Loud applause).

"You, Mr. Chairman, have been good enough to speak of the work I have been able to do for St. John and for New Brunswick and of the victory of the last general election, but you have given to me far more credit than I deserve—(cries of No, No)—for we would not have achieved such a victory had we not had such splendid candidates in each constituency in this province.

"The secretary of state has referred to Mr. Carvell. There is no man in parliament who enjoys in greater measure the respect and confidence of his colleagues than Mr. Carvell but he is not the only pebble on the beach. There is Mr. Reid, of Restigouche, who was a tower of strength to us; Mr. Turgeon, of Gloucester, able and competent; Mr. Loggie, of Northumberland, who pleads with great eloquence for his constituents. Could we have won without them? Then there is Mr. LeBlanc, of Kent, able and popular, and my friend, Mr. Emmerson, of Westmorland—(applause)—who so worthily filled the office of minister of railways and who carried his county at the last election by the splendid majority of 1,500, a majority almost unprecedented. (Applause.) Then coming into the joint counties of Kings and Albert—the constituency Mr. Fowler was to carry—I admit. Mr. Carvell did splendid service there, but who could have carried those counties as did Dr. McAlister? (Long applause). Take Madawaska and Victoria, Hon. Senator Costigan was a great help to us, but Mr. Michaud was a tower of strength. (Applause). And in Queens and Sunbury counties, how would we have won there except for the energetic campaign of Col. McLean. (Applause). In Charlotte county represented by a man who was thought to be invincible, we put up a man against him who was one of the best in the province and Mr. Todd won a great victory. (Applause).

May Get Whole Thirteen.

Now that the government has been improved by the entry of Mr. Murphy and Mr. King I think that the next time we appeal to the people of New Brunswick we shall carry the whole thirteen seats. If we gain even a quarter as many as we did last time we shall have no difficulty in adding at least two more.

"In the last seven weeks I have seen much of Canada. I went on a tour of inspection as minister of public works as far as the Pacific coast and only repeating what has already been said by the secretary of state I am amazed at the progress of the Canadian west.

The Growth of the West.

Twelve years ago I went to the coast and I can assure you in observing its progress I felt proud that I was a Canadian. When I went out first I found on the western shores of Lake Superior two villages apparently very dull and with little business doing. Now I find there two great cities growing up by leaps and bounds. There is every indication that they will soon be joined and when that comes the twin cities of Fort William and Port Arthur will have a population of 100,000. I found Winnipeg, which twelve years ago was a city of 40,000 or 50,000, now a splendid city of 130,000, with comfortable homes, splendid streets and great business establishments, with its merchants stretching out in every direction for trade. Hundreds of miles of prairie which I first found with only a few shacks I now found to be well settled. The shacks had given place to comfortable homes, and the people were prosperous and happy. Regina which I first knew as a village had grown to a city of 15,000; Calgary, another village, had grown to 30,000, and then on to Vancouver. Twelve years ago I found Vancouver with a population of 30,000. On my recent visit I found this 30,000 had grown to more than 100,000, and the city had all the opportunities for becoming one of the great cities not only of Canada but of America. There is no reason why its growth should not be very rapid. Its merchants are reaching out for trade with China and Japan, and Mr. King, who has been to China, can tell you what great trade possibilities there are in that country with its 400,000,000 of people, opportunities of which Canada will soon be reaping the benefit. I found Edmonton a city of 25,000 people, Saskatoon a city of 15,000 people, and Prince Albert growing and prosperous. In every place I visited there was evidence of progress and prosperity.

Saskatchewan Valley Land Deal.

"In this connection I would like to refer to a charge made against the dominion government. It was one of the most serious charges made for a government which does the right thing does not have to face many serious charges. I refer to what was called the Saskatchewan valley land deal, in which the government was charged with having sold a large quantity of land to an American company and in a few years the land had become very valuable. I got off at a place called Dundern, which was in the tract of country referred to. I went among the farmers and found that the district was one which settlers had passed over deeming it not worth settlement. Up to 1902 there was no one there but the station master, who lived his lonely life without a neighbor for miles. As a result of the sale of this land people of the United States who were experienced in tilling semi-arid soil of the western plains came in and took up land and over all that section today are found comfortable homes and practically continuous wheat fields. One man whom I met there came seven years ago and bought land at $2 an acre which was the first sale the company had made in ten years. I saw his wheat field of 1,280 acres. For seven years he had raised wheat on what was supposed to be barren land. Every year he had good crops and he told me that this year, after paying all the expenses of his crop, his net income would be $25,000. This is only one case out of 1,000 people who have gone in there as the result of what the government has done and that reform which was once believed to be the extension of the great American desert has become almost the garden spot of Canada. And this was the transaction that the charge against the government was based on. (Long applause.) Saskatchewan, which at that time produced very little wheat, will this year bear 70,000,000 bushels, the greatest since 1902. (Applause.)

Prouder of New Brunswick Than Ever.

"I am not going to advise people to go west, because the man who makes money there has many things to contend with, many hardships, many struggles with nature and must be wide awake, but in a few years he will be wealthy, but I can say that after seeing this I came back to New Brunswick from the Pacific Coast and the west and I am fonder of New Brunswick today than ever. I would not exchange our beautiful valleys and sunny hills for the fertile prairies of the west." (Great applause.)

"Having seen what I have and knowing the great production of the west I am more convinced than ever that eastern Canadian ports will receive a great impetus. This year western Canada produced 140,000,000 bushels of wheat, a very large proportion of which will be exported to the old country. In the summer it will go through Montreal, Quebec and other St. Lawrence ports. Some of it will go to the Pacific coast to be shipped through Vancouver and Prince Rupert, but we are willing to let them take what they can and we will take our chances on the rest (Applause).

Through Our Own Ports.

"In the winter season the grain which comes east must come through the ports of the maritime provinces. Today notwithstanding the great progress and great development of the west only a small portion of the Canadian wheat crop is shipped through Canadian ports. The reason is that we have not had railways with proper grades to carry it to the seaboard and they—particularly the C. P. R.—have allowed it to go from Fort William where it would. As a result much of it has gone to Buffalo, New York and Baltimore and eastern Canada has lost it. That will all be changed. (Applause). I have had many conferences with the G. T. R. and C. P. R. and I am convinced that when the ports of Victoria and Tiffin on the Georgian Bay are developed and when the two railways now building are built we will be able to bring the grain trade of the west to the St. Lawrence and the maritime province ports and millions upon millions of bushels of grain now going to Buffalo and other American ports will come this way. I do not say it will all come through St. John, for I admit a considerable portion of it will go to Nova Scotia ports, but I will say that all St. John asks for is a fair show and no favors, but on those advantages which natural geographical position gives St. John will take her chances on winter trade. (Great applause).

500,000,000 Bushels.

"I predict that inside of five years western Canada will produce at least 500,000,000 bushels of grain per year, and ten or fifteen years will see 700,000,000 bushels of wheat alone. You have been good enough to speak of some work I have been able to do for this port. When I became minister of public works I was inspired by the utterance of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in opening a provincial exhibition at St. John who said he would not be satisfied until every ton of Canadian freight passed through Canadian ports. In our work we are but carrying out the grand national idea, and in developing St. John we are actuated by the same motive as in developing the Georgian Bay ports, Port Arthur, Vancouver and Victoria, to carry out the policy of Canadian trade through Canadian ports. All through the west I preached the same truly Canadian doctrine and everywhere it was received with applause. You can count upon this policy being continued. (Applause).

"While engaged in this great system of national transportation we have not been neglecting other matters. We are building wharves, dredging harbors and deepening navigable rivers to better fit them for carrying on the commerce of the country. These are matters that must also be attended to. I am one of those who believe that the problem of transportation is one of the greatest we have to deal with. We have to give the merchants, the farmers and laborers the best and cehapest methods of transportation possible. That is a policy to which the Liberal government is committed and which we intend to carry out. (Applause).

The Fielding Tariff.

"Another thought I wish to present to this representative gathering from the three provinces—I want to see continued the tariff policy known as the Fielding tariff of 1907. (Applause.) Under that tariff it has been possible to increase the traffic, and the rate of taxation has been reduced. As a result of the preferential tariff the imports have gone on increasing and the revenues last year were double what they were ten years ago. If we increase the tariff now the result would be that the revenue would decline so that we could not continue to carry on the great works we have been doing. (Applause.) I believe myself that even as far as the United States is concerned, that while they have provided in the Payne tariff a maximum tariff for Canada, we should not retaliate, but should get what goods we want from them and in the meantime we should go on building railways and thus gradually draw trade from them, bringing their wheat from Dakota and in other ways cut into their commerce, and we can do it. (Great applause).

By Canadian Ports.

"Let me tell you that this year the port of Montreal has taken sixty per cent. of all the exports of grain from North America and with the improvements to be made in St. John, in Halifax and, as I have already told of, on the eastern shore of Georgian Bay, we can carry not only all our own grain but also a large part of that of our neighbors. (Applause.)

"I don't want to take up too much of your time, but I would like to refer to some figures of growth under Liberal rule." (Cries of go on, go on.)

Post Office Department.

"I had occasion a few days ago to look over the records of the post office department and they tell of a wonderful growth. In 1896 when the Liberal party came into power, there was a deficit in this department of $781,852, and in 1908 there was a surplus of $1,101,827, and this despite the fact that the rate of postage was reduced from three to two cents on letters.

The minister went on to quote figures showing how the number of post offices had increased by 2,720, the number of letters handled had increased by nearly 280,000,000, and in all branches of the department there had been wonderful growth.

"I might take the statistics of the railway department and the import and export trade and tell what great advancement has been made but I will not weary you with figures and while our population has not doubled yet everything goes to show that the business capacity of the people has increased.

An Encouraging Outlook.

"I have ventured the prediction that inside the next ten years that if the policy of the government is continued and the same conditions prevail Canada will have a population of close to 20,000,000 instead of 7,000,000 as at present.

"That raises the thought of what Canada can do for the empire. Some suggest that we should do more for the empire and that we should build Dreadnoughts, but the policy laid down by Sir Wilfrid Laurier you will say is better, to have our own navy. (Applause).

"The motherland can rest secure on our loyalty and when the supremacy of Britain is threatened she will find Canada at her back. (Applause).

"There is no need for me to speak of the loyalty of St. John, for it was founded by a band of Loyalists, but I can assure you that in the west Rule Britannia is sung with the same zest as it is in the east, and we can rely on all in the east or west being united in loyalty to the empire and sustaining the government in doing what is necessary for the defence of the empire. (Applause).

The Minister's Thanks.

"I thank you from the bottom of my heart for this splendid demonstration tonight. I thank my friends from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island who have come here to do me honor. I want also to thank my friends in the government at Ottawa for coming here. It makes me feel that after all my life has not been lived in vain. The politician's life is not a bed of roses but when your friends say they are prepared to overlook your faults and say they appreciate what you have done for the service of your country it is indeed gratifying.

"I will say that it will stir me on to greater efforts for this city I love so well and for this my native province."

As the minister closed he was cheered tumultuously and, led by Senator Gilmor, the crowd sang For He's a Jolly Good Fellow.

Cheers for Laurier were then given with a hearty good will.

Other Speakers.

The other speakers were F. B. Carvell, M. P., John Hendry, of Vancouver, president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association; Hance Logan, ex-M. P., A. B. Warburton, M. P., Senator Costigan, A. B. Copp, M. P. P., Hon. F. J. Sweeney, O. Turgeon, M. P., and Dr. Sormany. One of the most notable political gatherings held in St. John for years broke up by singing Auld Lang Syne.

Full List of Guests.

The full list of guests is as follows:

Pius Michaud, Edmundston.
Hon. C. H. LaBillois, Dalhousie.
F. B. Carvell, M. P., Woodstock.
O. Turgeon, M. P., Bathurst.
Hon. W. P. Jones, Woodstock.
James Reid, M. P., Campbellton.
C. J. Osman, ex-M. P. P., Hillsboro.
A. B. Warburton, M. P., P. E. Island
Senator Gilmor, St. Stephen.
Senator King, Chipman (N. B.)
Reid McManus, Chipman (N. B.)
George M. Byron, Campobello (N. B.)
D. R. Moore, Stanley (N. B.)
J. W. Wooster, Grand Manan.
H. J. Logan, ex-M. P., Amherst.
F. M. Anderson, Campbellton.
W. B. Snowball, Chatham.
Alex. Rogers, Hillsboro.
A. F. Bentley, M. P. P., St. Martins.
F. B. Carvill, M. P., Woodstock.
Joseph A. McQueen, Dorchester.
Hon. James Barnes, Minto.
Hon. L. P. Farris, Queens county.
Dr. Sormany, Bathurst.
J. P. Byrne, Bathurst.
M. J. Nugent, St. Martins.
Fred M. Cochran, St. Martins.
Robert Connely, St. Martins.
Dr. C. T. Purdy, Moncton.
G. D. Grimmer, St. Andrews.
Dr. J. E. Hetherington, Queens county.
Dr. E. Smith, Shediac.
Mr. McQueen, Shediac.
Hon. John Costigan, Edmundston.

Hay's Hair Health

Never Fails to Restore Gray Hair to its Natural Color and Beauty.

No matter how long it has been gray or faded. Promotes a luxuriant growth of healthy hair. Stops its falling out, and positively removes Dandruff. Keeps hair soft and glossy. Refuse all substitutes. 2½ times as much in $1.00 as 50c. size. Is Not a Dye.

$1 and 50c. bottles, at druggists
Send 2c for free book "The Care of the Hair."
Philo Hay Spec. Co., Newark, N. J.

Hay's Harlina Soap cures Pimples, red, rough and chapped hands, and all skin diseases. Keeps skin fine and soft. 25c. druggists. Send 2c for free book "The Care of the Skin."

E. CLINTON BROWN, COR. UNION AND WATERLOO STREETS.