

HACK LOADS OF HEELERS

Furnish Applause for Messrs Prior and Earle at the Methosin Meeting.

Messrs Prior and Earle Slander a Liberal Candidate Charging Corruption.

But Fank Mr. Martin's Challenge to Give the Candidate's Name.

The Colonel Asks for Decent Treatment and Perpetrates a Shabby Trick.

He Quotes From a Hansard Report of a Speech by Hon Dr. Montague.

And Leads the Audience to Believe He is Reading From Laurier's.

Mr. Archer Martin's Hot Shots at the Conservative's Tariff Policy.

Are Answered by Figures Supposed to Make the Farmers Prosperous.

should support the policy of protection. Col. Prior—Hear, hear.

At the Colquitz meeting, Mr. Earle said, Mr. Stevens wanted to know why the government did not protect the farmers as much as the manufacturers. This was explained to him, and after that explanation Mr. Earle could not see how in the name of common sense he could oppose the Conservatives. But there are a number whose party prejudices will not allow them to support the party that acts in their interests.

Mr. Earle could not see why the Manitoba school question should be introduced into the politics of this province. It is the intention of the present government, if returned to power, to introduce remedial legislation again and carry it through. The remedial bill would have been passed last session were it not for the obstruction of the Liberals. No government should try to bring about the rights they once enjoyed. Mr. Laurier urged the government to settle the vexed question, but when the bill was introduced he moved the six months' adjournment. Mr. Earle did not know what Mr. Laurier's policy in this question would be when the house meets; he did not know what Mr. Laurier's policy would then be—possibly he would change it at the request of Mr. Templeman if that gentleman is returned, but the Conservative policy would always be the same. If electors saw fit to return Col. Prior and himself, they would in the past, look after the interests of the district and the province.

Hon. Dr. Helmecken was greeted with applause. He had not intended to speak. He just came down to see the country and to see his old friends. The only issue in this contest was protection or no protection, and if the electors of Methosin believed in self-protection, they should support the protectionist candidates, Messrs. Prior and Earle. The doctor then regaled the audience with interesting reminiscences of early days, and maintained that the country was in a prosperous condition. This prosperity and the marked improvement in the agricultural portions of the district were brought about by the National policy. The doctor quoted from Mr. Laurier where he said "that the necessities of life should be taxed as lightly as possible, and in many cases entirely free," and maintained because of this that the prospects of the farmers were endangered, and if Mr. Laurier, who started these words, came into power, the farmers would be ruined and they would have to go and dig ditches. (Laughter.) Dr. Helmecken believed this because the necessities of life were the products of the farm. He warned the electors against the Manitoba school question. It was of no consequence whatever to British Columbia. The people should let this question go to the —. The doctor would not discuss it at all, but he went on to say that Manitoba's rights with regard to education were limited. The Dominion government had nothing to do with education; it was left to the provinces—that government only educated the people as to how to get a living, and for this reason it had established dairy schools and experimental farms. The schools should be nothing to do with educating the religious education of the people. (Hear, hear.) The doctor again referred to protection. Everything should be protected. Some people told him that the necessities of life should not be protected, but he always told these people to go and work the land. The tariff should be made to encourage industries. We fortunately lived near the sea shore so that people without protection could eat clams, and the Dominion government was protecting the seals. They protected the seals and the fish and even the government were sending lobsters. They were among the blue-coats, but when they come Colonel Prior would turn them into soldiers and put red coats on them. (Loud laughter.) The doctor then admitted that we had gone through a period of severe depression, but that was not the fault of the national policy. After making a few patriotic remarks, the doctor again admitted the depression. It had affected him as much as any one, but he believed that the country is on the eve of prosperity. For the fourth time he read the extract from Laurier's letter about reducing the tax on the necessities of life. "You are all pupils," said the doctor to the audience. "You are good school boys. Now take the wool out of your ears and I will read that extract to you again and then maybe one of the brightest of my school boys can repeat it." If continued the doctor, the farmer wished to be free from such a great evil, they should vote for Messrs. Prior and Earle. The doctor was loudly applauded on taking his seat.

Col. Prior found, although he did not speak that day, several portions of his speech that did service at Colquitz, his A.O.U.W. hall, Cedar Hill and elsewhere, had been used by Mr. Earle, so his remarks were not as lengthy as usual. He thanked the electors of Methosin for the splendid majority they had given him in the last election—the second largest he secured from any of the sub-divisions. The Liberals had come out flatfooted for free trade as they have it in England. There was not the slightest doubt about this being their policy. The policy of the Conservatives was protection. The country wanted a man like Sir Charles Tupper at the head of affairs—a man who was always ready to borrow money and spend money. Sir Charles Tupper was a good Premier and had a good government. Every member of it knows what the country needs. The colonel then gave the part of his old speech describing what the Conservatives had done for Canada. He also referred to the preferential trade policy. The Conservative trade rather than free trade. The colonel could send agricultural products to Britain to feed the teeming millions and the manufacturers of Britain could send their wares to the colonies—"except," said the colonel, "where it was found that these manufacturers would come into competition with the products of Canadian manufacturers."

Mr. Martin—Hear, hear.

The Conservative party had done a great deal for the Canadian farmers. They had given protection on almost everything they produced. Mr. Hall, of the rice mills, had bought 200 tons of wheat the other day, and the gentleman had figured out the protection at 29 per cent. After paying this duty he could not buy cheaper on the American side than he could from the farmers of this province. Mr. Hall is a

business man, and the colonel supposed he bought in the cheapest market. If the farmers wished all this protection removed they should vote for Templeman and Milne—if not, for "Frick and Earle. The colonel dilated on the dead meat scheme, which was not put in force owing to the obstruction of the opposition. He explained the cheapness of Canadian machinery in the Australian market by the fact that the government gave a rebate of 98 per cent on the raw material. This did not injure the Canadian farmer, and was in the interest of the manufacturers. Mr. Laurier had stated that the taxes would be lightened on the necessities of life, and this of course meant the wiping away of the duties on the farm products. Although Dr. Helmecken repudiated the idea that the depression in Canada was due to the national policy, Col. Prior charged the Wilson bill with bringing about the depression in the United States. It was admitted from California to Maine that the Democrats had no more chance of getting returned than Mr. Laurier has in Canada. (Laughter.) Protection had built up France, Germany, Belgium and every other country in the world, and England was not so prosperous under free trade as she might be.

Col. Prior defended the famous gerrymander bill. He was sorry it did not pass, and it would have passed were it not for the obstruction of the opposition. Mr. Cassidy had seen the bill, and he was firmly of the opinion that it would not have passed. The Conservatives of the Dominion had encouraged the farmers by bonusing Australian steamers to swamp their markets with cheap Australian products.

Col. Prior—Do they bring it?

Mr. Martin—It is not your fault if they don't bring it. You encourage those steamers to bring cheap goods by a subsidy of \$125,000 a year. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Argyle—What do they take back?

Mr. Martin—I'll tell you what they take back. The Dominion government gives the manufacturers 99 per cent of a rebate duty on raw material in order that these manufacturers may sell machinery to the Australian farmer cheaper than they do to the Canadian farmer. They thus place the Australian farmer at an advantage over the Canadian farmer. The machinery also goes to the Argentine Republic, so that the farmers of that country are enabled to send cheap wheat to the British market to come into direct competition with the products of the Canadian farmers. (Hear, hear.) What do the farmers think of the kind of machinery?

The Conservative government legislated solely in the interests of the manufacturers. (Loud Applause.)

Mr. Martin continuing stated that Messrs. Prior and Earle had misrepresented the policy of Mr. Laurier.

Mr. Earle angrily—You should withdraw that word misrepresented.

Mr. Martin—I will not withdraw it, you said that Mr. Laurier was for free trade, and simple as that.

Mr. Earle—He did say so.

Mr. Martin—You can't prove it.

Col. Prior—Yes, I can. I've got it in Hansard.

Mr. Martin—if any one can show me in Hansard anything that Mr. Laurier declared what you said—absolute free trade without qualification—I will vote for Col. Prior on June 23rd. (Applause.)

Mr. Martin, continuing, stated that the extracts read by Messrs. Earle and Prior were not simple as the manufacturers returned to deceive the electors. Mr. Martin read from Mr. Laurier's letter to Mr. Bertram "show his policy on the trade question, and was proceeding to read the letter, but Mr. Earle and Prior some other hard nuts to crack when the chairman called time.

Mr. Earle rose to reply, and he did so by gathering up the figures of Col. Prior's speech and reading them to show what the national policy had done for Canada. Mr. Martin had spoken about a reptile fund, but it was a well known fact that a Liberal candidate in whose employ Mr. Martin was spending thousands of dollars in debauching the voters in an endeavor to buy his way into a British Columbia constituency.

Mr. Martin—Nempe! Give us the name.

Mr. Earle—You know it as well as I do.

Mr. Martin—I defy you to give the name!

Mr. Earle endeavored to pass the matter over by proceeding with his speech, but Mr. Martin again challenged Mr. Earle to give the name. Mr. Earle made an evasive reply, but Mr. Martin standing up, said:

"For the third time I dare you to give the name!"

Col. Prior—You know who we mean!

Mr. Martin—You coward! You dare not give the name! (Sensations.) Your policy is slander.

Mr. Earle, continuing, said what Col. Prior and himself had stated were the beliefs of the electors would believe them in preference to Mr. Martin, who was paid to come out here.

Mr. Martin—if you are a gentleman you will withdraw that. The statement that I am paid is false. You know that it is absolutely false.

Mr. Earle was proceeding to read more figures to show the farmers that they were prosperous, when Col. Prior, who had been exhibiting many signs of impatience, snapped his watch, and in a weary voice called "Time."

Mr. Earle, angrily—You needn't call time. I don't speak often. (Laughter.) Mr. Earle admitted that the farmers were not protected as much as the manufacturers, but if they wanted more the Conservative party would give it to them.

Col. Prior proceeded to read what he stated was extracts from Mr. Laurier's speech in Hansard. It showed the Liberal leader to declare for free trade.

Mr. Martin—Let me see the Hansard you are reading from.

Col. Prior reluctantly did so.

Mr. Martin—This is fair treatment isn't it? Instead of reading from Mr. Laurier's he is reading from a speech by Dr. Montague. I knew he couldn't find anything like that in Laurier's speeches reported in Hansard.

Col. Prior (confusedly)—I didn't say it was Mr. Laurier's. (Laughter.)

Mr. Martin—You tried to deceive the electors by conveying that impression. In order that they would be no more construction of Mr. Martin's challenge to Col. Prior, Mr. Martin put it in writing and handed it to the chairman. It read as follows:

"He states that if any one can show me in Hansard anything that Mr. Laurier declared for absolute free trade, without

qualification, I shall vote for Col. Prior on June 23. Archer Martin."

The meeting closed at midnight with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

AT PARSON'S BRIDGE

Messrs Prior and Earle Address the Electors in Price Bros' Hall.

The Colonel Explains the Subsidy Granted to the British Pacific.

At Saturday night's meeting at Parson's Bridge Col. Prior stated that aid granted to the British Pacific by the Dominion government was limited to a subsidy of \$3,200 a mile for twenty-five miles from Bute Inlet north, and that the other 100 miles subsidized was the extension of the E. & N. R. R. At Cedar Hill he stated that the whole 125 miles appertained to the British Pacific.

The meeting was held in the comfortable hall attached to Price Bros' hotel. Besides Mr. Tugwell and the others from the city, there were about twenty electors.

Mr. W. Hayward was voted to the chair. He called on the Hon. Dr. Helmecken to address the meeting.

Dr. Helmecken referred to the Manitoba school question. He thought the question appertained to Manitoba alone and the people of this province had little or nothing to do with it. The electors should only look to those things which affect their own interests. He read an extract from Mr. Laurier's speech in which he stated "that the necessities of life should be as free as possible or entirely free," and then he stated that it costs the farmer from \$80 to \$100 to clear an acre of land.

Mr. H. Dallas Helmecken—It costs more in some places.

Dr. Helmecken—It may cost you more, but I am speaking to those who work the land. (Laughter.) For this reason agricultural products should be protected. Dr. Helmecken again read the extract from Mr. Laurier's speech. A gentleman from the audience began commenting upon this extract, when the doctor told him it was not necessary for him to believe what he said unless he wished.

Mr. Earle—He agrees with you.

Dr. Helmecken—Oh, he does! My goodness, he couldn't believe anything else. (Laughter.)

Dr. Helmecken referred to the dairy school, and experimental farms, which, he stated, were instituted by the present government. This kind of education was more important than the school, which was for fitting people for the next world. (Laughter.) For the third time he read the famous extract, much to the amusement of the crowd. Before sitting down the doctor read the extract again.

Col. Prior complimented Mr. Price for his comfortable room which they had placed at the disposal of the meeting and then discussed Prior's gerrymander bill. He was sure that the bill would not disfranchise anyone, for Mr. Cassidy said so. Mr. Templeman had the effrontery to say the bill was such that the opposition to it was a general principle. The colonel had 149 acres of land in the city limits which was productive land, and did not bring enough to pay the taxes, and was it likely that he would oppose the building of a railway, because if built it would enable him to sell this property to advantage? The opposition tried to make the electors believe that Mr. Earle and himself were opposed to the British Pacific. Their basis for this contention was some remarks made by himself at a Board of Trade meeting when Mr. William Wilson, Mr. Templeman and other Grits tried to get a resolution passed to get a resolution to aid the construction of the British Pacific. He then stated that if they went to the government with a cock and bull story it would do them harm. Col. Prior believed that such would be the result, as at the time the school was not in shape. Mr. Rithel had not then induced capitalists to take hold of the road and it would have been a case of going to the government with a "cock and bull" story if they had not their capitalists ready to go on with the scheme. As the electors of the provincial government had asked for the government's assistance, but that government thought they were asking for too much, and negotiations had failed. The company, however, did not ask the Dominion government for a large subsidy. All they wanted was for the federal government to take cognizance of their road. The government had done so by placing on the estimates a subsidy of \$3,200 a mile for twenty-five miles from Bute Inlet northward. The government had also considered the application of the E. & N. R. R. Co. for a subsidy of \$3,200 a mile for 100 miles from Nanaimo northward. These subsidies would have been passed were it not for the opposition of the Liberals. Had they been made public the government would have laid themselves open to the charge of position status for he has no right to make them public, since they were not placed before the house, but he is only responsible to the Governor-General for his conduct.

Col. Prior then switched on the old speech, describing the great prosperity of the country, which, he said, was brought about through the National policy. The Dominion government, said the colonel, had paid \$6,000,000 for the whole of the Northwest Territory. He also extolled the Conservative policy of preferential trade, and alluded to the fact that the Conservatives had no more construction of Mr. Martin's challenge to Col. Prior, Mr. Martin put it in writing and handed it to the chairman. It read as follows:

"He states that if any one can show me in Hansard anything that Mr. Laurier declared for absolute free trade, without

entirely protected, the government will raise the protection at once, as the tariff is not a cast iron one. He stated that it would be madness for British Columbia to open her ports to the Japanese, who were the most dangerous competitors in the world. To prevent imports from Japan, the electors should vote for Messrs. Prior and Earle on the 23rd of June.

Mr. Earle also maintained that great progress was made by the country under the National Policy. Under this policy the farmers of British Columbia had progressed to such an extent that many of them complained that the market was now too limited. The policy of the Conservative party, he said, was "Canada for Canadians." He also made the statement that Mr. Laurier had stated in the market hall, Victoria, that his policy was free trade pure and simple. Mr. Earle read the mass of figures which are the main portion of Col. Prior's speech to show what protection had done for the country. If the farmers could come to the conclusion from this evidence that the Conservative government was the government for the farmers, they would be asked them to vote for Messrs. Prior and Earle.

Mr. H. D. Helmecken began his address by objecting to the Times' heading for the Methosin meeting. If people go down from the city to Methosin they have a perfect right to go there, and he had not mentioned in opprobrious terms. He dealt with Mr. Martin and his arguments at the Methosin meeting. He said Mr. Martin evidently did not know how much it cost to clear land. People in glass houses should not throw stones, and he would ask Mr. Martin, whom he termed an apostle of free trade, if there were any people more protected than his lawyers. Mr. Helmecken had enjoyed the fun in Methosin immensely. Mr. Martin had placed Mr. Earle on a mule, and in consequence of this Mr. Earle had made a great oratorical effort and covered himself with glory. Mr. Helmecken then dealt briefly with preferential trade and the Manitoba school question.

As Col. Prior knew that there was no one present to represent the opposition candidates, he extended a cordial invitation to any one who wished to address the meeting on behalf of the Liberal candidates to do so. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

LOOKS LIKE "JUMPING"

More Claims Re-Staked in the Rossland District.

Rossland Prospector: One day last week there was recorded the sale of all the interest by James Manson of Rossland to Wm. Bennison, of Everett, in the Stockton mineral claim, situated, as the records say, on the south side of Red Mountain west of and adjoining the California mineral claim and south of and adjoining the Thompson fraction, located Feb. 10, 1896, and recorded on February 19, 1896, by James Manson. The consideration mentioned is \$15,000. Ben Hall, on the same date, gives a bill filed to William Bennison of the camp, Jose fraction, on the south side of Red Mountain bounded by the Stockton, Thompson fraction and San Francisco mineral claim for \$5000. A reference to Kirk's map will show that the ground so bounded is occupied by the Evening mineral claim and part of the Eureka Consolidated company, of which Ross Thompson and John M. Burke are the promoters and chief shareholders. These two claims with the W. E. camp, No. 2 comprise the Eureka group. The Eureka and Evening have been surveyed and applications made for a certificate of improvements, with a view to obtaining a crown grant. The Evening is one of the old claims of the camp, having been located in June, 1894. Not only have the necessary improvements been done, but four men are now engaged on the shaft.

From this it will be seen that an attempt has been made to secure by a technicality the Evening mineral claim, which promises to be a valuable one, or evidently is, if the transaction recorded in a bona fide one. Mr. Bennison gave \$15,000 for the Stockton. In conversation with H. E. Cover, who had something to do with the sale by Manson to Bennison, and who the other day bought the Angus fraction, bounded by the Anne, San Francisco and California from Frank Edwards and Martin Stinson, he stated that none of the original location posts were on the ground supposed to be covered by the Evening claim, and that the ground he and his friends had legal advice that a good claim could be maintained to the ground, and that the matter would soon come up in the supreme court.

Whether the contention of the Stockton people is or is not upheld by the courts, the act done will be set down by the public as a despicable proceeding, such as has been attempted before in this camp, but not with gratifying success to the parties setting up the bogus claim.

"THE LAND OF THE FREE"

Where a Colored Man Must not Ask His Way Home.

St. Louis, June 15.—About 1 o'clock this morning Charles N. Loze, a colored delegate from Texas, while on his way home was shot in the right shoulder by Robert W. Thiel, a young man of about 21 years of age. Mr. Loze, who is a stranger in the city, during his temporary sojourn here has been stopping at the home of a brother at No. 2855 Lucas avenue. This morning while on his way to his brother's house and when near the corner of Garrison avenue and Morgan street, becoming confused, he halted some pedestrians who inquired the way home. Robert W. Thiel, the gentleman of whom Mr. Loze inquired, it is claimed by the latter, pulled a pistol from his pocket and fired. Five shots were fired, one of which took effect in the right shoulder.

Mr. Loze was taken to the home of his brother, where his wounds were dressed and pronounced not serious. Thiel is in jail. He claims he thought he was about to be held up and fired to save himself from personal injury.

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done has been in the agreement built on Block n. on the Great El Dorado, situated near the G. O. E. There are two cuts in the road acting last in acting for the Southern Belle in them. These are Elmo and a mining claims know, say that transfers, as reference is little fact, that no price mentioned where in the records. When a cash and a bill of either seller notice appears as instrument, the business in the incursions property might finding in the price was paid where property fairly on the regular ship \$60 in gold. Included the sale Colorado mineral claim, for which the property adjoined Kootenay on the St. Elmo and a half feet of gold. A flower has dumped up the full ore is galena, silver and from assays million owners believe pay for the de are employed on. ER. are prospect- Springer creek um at Bear Lake been struck. Improving in the Nelson path four days. M. K. Braden, company, were they went over of the adjoin- all probability up. ive followed the to the Enterprise ek last Saturday. ork under charge a direct result of will be shipped at the lake. At there is nearly ore outside the workings there 50 men to stope in each tunnel at the remain- the Kirkwood does not fall due ober. This step a great deal for this enters into two most promis- spell and the En- RELE. repector. number of men Chief. This prop- of the Midnight, ight in some nice Deane. and Tuck Co. DeLozier is har- some nice looking from his Elk river Golden Five propo- showing this sea- reports his prop- creek as looking showing of ore in ight in some rich re from the Was- Gold Hill property tunnel at an early returned from Butte. He reports that miners will arrive inspect a copper ly that a deal will ran property. The le in hand is wait- the owners as to the expert to ex- ps. of the London purchased the. The considera- expert on coal, ar- Annerly. He will Nest coal fields in vate syndicate, commenced work on Monday; two and as soon as the ore will be set at three steamboats ar- within a short time Ruth had just com- from the North Star of ore. The An- ners from Jennings, from Canal Plans might consign to e. The boats are all and carrying all the down trip. ing Powder all in leavening S. Government Report.