

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1908.

# Dr. Pugsley Tends New Scandal Fabric

The greatest political demonstration ever known in the history of Fairville was accorded to Hon. William Pugsley, who delivered an address in the Orange Hall last evening. Cheering crowds lined the streets to welcome the minister as, escorted by the City Coroner and a torchlight procession, he passed through the village. The hall was filled long before 8 o'clock and Dr. Pugsley's arrival was eagerly awaited. No sooner had he made his appearance at the door than the audience sprang to their feet and, waving their hats, shouted themselves hoarse in a spontaneous greeting.

If further vindication of Dr. Pugsley's honor and integrity as a minister of the crown was needed, it was given in his speech last night. After exposing the tactics of the opposition in juggling with the dates in the now famous "scandalous" letter of G. S. Mayes, the minister read the letter from Hon. C. J. Osmen which appears elsewhere in this issue. Mr. Osmen's account of the interview with the dredging contractor in King street was listened to in breathless silence and at the close cheer after cheer for "Pugsley" rent the air.

But Dr. Pugsley had not finished. He went on to deal with the alleged "hold-up" which figured so prominently in the letter in Mayes' second "declaration." And Mr. Pugsley read his reply, sent to Mayes two days later, in which he pointed out the contractor's proposals was pointed out. The contempt of the writer for the man he was addressing was expressed clearly.

Dr. Pugsley went on to handle Dr. Daniel and his sneers at Courtney Bay in a masterly manner and exposed the Standard's misrepresentations of the finances of the Central Railway. He was cheered to the echo at the close.

Hon. H. A. McKewen, M. P., P., and James Lowell, M. P., also delivered excellent speeches on campaign issues. A prominent feature in Fairville last night was a huge electric sign at Ouchings Mill with the legend "A Vote for Pugsley and Pender is a Vote for St. John." It stood out prominently amid the darkness, with striking effect.

James Lowell was the first speaker. He received a most enthusiastic reception. He dealt briefly with the record of the Hays government since coming into power. He instanced the highway act which he had been confidently prophesied would be productive of so much good in rural communities, and which, instead of being an improvement on the old act, had been proven infinitely more costly. The wages to be paid for work on the roads was fixed under it. A laboring man in the summer could receive no more than \$1 for a day of eight hours. This rate was cut in half for the winter. And yet, Mr. Lowell said, these men get into poverty largely on the pretence of being friends of the working man.

Of course they had passed what they called a "supplementary" act, but that was not so favorable to the working man as it appeared on the surface. Compare the rates provided to be paid under the new act with those under the old. The Liberal party, he said, when that party was in power they inserted in every contract a clause which required the contractor to receive not less than \$1.75 a day. For a man with one horse the rate was \$1.40 and for a man with two horses \$1.75. The working man, he said, was not to be deceived. They would have no difficulty in coming to a conclusion as to which party they ought to support.

Mr. Lowell had referred to the fact that when he spoke to me of having a public building erected in Fairville, in which provision should be made for a post office and savings bank, I had made no reply. I do not like to promise things that I am not sure I can provide. When I make a promise I want to feel sure that I can make good, so what I told Mr. Lowell was that I recognized the importance of having a public building here and I said I would take the matter up with my colleagues. Mr. McKewen's estimate came up I saw that a very handsome amount was put in for the town of Fairville.

At this point Doris McLane, of Pleasant Point, a little girl, entered the hall, was carried through the assembly and presented to the minister a very handsome bouquet of red roses tied with red ribbon, on behalf of the Young Liberals of Fairville.

The act was recognized by a great outburst of applause. The minister, returning, said—I have been at many meetings in Fairville. I was here one time with the Hon. Mr. Pugsley when he was minister, but I never saw such a magnificent meeting as this on this occasion. It shows that on election day the people of Fairville will roll up a magnificent majority for the Liberal party (applause).

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"It is with shame and disgust that I find the issue we are to fight upon is this petty scandal cry of the Conservative leaders. I disdain to discuss these issues. My soul is turned toward greater events and questions, and it is the future of the country I lay before you. For myself, I say that I have never used my office for my personal benefit."—Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

The government has been criticised by our opposition friends for erecting public buildings in small towns and of building wharves and breakwaters in small harbors, but we take the ground that the people in the smaller towns and harbors are as much entitled to receive a share of the public monies as the people in the larger cities like Montreal and others (applause).

Some of the larger cities think that the smaller places should not be considered, but it is encouraging the development, the progress and the prosperity of the small places that contributes to the prosperity of the larger places, and we will continue that policy. We are doing what we can to advance the interests of communities generally.

Before going to the larger questions at issue it might be expected that I should explain some of the charges that have recently been brought against me. For several weeks past rumors have been circulated that, unless certain things were done, a bombshell would be exploded by certain gentlemen, that would drive me out of politics.

Mr. Gershon S. Mayes, I don't know whether you know him or not (Voices—Oh, we know him). I have been told by his own admission that, if it were known, would damn me forever and drive me out of politics. I have been told that Mr. John E. Moore and Hon. C. J. Osmen, of Albert county, for some time past have been endeavoring to get the Standard to publish a statement of mine, a man against whom nothing dishonorable can be said and whose word would be taken before the oath of many people.

Some few days ago I was met in the station by Hon. Mr. Osmen, who told me that Mr. Mayes had photographs of certain papers and unless I purchased his device before 12 o'clock next day, he would make these disclosures. He told Mr. Osmen he had a photograph of a check Mr. Osmen had given me for \$2,500. Mr. Osmen thinks the amount was, and he led Mr. Osmen to believe I gave it after I had been minister. Mr. Osmen felt that he should tell about the matter so that I should know what to do.

I asked Mr. Osmen if Mr. Mayes told him the check was given, not when I was minister in the government, but two years before, while I was acting as Mr. Mayes' counsel and adviser. Mr. Osmen replied that he had been told to believe that the check was given to me since I had been out of the government.

I said "It is clearly a case of blackmail and Mr. Mayes can go ahead with it as fast as he likes." Mr. Mayes to the contrary, that Mr. Mayes told me the dredge might be purchased for \$20,000. He said that he had been told that there could be \$20,000 for a campaign fund in this constituency.

I told Mr. Mayes that my superintendent of dredging would advise me as to what was a fair and reasonable price and I would not pay one dollar beyond that. I further said that Mr. Mayes had made an improper proposal and invited him to leave my office.

Mr. Mayes told Mr. Hays that if his name was paid he would have the photographs and nothing more would be heard of the matter.

The position which I took was that as your representative and as a minister of the crown, I could not be a party to such a transaction. My superintendent of dredging said the dredge was worth \$10,000 and I would not pay one dollar more than that.

I see by the newspapers that Mr. Baxter denies making the statement that \$20,000 would be allowed for political purposes, but Mr. Baxter cannot deny that he sent me a telegram which said: "My client impatient at not receiving word from you or Inspector—Advise act immediately. I am waiting. I insist on prompt decision."

For what did he want a prompt decision? If he did not intend to accept Mr. Mayes' proposal he would have said so. He does not say that none of his relatives are interested (applause).

I am astonished that Mr. Mayes taking the attitude he does in saying he has no improper proposals. We have the evidence of Mr. Hays' letter that he called upon Mr. Mayes and stated that Mr. Mayes said he would destroy all the papers which he had connected with the matter if he received his price. We have Mr. Moore swearing that Mr. Percy W. Thomson came to him and told him of a conversation he had with Mr. Baxter and Mr. Mayes in which they said if \$10,000 was not paid they would publish statements relating to the Liberal party. We have the statement of Mr. Mayes that Mr. Baxter met him near the law library and told him the price of the dredge was \$20,000 and that there might be a campaign fund of \$20,000 if the dredge was purchased. We have all these statements and we have also Mr. Baxter's telegram. I have a copy of the letter which Mr. Osmen has written and sent to the Telegraph and Sun newspapers.

## HE PRODUCES A LETTER WHICH HE REBukes MR. MAYES IN SEVERE TERMS

### Minister Indignantly Turned Down Mayes' Proposal and Refused to Intervene Between Mayes and McAvity—Second Batch of Scandal Affidavits Shown to be Totally Untrue—Magnificent Demonstration at Fairville Last Night.

do me and the party a great injury.

The following day Mr. Mayes wrote me that the date was a typographical error, but it is strange that all the newspapers made the same error. The editor of the Standard says it was a printer's error and Mr. Mayes says it was an error by the typewriter. Mr. Mayes says in his second affidavit:

"I further say that when Hon. J. D. Hazen read my declaration at the Queen's Hotel on the evening of the 12th, he turned towards me when reading the date '16th October' and hesitated at '1907.' I called out '1905,' and he read '1905.' I have no personal knowledge whether that is true or not, but I have been told by many who were at the meeting, some of whom were Conservatives, that if Dr. Pugsley, or of the party leader, that he said that I was a printer's error, but it is true in places the conduct of Mr. Hazen is a most unenviable light, because I would then be absolutely clear that Mr. Hazen read to the meeting an affidavit containing a false statement on a most material point without having it corrected and reworded, and that he allowed it to be published the next morning in the Standard newspaper as it is in the Telegraph, giving the date of the note referred to as 1907."

What do you think of the men, said Dr. Pugsley, or of the party leader, that would send such a statement to the newspapers? I wouldn't treat a dog as these men have treated me. They have uttered vile slanders against me, they have sent secret emissaries throughout the country to poison the people against me, but I am amazed that such men as the Conservative party leaders could allow such false statements to be circulated.

You can see, he continued, how, in 1905, it would be proper for me as Mr. Mayes' representative to accept the money, but in October, 1907, after I had become minister, it would be proper for me to accept money from a dredging contractor for advertising him about his contract in any other way. When the Conservative party takes Mayes to its bosom as the instrument to destroy me, they have made a great mistake, for the people will hardly believe his statements in view of the evidence against him.

I will not go over at any great length the statements Mr. Mayes sent out with so much detail in his second volume declaration. He refers to several questions which he says he has copied from his diary. He even professes to give the hour and even the minute at which he took place in the courts of justice of this country and I never wanted to put in the witness stand the reason for my diary. (Laughter.) I am always suspicious of the truth of a man who adopts a diary.

On enquiry, I find that in the department records of 1905 Mr. Mayes tendered for certain dredging work. I think it was registered in Canada, the reason being that the work may be proceeded with as quickly as possible. It was in seeking to get this point that I was not interested, but I am sure which, and another tender was received by me. For the reason I have stated his tender could not be accepted and, upon representations being made, Hon. Mr. Hays, the minister, decided to waive the point and new tenders were called for.

There were two tenders received on this occasion. Mr. Mayes tendered at fifty-five cents, so I am informed, and Hazen & Miller, a large firm of contractors in Toronto, tendered at \$1. Very properly the contract went to Mr. Mayes as the lowest. He would have the people believe that the figures he sent in were changed. My information is that his statement is absolutely untrue. Mr. George McAvity and Mr. Mayes were together as contractors, in fact I recommended Mr. McAvity to Mr. Mayes as a man of standing and business ability, and I suppose, after consulting together, they put in a tender at fifty-five cents.

I never knew what arrangement had been made between them until Mr. Mayes, finding that neither he nor Mr. McAvity, in fact I recommended Mr. McAvity to Mr. Mayes as a man of standing and business ability, and I suppose, after consulting together, they put in a tender at fifty-five cents.

I observe that he says I held up money which was due him until he had paid Mr. McAvity. I wish to give that statement an unqualified denial. Mr. McAvity never notified me that money was owing to him until July of this year. On August 12 I received word from Mr. McAvity in reference to this money asking if it could not be paid. I have never paid him a cent.

On August 22 he wrote me the letter which appears in his declaration to the effect that I was using my position to hold him up. Instead of holding him up I wrote him the following reply:

St. John, N. B., Aug. 24th, 1908.

G. S. Mayes, Esq., St. John.

Dear Sir—I am in receipt of yours of the 22nd inst., and in reply would remind you that I have never received from you the notice which I had received from Mr. McAvity that he was interested in the money coming to you from my department and had requested me not to pay them over until the matter was adjusted. You admitted that there was an amount coming to him, which you said you were prepared to pay, provided I would allow a further claim which you said you proposed making, and would also buy your dredge. The impropriety of your proposal, which I told you I could not possibly entertain, did not seem to impress you as it ought to have done.

As you in your letter deny any indebtedness to Mr. McAvity, I do not propose to intervene in the matter, and shall give instructions for the payment to you of the amount found to be due you by the account of my department. If you have any further claim on the department it will be dealt with on its merits. Whether or not you owe Mr. McAvity or have overpaid him, or whether or not there should be litigation between you and him, are questions you are going to do with. I beg to assure you, a matter of perfect indifference to me.

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come into force automatically in 1911. The G.T.P. will then be completed with an all Canadian route and there will be no bonding privileges as with the C.P.R.

The vast traffic which now goes through Boston, Portland and New York will flow through St. John. It has been sought to carry this policy into effect, France has been granted an intermediate tariff, but will benefit only if goods are shipped direct through ports of the Dominion.

After reference to the province having received appropriations amounting to more than \$100,000 and to St. John having been voted \$100,000 since he became minister, Dr. Pugsley passed on to refer to the visit of the officials of the G.T.P. and to the successful borings which had been made in Courtney Bay. The expenditure of dredging and building wharves, he said, would not be larger than the government would be warranted in undertaking to obtain Canadian trade through Canadian ports.

I notice, Dr. Pugsley continued, that last night said that no doubt the time would come, but there was no need to carry on work in Courtney Bay. The G.T.P. was built and the traffic comes. What would you say, gentlemen, of the farmer who in the opening of the year would have said wheat and roots, but had no barn or root cellar? A neighbor comes to see him and says: "Why, my man, you are going to have a great crop. Are you going to do with it? You have no barns?" The farmer replies: "I'll build my barns after I've harvested my crop." (much laughter.)

Can you imagine, gentlemen, anything more absurd? The G.T.P. has already 600 miles of track open, an army of men are running the deep water and the road will be completed in two or three years to the seaboard, and Dr. Daniel actually wants St. John to wait and sell you it will be time enough then to think of elevators and wharf facilities. Let us get ready and let us get ready quick (cheers).

Dr. Daniel says it will cost \$4,000,000 to build wharves in Courtney Bay. Well, gentlemen, then you want to elect Pugsley to get it for you (much laughter and cheer). The government is spending \$50,000,000 at Port Arthur and Fort William on the western shores of Lake Superior, and if it should cost \$4,000,000, I would say that the government can afford it if we continue on the low tariff. If the high protective tariff of the Conservative government were created, it would reduce the revenues and then \$4,000,000 would be a mighty big sum.

It is the vigorous and progressive administration of the Liberal government that has enabled the country to develop its foreign trade from \$20,000,000 to a enormous total of \$300,000,000, and has raised the revenue from \$30,000,000 to \$97,000,000. If that policy is continued it will be possible to still further carry on our public works.

In closing, Dr. Pugsley expressed his hope for the magnificent demonstration with which he had been received. He had never seen, he said, anything to equal it in a place the size of Fairville. He was sure, from the great enthusiasm shown that the electors would cast their ballots in his favor, and that a great Liberal victory would be the result. He was sure which would result in increasing the development and happiness of Canada.

A storm of cheers and applause, which continued for some minutes, was given the minister as he resumed his seat.

Hon. H. A. McKewen in a fighting spirit around the minister of public works, and by returning him with a triumphant shout, endorse the policy of the Liberal government which has meant so much for Canada. When he rose there was a loud outburst of cheering and applause, which was frequently interrupted by hearty applause.

He first dwelt briefly on the importance of the magnificent demonstration in the words of Hon. Mr. Pugsley. He contrasted the record of the minister with that of those who had secured office by making promises which were forgotten as soon as they reached Ottawa. Hon. Mr. Pugsley had done his duty by the whole country but deep down in his heart there was a very warm spot for St. John city and county. Those men, the speaker continued, who were sent to parliament from a constituency were naturally expected to have the honor of those who voted them in as high estimation as their own. It was expected that the guns of the enemy would be trained on them most frequently. He ventured to say, however, that never in Canada had there been so much vituperative slander against any man as against Hon. Mr. Pugsley in this campaign. He had been through the fire and because there was no smell of it on his garments the people would honor him more.

(Loud and continued applause.) The closer these men dogged the footsteps of the minister the closer would his hearers and he press up behind him. The unsuccessful slander cry had made the great heart of Liberalism beat truer. The moanest man on God's earth was the slanderer. He took his own life as the standard by which to measure others. When he was inventing his calumnious words people can make up their minds to one thing, he was just revealing what he would do had he the opportunity.

He has known Hon. Mr. Pugsley a great many years, said Mr. McKewen. "He is today one of the great figures in Canada. There is not a community from coast to coast in need of a public work but knows his name and his presence. Before the people of this country and of this constituency he will come out of this contest without a single stain. (Loud cheers.) Let it be your effort and mine to set upon his conduct the strongest possible seal of our approval. (Cheers.) I ask you to rally round Dr. Pugsley on Oct. 26 and give him such a majority as will make Mr. Lowell and myself think we were running a mere parish election last provincial campaign."

Let me raise the grand old fighting spirit of the Liberal party. Many of you stood by me four years ago but your record goes further back than that. You have fought the battles of your party shouldered to shoulder through good and evil report. But there are many young men here who will cast their first ballot on Oct. 26 and to them I say vote for the party which under the leadership of Sir Wilfrid Laurier has done so much for Canada. (Great applause.)

As Hon. Mr. McKewen resumed his seat the minister of public works rose and said he wished to call attention to an article in the Standard. This returned to the finances of the Central Railway and, although a local issue, had been introduced into this campaign with the manifest intention of hurting him. In this article it was said that \$102,000 of the money was unaccounted for. It further stated that he (Hon. Mr. Pugsley) claimed to have accounted for \$30,000, but did not, he was asked to know all about the workings of the Central Railway. Still he knew a good deal. He noticed in looking over the account was taken of monies paid to James Barnes Ltd. the work was taken off his hands. Mr. Barnes had taken the contract to build the road but, finding unforeseen difficulties, he had asked the

government to take the work off his hands, which they did, agreeing to pay him the actual cost of work already done, together with the percentage usually paid to contractors.

Nothing was any account taken by the auditor of monies paid out after the New Brunswick Coal & Railway Company took possession. He had, he said, seen a statement of sums paid out by Mr. Evans for improvements to the Central made by the New Brunswick Coal and Railway Co., which amounted to about \$30,000 and these two items more than account for the \$102,000 claimed to be unaccounted for. He apologized for speaking of the matter at all but it showed to what tactics the Conservatives were reduced. (Applause.)

The chairman then called upon Mr. G. Pugsley who, in a good speech, spoke on the record of the Liberal government with regard to the encouragement of trade. He instanced the work which was being done to render the ports safer for shipping and which had resulted in making it cheaper by two cents a bushel for farmers of the western states to ship their grain through Montreal than Boston, Philadelphia or New York.

The speaker also went into the immigration policies of the two parties showing that the Liberals had done more in the last twelve years than the Conservatives had ever been able or willing to do. Mr. Pugsley concluded by asking those present to work to the end that the government would be more strongly sustained than ever.

The meeting broke up with hearty cheers for the king and the candidates. W. F. Barnhill presided during the evening and opened the meeting with a brief speech.

WILSON DID NOT KNOW HIS LITTLE BOOK

John E. Wilson Claims Conservatives Gains in Nova Scotia but Cannot Give Facts.

The Conservative rally in St. Peter's X. M. A. Hall last night was well attended. The speaker, Mr. J. E. Wilson, Daniel, W. F. Hatheway, M.P.P., and B. L. Gerow. The chair was occupied by J. C. Chesley.

Mr. Hatheway challenged James Pender to meet him in debate on the workman's compensation act, either before or after election.

Dr. Daniel covered no new ground, merely returning to the attack on the minister of public works, rehearsing charges which he had made in the past, and making a passing reference to the exploded Mayes charges.

Mr. Hatheway devoted almost his entire time to attacking the Liberal party and wound up his address as stated. One of the evils he charged against Sir Wilfrid Laurier was increasing the duty on chewing tobacco, having with him an exhibit which he held aloft, a bag of "Old Joe."

John E. Wilson said that the Liberal party had done nothing for St. John. He was proceeding to figure out how the Conservatives would make a gain, when one asked, "What about Nova Scotia?" and he replied after hesitation, "we will get seven there." When asked to name the seven he had to admit that he did not know.

GIVES \$1,000,000 ON HIS GOLDEN WEDDING

New York Man Celebrates Event by Big Donation to Hospital.

New York, Oct. 15.—Fifty years ago yesterday John S. Kennedy, the venerable philanthropist, celebrated his golden wedding. His wife, Mrs. Kennedy, has lived his life with him and women, was married. Instead of spending a great feast and celebrating the anniversary as most men would do, he quietly sent his check for one million dollars to the Presbyterian Hospital, so that thousands of unfortunate might share unconsciously in the joy he and Mrs. Kennedy felt yesterday when they thought of the long years of happiness granted to them.

This was not the first, the second or even the fifth anniversary of his marriage. From his office at No. 51 Nassau street, where he may be seen, despite the fact that he is seventy-eight years old, many checks have gone to charitable institutions. It was not until last May that it became known Mr. Kennedy had given Columbia University \$200,000.

The aged philanthropist has a habit of doing good without shouting the fact from the housetops. He is modest and his wife knows just how much money he has given to hospitals, colleges and educational institutions. But the Presbyterian Hospital is the particular pet of his and he intends to make it the most perfect institution of its kind in the world.

EXPLODED SCANDALS.