PREMIER DISCUSSES BETTER TERMS ISSUE

Addresses Large Gathering of Electors at Cedar Hill, and Justifies the Stand He Took at Ottawa Convention.

DESPITE the disagreeable weather prevailing, there was a very good attendance at the public meeting held in the Temperance hall, Cedar Hill, last evening, to listen to addresses by the premier, Hon. Richard McBride, D. M. Eberts, K. C., and H. D. Helmcken, K. C.

Mr. Eberts, as president of the Liberal-Conservative club of that district, was voted to the chair, and after requesting the Premier to take a seat on the platform, he said he considered it an honor to be asked to preside at a meeting at which the Premier would speak on the question of "Better Terms." This question had been before the country since 1883, and the speaker then proceeded to show why British Columbia was entitled to better terms.

He pointed out that in the year 1871 the confederation of the Dominion took place, which made it possible for any province to join the Dominion. He took up the question from 1871, when British Columbia joined the Dominion, an act which he thought was a good one. In that year the population of British Columbia was only 25,000, and when the three representatives went to Ottawa they were in a peculiar position; and it was important for them to say what progress British Columbia was going to make. Nicola and the Kootenays were unknown, as was Cariboo and Atlin district; and it was not till after that date that Cassiar and Omineca had been explored.

British Columbia's First Demand

The question of "better terms" began in 1883, when the Canadian government offered the province a sum equal to 5 per cent of their indebtedness—which amounted to about $1,400,000. This was subsequently reduced to $900,000; and the province was offered 5 per cent of this sum. Along with this the province is allowed 80 cents per capita, amounting to $150,000; $35,000 for legislation; interest, amounting to $29,150, and a grant in perpetuity, amounting to $100,000. But in return for the latter amount the Dominion government were given a tract of land, approximately about 50,000,000 acres.

According to the Carnarvon treaty, the Dominion government undertook to take over the E. & N. railway and pay a sum equal to the cost of the dry dock and $750,000; but in return they got 3,500,000 acres of land in the Peace River district. By this treaty San Juan and Orcas Islands were taken away and given to the United States, which was an injustice to British Columbia. British Columbia was entitled to its share of the interest on $4,000,000 received from the United States on account of the fisheries award, but did not get it. The province was cut out of any assistance in the fishery treaty, and they were not allowed to export fish to the United States as do the other provinces.

British Columbia has been entitled to "better terms" since 1883, because the settlers in the province at that time did not know of the possibilities of the country.

What Was Promised

Sir George A. Cartier, in speaking of the question at Ottawa, said the Dominion would receive 50,000,000 acres, valued at a dollar per acre, and British Columbia was to get 5 per cent on this, the remainder going to the Dominion treasury; and this has proved correct. These terms were considered very liberal at that time. In 1871 the province was paying practically nothing, but at present about $3,500,000 is paid annually to the government; and in return the province does not receive a cent more than they did in 1871. This payment to the government was made by 50,000 or 60,000 adult residents of British Columbia; and still the question was asked, "Why were taxes so high?"

The administration of criminal justice in British Columbia, he pointed out, was very high; and it did not cost one-tenth as much in Ontario and Manitoba. This he illustrated by quoting the recent murder case at Hazelton. This, he continued, was another reason why British Columbia was entitled to "better terms."

Another reason why British Columbia should receive better treatment was that living was higher, and practically everything had to be imported. When the first loan was floated in England, the bonds sold at 85 cents at 3½ per cent interest, payable in 50 years; and the government of the day were of the opinion that it was better to raise the money for opening up the country in that manner than by direct taxation. It was not

Case of Nova Scotia

only British Columbia that wanted "better terms"; Nova Scotia had made a kick in 1883, and when the cry of better terms or separation was made, they received better terms.

He did not want the province to go on their knees and beg for better terms, but the government would demand their rights; and if they did not get it at Ottawa, the government would carry the question to a higher court. In 1902 the British Columbia government asked for better treatment in addition to what was given to the other provinces. The province is paying annually about $4,000,000 to the Dominion government, and all they got back is $1,750,000.

At the recent conference of the premiers the same request was made, but it was desired that the B. N. A. Act should be amended. Mr. McBride was not agreeable to the grant for the province—$1,000,000 in payments of $100,000 annually. If British Columbia got what was coming to her there would be no debt on British Columbia; and he though that Mr. McBride was right when he refused the paltry sum offered by the convention at Ottawa. It was a manly act when Mr. McBride withdrew from the conference and refused to take the pittance offered. (Applause.)

The Premier

Hon. R. McBride, on rising, was greeted with loud applause. He was very pleased to see such a good attendance, and also to have the opportunity of meeting the residents of the Saanich district. He had not had as much time to visit the district as he would have liked, but Saanich people had an advantage of being close to the Capital, where they could present their grievances. He was indebted to Mr. Eberts for his assistance since he had taken up the question of "better terms"; and he had taken up a section of the claim that had very seldom been touched on. Many mistakes were made in politics; and mistakes had been made when the district had not given Mr. Eberts their support at the last election, and he hoped to again see that gentleman in the legislature.

Taking up the question of "better terms," he said it was very amusing to read what the Liberal press had to say about his mission to Ottawa, as well as their tirades against the present government since it had been in power. Regarding the question being made a political one, he had always tried to leave politics out of it, and it was regrettable that the Liberal press were trying to make it a political question.

Not a Political Issue

The only time any official statement was made regarding the question was on his return from Ottawa; and he had been very careful to avoid any reference to the political aspect of the question. The Liberals were giving more attention to what is going on at Ottawa than they were for the best interests of the province. It was a bad example for the Liberal leaders to set their followers.

He referred to the stand taken by the province of Nova Scotia, and said that Mr. Fielding did not hesitate to tell the people of that province that they were in the right in the question of right and the cry of "separation." During the conference he never tried to suggest a withdrawal from the Dominion, as it was not fair to the fathers of confederation; and he had tried to set forth their rights in a businesslike manner and trust to the Union Jack to obtain fair play. He would never advocate a withdrawal from the Dominion, but by being consistent at every stage, British Columbia was bound to win out. He had found at the conference that if British Columbia was not going to force her claims, the work of the conference would have been finished in a day. The premiers of the other provinces had all their business cut and dried; and British Columbia was to receive little or nothing; and the majority were in favor of adopting the resolutions of the convention of 1902.

His Action at Ottawa

He made a request that British Columbia should receive special grants, and he met Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and it was learned that anything that came from the conference would have to come unanimously, and he was sent to prepare a statement. This he did, and then tried to impress on the premiers the rights to which British Columbia was entitled. He pointed out that there was a great big margin in favor of British Columbia, when it came to constructing schools and opening up the country, as well as the administration of justice; in fact, there was not a single government department that was not much higher in cost of administration in British Columbia than in any other province. The adverse conditions were acknowledged to be permanent conditions, and as long as the conditions existed, so long would the taxpayers of British Columbia have to pay the cost.

After this had been acknowledged at the convention he thought that British Columbia would receive her rights, but no; and when he learned this after four days' meetings, he thought it was time to ask leave to withdraw, which course be adopted. (Applause.) He asked the premiers to hear him, and he kept them for four days instead of one, and tried to show them where they were mistaken, and when he saw that he could do nothing with them, there was nothing else to be done than to withdraw.

Only One Course Open

And if he was sent to Ottawa again on the same question he would do exactly as he had done. (Applause.)

He could not see his way clear to accept $100,000 a year for 10 years. He was quite prepared to accept the verdict of the Liberals; but he was not willing to accept their judgment. He referred to the stand taken by Hon. Mr. Fielding, who, in trying to act consistently with Sir Wilfrid Laurier, had said that British Columbia was entitled to "better terms" and in alluding to this matter the premier said he never would have mentioned the fact if it had not been made public at Ottawa. Mr. Fielding offered him a grant of $100,000 a year for ten years, or an annuity of $30,000. When he learned this he felt like telling Mr. Fielding that it would not build a rabbit trail.

He referred to the assistance that was proposed to give Prince Edward Island by which that province would receive $70,000 a year more than when it came into confederation and by the proffered terms British Columbia would get $114,000; and British Columbia was 165 times larger than Prince Edward Island. He pointed out that many of the farmers of the East had very little taxes to pay because British Columbia was being kept poor. Quebec would get $600,000, and Nova Scotia, $200,000 additional; and all that was offered British Columbia was $114,000. He could not see what else the people could expect him to do, other than he had done, after the province had been ineffectually presenting her claim since 1883. It was the only course open to him and he accepted it; and if he had remained and taken the judgment he would have been a party to the scheme.

A Commission Refused

He pointed out that British Columbia wanted a commission, composed of one from British Columbia, one from the Dominion government and the third from the federal parliament. In dealing with the question at Ottawa, he had found a surprising lack of knowledge regarding British Columbia. If a commission were appointed to deal with the question the residents of British Columbia as Britishers would accept their findings. The people should become well acquainted with the question; and if British Columbia was willing to accept the result of the convention the remainder of Canada would come to the conclusion that British Columbia was willing to pay more taxes. Within the next few years British Columbia would be called on to construct schools in the northern part of the province, and if they intended to remain Canadians the settlers must be given a complete government outfit.

It was a difficult proposition to face unless recognition was received from the Dominion in the way of a larger grant. He pointed that the first estimate for New British Columbia would mean an expenditure of over $1,000,000. A settlement of the question was very urgent and it was necessary that the question should not be overlooked. He urged the electors to look into the question of "better terms" and unless a constant agitation was kept up, it would be overlooked; and it was necessary to show that the question was a live one which might have to be settled within the course of a few months.

How B. C. Is "Milked"

Regarding the payments made to the Dominion government he said British Columbia had paid $18,000,000 more than they have received. Instead of draining the Dominion treasury, the province was being drained. He urged the electors to treat the question earnestly and without party bias. (Applause.)

H. D. Helmcken, K. C.

H. D. Helmcken, K. C., was then called on. It was rather late to begin talking, but he was pleased to be on the same platform with the premier and his old friend Mr. Eberts. He thought the province had no reason to complain of entering confederation; and as a British Columbian he intended to do all he could to assist Mr. McBride for the manly stand taken by him at Ottawa. He referred to the time when Hon. J. S. Helmcken left for Ottawa to attend the confederation conference. At that time it was not known where Canada was located. He then took up the gradual development of Canada, which he said was greatly to the credit of the C. P. R.; and had not confederation been entered into, British Columbia would never had been opened up.

He approved of the course taken by Premier McBride at Ottawa, and said it was the duty of every elector in British Columbia to stand by him and tell the Dominion government that British Columbia wanted her rights. He urged that the question should not be made a party one and pointed out the necessity of having a representative in the legislature who would work for British Columbia first, last and all the time. He complimented Mr. Eberts on the forcible address he had delivered and moved a vote of thanks to Premier McBride for the manly stand he had taken and a pledge of support in the endeavor to settle the "better terms" question. Munroe Miller seconded the motion and in doing so said Premier McBride had done his duty and had shown that he was entitled to receive their support.

The motion was carried after which the meeting adjourned.

CUSTOMS COLLECTORS RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS

Government Sends Out Notices Re Remission of Duties on Japanese Goods

OTTAWA, Nov. 10.—(Special)—Collectors of customs throughout the Dominion have been notified that in a recent treaty with Japan, ratified July 12 last, it is provided in effect that higher duties shall not be imposed on goods of Japanese origin than on similar goods of French origin. Collectors are therefore advised that duties of customs, if any collected on goods of Japanese origin entered in Canada since July 12 in excess of the duty payable in respect of like goods under French treaty act, will be refunded pending legislation on the subject. This legislation is necessary in order to justify the action of the customs department in reducing duties in favor of Japan. The present treaty is simply an arrangement between Great Britain and Japan, and it is held that parliament must pass an act to make it legal for the customs department to remit or lower duties.

Although G. H. Hays categorically denies the report that Chief Justice Fitzpatrick is to be appointed chief legal adviser to the Grand Trunk Pacific, there are many here who believe it to be true.

The revenue for October amounted to $7,789,384, an increase of $1,183,879. Expenditures, $4,716,385, increase, $348,328.

Hon. Mr. Borden says there is no truth in the report of a contemplated change of the garrisons of Gibraltar and Halifax.

The board of railway commissioners has not been successful at Dawson or Skagway in securing all the information necessary to determine the question of White Pass railway rates, and it may be necessary to send an official of the commission to London to make inquiries.

JEWELS RECOVERED.

New York, Nov. 10.—Jewels valued at $10,000, which were stolen on October 10 from Moorland, the country home of G. L. Boisevan, a New York banker, have been recovered. Joseph Anderson, of Cleveland, Ohio, who, until a few days ago, was employed as a butler in the Boisevan home, has been arrested, and the police say he has confessed that he committed the crime. Anderson was arrested here today after the jewelry had been found in a Jewish cemetery near Mount Kisco, where it had been buried.

START OUT WITH MAIL AND ARE SEEN NO MORE

Two Farm Workers Believed to Have Been Drowned in Arrow Lake

NAKUSP, Nov. 10.—Word has just been received here from Halcyon of the disappearance of two men working at Symonds' farm, opposite St. Leon, on Arrow Lake, and are now thought to have been drowned. Their names are Barry and Swivell. On Sunday last they crossed the lake to St. Leon to get the mail. From there they rowed to the Halcyon Springs Hotel, arriving about 2 o'clock. About 4 o'clock the two men started for home across the lake, since which time no trace has been had of them, neither has their boat been seen. They had no food, and it is now thought that, the water being somewhat rough and their boat an old one, they must have sunk. Parties are now searching for them.

JAMES J. HILL WARNS AMERICAN MERCHANTS

Advocates Lowering of Tariff on Canadian Goods and Suggests Reprisals

CHICAGO, Nov. 10.—James J. Hill was the guest of honor at a banquet of the Merchants' Club tonight, and delivered an extended address upon "Chicago's Interest in Reciprocity With Canada."

In the course of his address he gave figures showing that the trade with the people whom the United States will be able to reach by the construction of the Panama canal amounts to only about $54,500,000 annually, while the United States trade with Canada is over $200,000,000 per annum. He continued: "Whatever commercial policy confers the greatest benefits upon the whole continent will best advance the various parts, and this city will receive and confer inestimable benefits under a more liberal trade convention. Canada will in any event and under any system be opened up and highly developed. Would it, then, be disadvantageous for us to share the products of the fields of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan? The time is opportune for a practical movement toward better trade relations with Canada. There has been increasing irritation towards our attitude, and already the fact that our tariff against the Dominion is 46.82, while that of Canada against the United States is 24.83, causes comment and suggests reprisals."

In conclusion he pleaded for either free trade or an ample reciprocity between the two countries.

MINERS' PAY INCREASED.

Butte, Mont., Nov. 10—Twelve thousand employees of the mines and smelters in Montana have been granted an increase of wages by the Amalgamated Copper Company. The order was issued by H. H. Rogers.

MARK TWAIN WRITES TO ANCIENT FRIEND

Refers to Solemn Moment on 70th Birthday of Henry Mills Alden

NEW YORK, Nov. 10.—In the famous old Harper publishing house, in Franklin square, tonight, nearly 250 men and women prominent in American literary life, celebrated with Henry Hills Alden, for 35 years the editor of Harper's Monthly, the 70th anniversary of his birth. During the dinner letters of congratulation from President Roosevelt and Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain) to Mr. Alden, were read. The president in his letter invited the editor to call on him at the White House should he visit Washington this winter. Mr. Clemens said, in part: "Alden, dear ancient friend, it is a solemn moment. You have now reached the years of discretion. You have been a long time arriving. How often we recall with regret that Napoleon once shot at a magazine editor and missed him and killed the publisher. But remember with charity that his intentions were good. You will reform now, Alden."

SWITCHMEN SATISFIED.

Buffalo, N. Y., Nov. 10.—S. E. Heberling of Denver, first vice president of the Switchmen's Union of North America, said tonight that he had received advices from Chicago to the effect that all the roads involved in the controversy with the switchmen had agreed to grant the four-cent increase. This increase, it is claimed, will affect all the yards from Buffalo to the Pacific Coast. The probability of a strike, Mr. Heberling said, was past.

THREE MEN KILLED.

Struck by Train While at Work Under a Bridge.

New York, Nov. 10.—Three men were struck by a rapidly moving train and instantly killed today at Park avenue and Fifth street. The men were working on the tracks of the New York Central railway under the fifty-sixth street bridge making electrical connections on the third rail when the train bore down upon them. They did not have time to escape.

Their bodies were found scattered along the track some time after the accident. One of the men was named Parson, the police say, and another John Ulrich. Joseph Blackett is supposed to be the name of the third man killed.

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ECRU FIGURED MADRAS MUSLIN, tasseled edge.
45 in. ..... 40c.
50 in. ..... 60c.
54 in. ..... 60c. and 65c.

ECRU COIN SPOT MUSLIN.
50 in. ..... 25c.

COLORED FIGURED MADRAS MUSLIN, new shades on ecru grounds.
50 in. ..... 40c., 50c., and 85c.
In tasseled edge, 45 in., yard ..... 75c.

ECRU FIGURED MADRAS MUSLIN, with frill.
54 in. ..... 60c.
58 in. ..... 60c. and 65c.
65 in. ..... 75c.

WHITE COIN SPOT MUSLIN.
50 in. ..... 25c.

LACE CURTAINS

SPECIAL DESIGNS.

NOTTINGHAM LACE, from Per pair ..... $3.50 to $7.50

SWISS WHITE CURTAINS. Irish Point Embroidered, Bedroom styles. From ..... $2.50 to $6.75

SWISS WHITE CURTAINS. Heavy Applique Embroidered. Per pair ..... $7.50 to $17.50

CREAM BRUSSELS CURTAINS. Irish Point, Heavy Applique Embroidered. Big range of patterns ... $7.50 to $45.00

BOBBINET RUFFLED EDGE CURTAINS. A pair ... $1.35, $1.50, $1.75

TAPESTRY CURTAINS

Very extensive range of colors, prices and designs. Prices are moderate for tip-top grades.

RED TAPESTRY CURTAINS. $3.75, $4.50, $5.00, $7.50

GREEN TAPESTRY CURTAINS. $4.50, $5, $6.50, $7.50, $10, $12.50, $22.50

MIXED FANCY ORIENTAL PATTERNS $6.50, $6.75

CHENILLE TABLE COVERS

Size 4-4 ..... 75c.
Size 6-4 ..... $1.25
Size 8-4 ..... $2.50
Size 10-4 ..... $3.50
Size 12-4 ..... $4.50
Blue, red, green, tan colors.

50 INCH TAPESTRIES for Drapery and Furniture Covering, in flowered and fancy designs. Blue and green colorings; are elegant goods for this value. Per yard ..... $1.25 and $1.75

48-INCH LIGHT COLORED TAPESTRIES, blue, pink and gold grounds, in fancy figured designs. Very suitable for loose coverings for furniture.

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A SPLENDID RANGE OF COLORS AND DESIGNS.

AXMINSTER CARPETS, body and border to match. These new shades, peacock, cardinal, green, fawn, cream, tan, reds, blues, greens, dark greens in floral, Persian, Oriental and various new conventional designs. Per yard laid $2.00

BRUSSELS CARPETS

BEST BRUSSELS sold at per yd. .. $1.00
The best made for the money. Numerous colors and designs.
Heavier qualities in all the newest colorings and designs.
Per yard ..... $1.35 and $1.40

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Special, per yard ..... 50c.
Regular values, per yard .... 65c. and 75c.
Only 10 or 12 pieces left.

AXMINSTER RUGS

"Georgian" Seamless Brand

7 ft. 6 x 9, green ground, red ground; very choice colorings; Oriental patterns $30.00
9 ft. x 9, similar in style $36.00
10 ft. 6 x 9, reds and greens, new conventional patterns $42.00
12 ft. x 9, similar designs, larger size $48.00

AXMINSTER RUG

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The very newest patterns and colors.
8 ft. 3 x 11 ft. 6 ..... $23.75
9 ft. x 10 ft. 6 ..... $29.00
10 ft. 6 x 12 ft. $38.00
These are good heavy makes and GUARANTEED TO WEAR WELL.

PLUSH CARPET SQUARE

Fawn, red and pale green grounds. 9 ft. 9 x 6 ft. 6.

AXMINSTER HEARTH-RUGS

Special $4.75
Large variety of soft colorings, larger sizes ..... $6.50 to $7.50

DOOR MATS

COCOANUT—
30 x 19 ..... $1.25
32 x 20 ..... $1.50
36 x 22 ..... $1.75
Better grade $1.50, $2.00, $2.50
SKELETON MAT 65c., 85c., $1.00

CORK LINOLEUM BATH MAT

36 x 24 ..... $2.75

HEAVY PLAIN COCOA MATTING

27 in. ..... 50c.
36 in. ..... 75c.
54 inch, per yard $1.00

BEST SAXONY WOOL HEARTH-RUG

Size 28 x 6 ft. $4.50
Colorings, red, green and blue grounds. 3 conventional patterns.

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The Weight of a Crown 1.15
Cast Grein, by Louis Tracy ..... .85
The Wings of the Morning, by Louis Tracy ..... .50

STEPMOTHER BEATS BABY GIRL TO DEATH

Jury Hears Charge of Murder and Returns Verdict of Manslaughter

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio, Nov. 10.—The jury in the case of Mrs. Jennie Anderson charged with the murder of her six-year-old stepdaughter Elsie, on July 1st, returned a verdict of manslaughter. This means a penitentiary sentence of from one to twenty years.

The testimony showed that the little girl died from the effects of 70 sores and wounds on her body, the breaking of both arms and other injuries.

Mrs. Anderson was accused of beating the child with a stick with a nail in each end, and a wound over the eye indicated that the child had been struck by a nail or some other sharp instrument.

RE-OPENING OF PORTS.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 10.—Though Russia, over a month ago, assented in principle to the Japanese proposition for re-opening the Chinese custom houses on the northern frontier of Manchuria, contingent upon similar action of the Japanese at Port Dalny, the final step has not been taken. The foreign office explains that the matter has been settled in principle, and that putting it into execution is only delayed by a minor matter of detail, and that it is not in any way the intention to hamper merchants of other nations.

KILLED AT FOOTBALL.

Great Falls, Mont., Nov. 10.—In a game of football at Fort Shaw this afternoon between the Great Falls and Fort Shaw Indian team, James Curtis, full back for the Great Falls team, was killed in a scrimmage. Curtis was 26 years old and a native of Syracuse, N. Y., where his parents live.

Ann Armor, Mich., Nov. 10.—Capt. Joseph Curtis, of the University of Michigan football team, had his left leg broken today during a game between the varsity team and a team composed of Ineligibles. Curtis, who had not played in the first half because of a weak ankle, was running with the ball when he was tackled. The tackle was low, and Curtis fell. His leg was heard to snap.

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VESUVIUS SHOWERS ASHES ON OTTAJANO

Explosion Occurs in Volcano and Surrounding Villages Are Shaken

NAPLES, Nov. 10.—At noon today Mount Vesuvius and the surrounding villages were shaken up by a kind of earthquake which was accompanied by detonations, and followed by a considerable fall of ashes, especially over Ottajano, which was destroyed during the eruption of last April, and is now in course of reconstruction. The shock caused great alarm. Investigation showed that part of the crater of the volcano had fallen in.

During the afternoon there were three more slight shocks and a further discharge of ashes, which was blown in the direction of Pompeii and Ottajano. Thus far Naples has not been affected by the eruption, but a dark column of smoke can be seen from the city hovering over the crater. Prof. Matteuci, director of the Royal observatory on Mount Vesuvius, in an interview with the Associated Press, said: "I do not believe this is a new eruption, as all the phenomena preceding such an event are lacking. I think the return of ashes was caused by the slipping down of the superior lip of the crater, and that the earth tremblings were due to water from the recent heavy rains having reached the fire inside the volcano, producing an internal explosion."

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