

3,000 VOTERS

At Last Night's Meeting!

The greatest political meeting ever held in St. John's took place last night in the C.I.B. Armoury, where over 3,000 city voters assembled to hear addresses from the Liberal Progressive candidates of East and West. This vast body of voters, with a firm desire to kill Coakerism, faced a S. S. rally storm in order to hear the men of their choice address them and the few Guppy-Squires-Coaker supporters who attended were chafed to the marrow as each outburst of enthusiasm greeted the speakers. Had weather conditions been favorable, probably double the number would have been present, as at least 80 per cent. of the whole city are supporters of the Liberal Progressive Party. Some three weeks ago a joint meeting of the East and West End Liberal Progressive candidates was held in the Casino Theatre, which was packed to the doors, but two such buildings would not nearly find room for the gathering present at last night's meeting. It was a grand demonstration, and befitting to St. John's. This old city is not going to have her economic structure torn down by the Guppy-Squires-Coaker satellites. She is not prepared to have her industries ruined, and her factories closed, and 4,000 employees put out of work. Nor is she prepared to have her docks and piers lying idle, and grass growing on Water Street. The mean, contemptible tactics of Campbell, Mosdell, Squires, Brownrigg, et al, during the last month are now receding on them. The honest people of St. John's whom they tried to cajole have torn off the veneer, and these hypocritical vultures now seen in all their hideousness, will be buried under such an avalanche of ballots on Monday next that they will never be heard of again in public life. The die is cast. St. John's has decided on six Cashin men, Bennett, Mullaly and Martin for the West and Higgins, Vinnicombe and Fox for the East. Some of the Opposition press have been vilifying Messrs. J.J. Mullaly and J. T. Martin since the opening of the campaign, but the Editors should have been present last night to see these two champions of liberty being carried on the shoulders of voters up Long's Hill and into the Armoury, while the thousands in the parade cheered wildly. To be brief, the whole proceeding was one of spontaneous outburst of loyalty to the Liberal-Progressive candidates for St. John's East and West, and their leader, Sir Michael Cashin.

Sharply at 8 o'clock the meeting opened, Mr. Arthur Pittman being moved to the chair by Messrs. L. G. Chafe and A. Hiscock. Mr. Pittman, after briefly outlining the object of the meeting, called upon J. R. Bennett to make the opening address. When Mr. Bennett came forward there was a general outburst of cheering and applause. When it subsided he began a rattling address, which lasted about three quarters of an hour. He referred to the filth and indecent campaign being waged against the Liberal-Progressive party by the Opposition press, and particularly to its vulgar tone as it referred to St. John's. Not in the history of Newfoundland, he said, was such an attempt made to stampede the voters. Their intelligence was never appealed to. Abuse of the vilest kind was the weapon always used. The regular footpad generally uses a bludgeon when he wants to frighten his victim, into handing over the political footpads now seeking election were trying to control the voters by their public affairs and the treasury. The Opposition press had not once touched upon the issues before the country. It could not touch on this point, because it knew that Coaker and Squires had no policy, and if they did have one they would never be able to carry it out. Up to a few weeks ago these gentlemen were levelling the vilest epithets at each other, Coaker, going so far as to say that Squires got \$5,000.00 from the Reids, and then he did not get it, and to the present Squires had made no effort to deny the charge. If by any unfortunate circumstance, said Mr. Bennett, these two worthless got control of the Government, they would be at each other's throats inside of two weeks. This would mean chaos, a disruption in the country's business, ruin of our credit abroad, and a new election. The intelligent people of the country would not listen to such catch cries as the grafters must go and other truck. The people were not to be fooled in this way. During the last month they had fully sized up the political wreckers of the Squires-Coaker combination, who were trying to break their way into the House of Assembly and get control of public monies to back private financial enterprises. The Squires-Coaker dual leadership spell no good for Newfoundland. Ruin and disaster was sure to follow in the wake of, through some unfortunate circumstance, they got

control of the country's finances. On the other hand, the Liberal-Progressive Party had one leader, Sir Michael Cashin, a man of honesty of purpose with a clean record, and with an experience that fitted him for the position of Premier. His native district had sent him to the House of Assembly for 27 years, and if such a representative constituency could trust him for this long period, surely Newfoundland could do no better than give him a chance. As Minister of finance he protected the Treasury well, and when a hold-up for \$1,500,000 was made, he stood firm and saved the people's money. It was very questionable if some of those now seeking their way into the Assembly, would have done the same. The policy outlined by Sir Michael Cashin, said Mr. Bennett, is concise, clear-cut and can be carried out, and that he would be given a chance to carry it out he had not the slightest doubt. Mr. Bennett, concluded his address by asking East and West to join hands on Nov. 3rd and roll up a majority for Bennett, Mullaly and Martin in the West, and Higgins, Vinnicombe and Fox in the East, that was never before recorded. When Mr. Bennett closed his address, there was another outburst of applause, which lasted several minutes.

Mr. N. J. Vinnicombe, of the St. John's East "Fighting Trio," was the next speaker, and when he rose from his seat, the cheering was simply deafening. In a sound, practical speech he dealt with the political situation. In 1913 he opposed Hon. Mr. Higgins, and supported Hon. J. M. Kent, the late J. Dwyer and Mr. C. W. Ryan. At that time he was a Liberal, and he held the same Liberal principles to-day. That was why he was a candidate on the Liberal-Progressive ticket. He was proud to be associated with Hon. Mr. Higgins, one of the best representatives St. John's East ever had. Mr. Higgins was accused of being Reid's lawyer six years ago, but this did not defeat him. Since then he has been lawyer for many others beside the Reids, and because of his marked success a few sore heads were trying to get their knife into him. The people of St. John's East were wise to these things and they were going to prove to the country that they had the utmost confidence in Mr. Higgins on Nov. 3rd. Some reference had been made that would be under control if elected. He was never under any control and never would be. The interests of St. John's were his interests, and it honoured with a seat he was prepared to stand by the people and see that their wishes were carried out. Mr. Vinnicombe in conclusion, like the previous speaker, asked the East and West to join hands on election day and swamp the Coaker-Squires crew before they got half-way to the buoy. As "Nix" resumed his seat, cheer after cheer resounded through the Armoury—a splendid testimonial to his popularity in St. John's East and West.

Mr. J. J. Mullaly, Hon. Mr. Bennett's colleague, on being introduced by the chairman, came forward amidst most enthusiastic cheering. Mr. Mullaly, who has so well represented the City at the Council Board (and who did not act the baby when the Prince of Wales was here), delivered a very practical address. He dealt with the dual leadership of Squires and Coaker, and the impossibility of the two to work in harmony. Nothing was too bad for one to rely about the other, and though the hatchet had been buried, so to speak, each carried a jack knife down his boot, and at the very first difference of opinion they would begin a regular scalping match. Mr. Mullaly also referred to the personal abuse and vilification of the Opposition press and of certain references to himself. Some amateur had made reference to Mullaly's "barrel," (the Council is a cooper), but he would like to know how big the barrel was that Squires dipped his hands in to pluck out the five thousand "green backs" which Coaker said he got from the Reids. He wanted nothing out of the "barrel," but he could say without fear of contradiction that not half a dozen of the Coaker-Squires candidates were paying their own expenses, and the public would like to know where the money they were spending was coming from. Was it out of the "W. D. barrel." Mr. Mullaly scored his victors time and again, which brought forth rounds of applause. Mr. Mullaly in closing asked for the straight ticket vote in both East and West End, and for a majority that would submerge forever the Coaker political robbers and jobbers, who are now trying to gull the electors of St. John's and the whole country. Cheer upon cheer followed the close of Mr. Mullaly's address.

Mr. C. J. Fox was the next of the "Fighting Trio" to address the gathering and on stepping forward received a reception that any candidate might well be proud of. In opening he paid a glowing tribute to the Church Lads' Brigade, in whose Hall the present

meeting was being held, and in which when the Great War was declared in 1914 the first call of Newfoundlanders to arms was sounded. He eulogized the work of the Brigade lads at the front, making particular references to the many who had made the supreme sacrifice. These he felt, were they with us to-day, would like the members of the brigade present, be supporters of the Liberal Progressive Party, because it stood for the ideals, liberty and freedom for which they had fought. In scathing terms he denounced those who in the present political contest are attempting to resurrect the old time prejudices and passions which the fighting men had buried in the fields of Flanders and France, where none asked nor cared at what altar his brother-in-arms worshipped. The motto of the C.I.B., "Fight the Good Fight," was also the motto of the Liberal Progressive Party, and he like all associated with that Party, was acting up to that motto. The appeal of himself and colleagues for support of the electorate, not to their baser passions, and eloquently he pointed out that the marking of a ballot on Nov. 3rd is a sacred thing and not lightly to be dealt with. It was a duty every man owes to his country and his children to vote according to his conscience and not on appeals to prejudice. Continuing, he pointed out that the Liberal Progressive Party was worthy of support because it was a united body under the leadership of one man, Sir Michael Cashin, while opposing it was a conglomerate party, under a dual control, one partner of which was the man who drove Sir Robert Bond, the incorruptible commoner, out of political life. Again he showed that Sir Michael Cashin was in every way fitted to be leader of the Government, his lengthy experience, straight forwardness and ability as shown while Minister of Finance, qualifying him for the position. In closing he appealed to the electors to consider fully their duty on polling day and take no chances, but vote for the Liberal Progressive Party, which stands for the progress and prosperity of Newfoundland.

Mr. Jas. T. Martin, of the West End team, was the next speaker and as he arose the gathering burst into cheers. Briefly he referred to the splendid meetings held by himself and colleagues in St. John's West and also the low down tactics of their opponents in conducting their campaign. In convincing manner he pointed out his reasons for association with the Liberal Progressive Party, the principal one being that it stands for the people and progress, and is led by a man who has risen to his present position from the lowest rung of the ladder by his own industry and ability. He showed up clearly the evils the city would suffer from a Coaker-Squires-Guppy combine, who had no real policy, but sought to gain control of the country's affairs by catch cries and only for their own personal ends. Continuing, he paid a tribute to the leader of the team for St. John's West, Hon. J. R. Bennett, the lawful successor of Lord Morris in that district, and pointed out that all through the campaign he, Mr. Bennett, had shown that loyalty for

which he is noted to his colleagues while the opposition candidates were knifing each other on the quet. The electors of St. John's West know "Jimmy" by his clean, manly character and the applause which punctuated his address showed beyond doubt that with Bennett, and Mullaly, he will be returned with a big majority on Monday next.

The closing speech was delivered by Hon. W. J. Higgins, the leader of the "Fighting Trio," and the ovation he received on stepping forward put to final rest the statements of his opponents that he could not win again in St. John's East. In opening, he appealed for unity between St. John's East and West, which is really but one district, the people in each being bound by the same ideals and even family ties and separated only by a boundary line. In a clear-cut, forcible manner he outlined the policy of Sir M. Cashin, pointing out that it is such as might be expected only from him and like himself plain, straightforward and to the point. Unlike the policy so-called of the Coaker-Squires bunch, it is distinct in all its clauses and not made up of promises impossible for fulfilment, a jumble of words that may mean anything the originators desire. He scored the methods adopted by the Coakerites in the East End to enlist the support of the electors and assured his hearers that St. John's East will return Higgins, Vinnicombe and Fox on Monday next by bigger majorities than ever polled there before. The people have seen through the propaganda of lies and scurrilous used to defeat himself and colleagues and will vote the straight ticket for the Liberal Progressive candidates who have appealed only to their intelligence and British spirit of fair play. Speaking for himself, also his colleagues, he wanted no vote because of personal reasons, or supposed obligations, but because he was a representative of the party that stood for the development of Newfoundland's industries, the betterment of her people and a sound, sane form of Government. Against the Fighting Trio are arrayed four Coakerites—Carter, Curtin, Bartlett and Murphy—and all who wish to see St. John's East under the domination of Coaker are welcome to vote for the whole four of them. On one side is the Liberal Progressive party under one leader in whom his associates have implicit faith and confidence, while on the other side is a combination led by two office seekers famous for their abuse of each other, and so composed that unity in its ranks is utterly impossible and entirely missing, even to-day. Mr. Higgins closed his splendid address with an appeal to the electors to take no chances as to who shall control the affairs of Newfoundland for the next four years but on polling day vote the straight ticket for Higgins, Vinnicombe and Fox, the representatives of the Liberal Progressive Party. Hearty cheers followed for the different candidates, and after the passing of a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting closed with the National Anthem by the C. L. B. band, which rendered some splendid selections during the evening. After the meeting closed hundreds of the electors escorted the candidates to their committee rooms and the accompaniment of cheering and fring of guns.

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The Frenzied of Squires &

Unable to stampede the independent electors on the worn out cries of Reids and Confederation, the Guppyite editors are now harping on the financial affairs of the country. The argument they are advancing in this direction, however, will prove just as futile, for they are too silly and illogical to impress the minds of any man, that no matter how illiterate. The Squires organ denounces the taxing of the profits of the big business man, in one column of the paper, and states this is a wrong proceeding as when you tax a man thus he gets it off the consumer by forcing up prices. In another column of his paper, the "Star" editor puts forth the plea that Squires is going to reduce taxation on the consumer by adjusting it so that the rich man will pay more taxes. Was there ever read such nonsense as this. He abuses the Government now for taxing the rich man, because he says the poor man must pay this tax in the end, and then follows up this argument in another far-off corner of his paper by declaring that if you put Squires in power will make the rich man pay much more even than he is doing now, so that, as he says, the poor will need to pay less. If the rich man under this Government is collecting his taxation off the poor consumer upon the tariff now in force as Squires is preaching, it must certainly follow as a natural consequence that if Squires is going to collect more taxation from the rich man, the poor man will be bled to death entirely. Take a concrete case for instance. Under the present tariff a rich man pays say, \$100 duty on certain articles. Squires says the poor man must pay this back to the rich one. Put Squires in power and he says "I am going to make that rich man pay \$200 on these goods." Isn't it clear

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