

Route, and Burrard Inlet as the Terminus, of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and especially for the broad and comprehensive manner in which you dealt with the subject, demonstrating that the selection of that route and terminus would be not alone for the benefit of this City and District, but for the general advantage of the Province as well as of the whole Dominion—a course that cannot but result in drawing the attention of the Government, Parliament, and people of Canada much more particularly to this route than if you had adopted a merely sectional view. I have therefore much pleasure in conveying to you their thanks, and trust that your exertions may have a successful termination.

T. R. McInnes, Mayor.

Mr. Dewdney, who was received with cheers, said he was very grateful for this demonstration, and for the kind address which had been presented to him. He was one of the first settlers in this city, and had passed here some of the pleasantest years of his life. He referred to several of the "pioneer" residents, whom he was very glad to see here to-night. He was also glad to see all, without reference to political dividing lines, uniting to give a hearty expression on the railway matter. In advocating the adoption of the Fraser route he had conscientiously endeavored to do his duty to the Province and the Dominion; he believed that route was the best for all. He did not object to the northern surveys; the more they surveyed, the sooner they would be convinced that we had the route, and the only one. (Cheers.) Mr. Dewdney then referred in complimentary terms to Mr. Cunningham, member for this District who had, he said, worked most cordially with him, and done his best for the interests of his district. Comparatively little interest had been taken in this matter of the railway route in British Columbia in former years; but now people were turning their attention to the matter, as they felt that a decision must shortly be arrived at; and now was the time to strike. The policy of the present Government differed from that of the Macdonald Administration on the railway question. Sir John Macdonald's party were in favor of pressing the work to completion as rapidly as possible, believing that, the sooner it was completed, the sooner would they receive a return for the outlay.

Mr. Mackenzie's party, on the other hand, favored delay, and desired to go cautiously to work. His Government was supported to a great extent by men who dreaded taxation and that, of course, influenced his policy. He (Mr. Dewdney) felt sure, however, that—once the surveys were completed—Mr. Mackenzie would be foremost to urge on the construction of the line. The day before he left Ottawa, he had been assured by Mr. Mackenzie that the canons of the Fraser would be surveyed thoroughly. It had been reported, the Premier said, that serious difficulties existed in the canons, but he must have evidence that these difficulties did really exist, before he allowed them to influence his decision. (Cheers.) He would not abandon the route till he was convinced that a better one existed. Reference had been made to a report that telegraphic construction had been ordered from Edmonton to Fort George; but he (Mr. Dewdney) felt sure that no telegraph work would be done on this side of Tele. Janss Cache till the railway route was finally decided upon. In reading over the speech which he had delivered on the railway question in the House, he found he had omitted some points which might have been mentioned. He had therefore, addressed a letter to Mr. Mackenzie, setting the whole case before him. He had a copy of the letter, and would read it, if the meeting desired it. (Cheers.)

(Mr. Dewdney then read the letter, the full text of which will be found on the first and second pages of this issue. The reading was frequently interrupted by applause.)

He had taken care to state nothing but facts within his own knowledge. He again thanked them most cordially for their kind appreciation of his efforts.

Mr. J. C. Brown moved that the Mayor be instructed to have the address which he had presented to Mr. Dewdney, engrossed on parchment, and the seal of the Corporation attached.

Seconded by Mr. Edmonds and carried unanimously.

Mr. Dewdney moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was carried by acclamation, and the meeting (one of the largest and most enthusiastic we have seen here) adjourned.