POOR DOCUMENT

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30 SEATS FOR HAZEN PREDICTS W. H. THORNE

Opposition Campaign in St. John Goes Swinging Along to Victory on March 3

In North End Meeting, Mr. Thorne Summarizes Report from Counties, and Shows Opposition in Power With 30 Seats---Rousing Rallies at Several Points---Hustings Speech of W. F. Hatheway Read by Mr. Wilson--Dr. McInerney Presents Reforms Originated by Opposition.

Thursday, Feb. 27

The opposition forces are marching confidently on to victory.

In this city last evening three rousing meetings were held, all crowded and enthusiastic, affording proof that the fighting spirit of the party is stronger and its determination greater as election day approaches.

W. H. Thorne, at the North End meeting, referred to the campaign outlook and expressed confidence that the opposition would carry at least thirty seats. He went over the counties in some detail and gave reasons for his prediction. This estimate from a man of Mr. Thorne's long experience and knowledge of present conditions was received with great enthusiasm. Many believe Mr. Thorne is well within the mark in his calculation.

At all the opposition meetings last evening the speakers were followed with keen interest. They delivered aggressive and telling addresses. As the campaign approaches the close and reports from all parts of the province are received it is universally conceded that the signs point to a great opposition triumph. The feeling is abroad that the local government is doomed.

IN ALEXANDRA HALL

Big Meeting Hear Sound Talk on the Campaign Issues—Mr. Thorne's Forecast.

In Alexandra hall, Main street, the chair was taken by H. G. Green. After referring briefly to the importance of the issues in the present campaign he introduced W. H. Thorne as the first speaker.

Mr. Thorne, who was received with cheers, said it was always a pleasure to comply with the request of a chairman at a meeting of that kind. He heartily believed that it was in the interests of the province that there should be a new government. Having been in touch with outside constituencies he was in a position to claim that the opposition would have a good majority on March 3 and that even all the resources of civilization would not prevail. (Laughter.) He believed they would carry at least thirty seats. Reading the Sun, people might suppose that St. John was going in favor of the government. If he were any judge of public sentiment St. John would return four opposition members by a large majority. In Charlotte the Sun attempted to make people believe that the government ticket would win. His own view was that all four seats would go to the opposition.

Again in Sunbury the Sun prophesied that Mr. Hazen would be defeated. A canvass of that county and Queens, however, showed large gains for the opposition and victory for their leader and his colleagues in the two counties seemed assured. As regards York he had been told only the previous day by a gentleman in touch with the county that the opposition would probably have 1,000 majority.

They had two out of three in Carleton in the last election, Mr. Jones getting in by the skin of his teeth. There they were sure of holding their own and would probably carry the whole ticket. In Victoria even their opponents admitted that Mr. Manzer was almost sure of election. They had been told by the government press that the government victory had already begun in Madawaska because there were two government and two independent tickets nominated. It appeared to him that if the government two were defeated it would be by men who would support Mr. Hazen.

Recently a man who had large interests in Bathurst and who, they might be interested to know, was not a supporter of the opposition, had told him that he had hardly met anyone who was not in favor of the opposition. The whole North Shore seemed against the government.

Continuing, Mr. Thorne said in Restigouche things were in first class shape and the return of Mr. Stewart was looked upon as certain. In Gloucester, with eight French and two English on the three tickets, one of which was independent, anything might happen. That there were two tickets against the government might be taken as some indication of popular feeling. Whatever the result of the election might be, however, Gloucester was never known to be against the government returned to power.

Their friends in Northumberland reported that the county was good for four opposition members. From the close shave which Mr. Tweedie had he thought it was only a fair claim. A telephone message from a gentleman in Kent brought the word that the opposition was sure of all three men. At the nominations their supporters had outnumbered the government four to one. If he, the speaker, were a betting man, he would bet on the whole opposition ticket being returned in Kent.

When the campaign started in Westmorland the opposition never dreamed they had even a fighting chance. Even with four strong men nominated it was at first hard to believe that in Premier Robinson's stronghold they would develop enough strength to bring success. But a change had come over the whole situation. At the last election an opposition majority of 600 in the county had been swamped in Moncton, but the influence in Moncton today was in the opposition's favor. Their men believed Westmorland was good for two if not four seats.

Albert had always been a hard fighting chance. Coming nearer home Kings felt sure of returning the opposition ticket. In Rothesay, which previously had given them only 45 votes, 95 were now regarded as certainties and in other parishes the sentiment was strongly against the government.

In closing, Mr. Thorne said he spoke from inside knowledge, having kept in touch with the leading men throughout the province. He urged his hearers to use every effort to ensure a sweeping victory.

Mr. Emerson, who spoke briefly, insisted on the need for constant work until the polls closed. He paid a tribute to the candidates who, he said, were not only good speakers but four honest straightforward men.

Dr. McInerney.

Dr. McInerney, who was received with ringing cheers, spoke at length on the reforms which had been brought about by the opposition, referring in passing to the contention of the government that the opposition had no constructive policy. He dealt with the reforms secured in having:

(1) Open competition for the building of steel bridges, and the demand for the extension of this principle to all public work.

(2) One man one vote.

(3) The secret ballot, the right to vote free of undue influence.

(4) Better educational facilities, and fairer pay for school teachers.

(5) Protection of municipal rights from crippling extortions.

(6) Cheaper school books.

Referring to the appointment of an independent auditor-general he said:

(a)—The Opposition has long urged the appointment of an auditor general who shall be quite independent of the government, and only dismissable on a two-thirds vote of the legislature.

(b)—This official to have full power to investigate every account thoroughly,—and no account to be paid unless so passed and certified as correct by such official.

(c)—The necessity for this independent and non-partisan official is only too clearly indicated by the frank admission of the present auditor general to the effect that tens of thousands of dollars are paid out each year without any account whatever having been submitted to him;—while, members of the government submit no vouchers for their drafts upon the treasury.

(d)—It must be plain to all intelligent people that the bookkeeping and general handling of the provincial finances are by no means conducted on proper business principles; and that, in consequence, many abuses are not only invited but enabled, to the serious encroachment of our revenue.

(a)—Time and again, the Opposition has called for the reform of the crown land policy. This, not only in the wide and vital interests of the province; but, for the benefit of our lumber operators, both large and small, whose industry and enterprise have been seriously obstructed by the venality and insincerity of an incapable government.

b)—Witness the Muskoka Land Deal, in Restigouche County. This raid upon our resources could not have occurred had it not been duly aided and abetted, as it was, by members of the government.

(c)—Witness also, the unfair treatment meted out to certain lumbermen; and how the lash is held over the backs of other operators to coerce their support of the government at each election. No honest voter would countenance such utter desecration of every sacred principle of freedom and justice.

(a)—The education of our children has always been a matter of the keenest moment to the Opposition party, which has continually protested for the extension and encouragement of our local schools.

(b)—When it is remembered that, in 213 school districts throughout the province there were, according to the last report of the superintendent of education, no educational facilities whatsoever—neither schools nor teachers—the crying urgency for the adoption of the Opposition's policy will make its own poignant appeal to the hearts of all thoughtful people,—and, particularly, to parents.

(c) In consequence of such a distressing condition many of our children have little chance of education.

(d)—Is it not the clear and bounden duty of every civilized government to provide educational facilities for the children of the people so that they may not be compelled to go out into the world shackled with the terrible handicap of ignorance?

(c)—A proper, businesslike handling of the finances of this province; the appointment of a fully empowered, non-partisan auditor general, and an honest, capable administration, would have left ample revenue wherewith to give greater assistance to poor and scattered districts, and thus wipe away the above blot on our Christian civilization.

This article concludes the list of nine distinct reforms originated, achieved, partially achieved or urged by the Opposition party, and, to the complete fulfilment of which it stands committed. These facts should give an emphatic denial to the assertions of the government speakers and writers, that the Opposition party has originated no useful reform.

Dr. McInerney ridiculed the spasmodic efforts the government was making on the eve of an election in announcing an immigration policy and greatly delighted his hearers by his references to Messrs. Craigie and McDade and to the meteoric career of Hon. James Barnes. He touched upon the government's railway policy and in speaking of the Central, referred to it as an octopus which was fed on bonds. He reminded his hearers of Mr. Maxwell's statement that the road did not pay enough for the grease on the wheels but took $30,000 out of the people of the province every year.

Speaking of the International Railway, he laid stress on the fact that when completed the road would carry round logs across the St. John river to be sawn in the United States for the benefit of Uncle Sam. The attempt of Dr. Pugsley to introduce federal issues, and his promises to the electors, he designated as utter claptrap and in closing he urged his hearers to stand firm and vote the whole ticket for Hazen and good government.

Mr. Tilley.

L. P. D. Tilley referred to a statement made by Mr. McKeown that Collingwood Schreiber, the dominion engineer, had said the International railway would cost $28,000 to $30,000 a mile, and to the attorney-general's contention that therefore the province had ample security for the guarantee of $8,000 a mile. Mr. Schreiber, he pointed out, had not said the road was worth the money. Mr. McKeown had also said the government had a guarantee from a Montreal millionaire to guarantee the interest on the bonds. He did not mention that there was no guarantee until the road was finished. The road, he contended, was being built because certain contractors stood in with Hon. William Pugsley and wanted the road built.

Mr. Tilley then turned to discuss the public debt and showed how the province had a deficit of $450,000 instead of a surplus of $9,000 as worked out by the government. Dealing with the Central railway, he told how the New York owners in 1901 became tired of putting up money and offered it to the manager as a gift if he would take it with its liabilities. He went on to give the subsequent history of the road after it passed into the hands of friends of the government down to the present time with $1,260,000 liability against it.

In closing, Mr. Tilley made an appeal to his hearers to vote for good government by electing the whole ticket.

Mr. Wigmore.

Rupert Wigmore, after a humorous reference to Mayor Sears and his unwillingness to run as a government candidate, went on to speak of the contention of the government that the opposition had not given any party pledges. As soon, however, as the opposition made any statement the government were quick to promise the same thing. Mr. Wigmore referred to the change in public opinion in the city and in the counties of Kings and Queens and went on to speak of Premier Robinson's failure to defend himself or answer Mr. Flemming's charges. In closing, he expressed the opinion that Dr. Pugsley's attempts to hoodwink the electors had failed and that a great opposition victory was assured.

Mr. Kelley.

J. King Kelley dealt with the Workman's Compensation Act which was featured in the government's campaign literature. He contended that it was a repetition of the Employer's Liability Act passed in England fifty years ago and which was played out. The act did nothing more than give the right to sue an employer if a man was killed. He pointed out the difference between the provincial act and the English Workman's Compensation Act under which the work carried the risk, and claimed the working men of the province had been defrauded. Mr. Kelley paid a tribute to Mr. Maxwell for his agitation in favor of the mechanics' lien act, and in closing spoke of the active part J. E. Wilson had taken in securing the secret ballot.

Mr. Maxwell.

Robert Maxwell, M. P. P., was received with much cheering and applause. Referring to the Workman's Compensation Act of which Mr. Kelley had spoken he said Mr. Hatheway, who had carefully read the act, had called his attention to the fact that at the time it was passed those who were entitled to benefit had been fully set out but that at the instance of Mr. Purdy and some of the mill owners, millmen and quarry men had been debarred.

Speaking of the campaign in the city, Mr. Maxwell said he had visited every ward and had never seen the people so roused. The tide was against the government and not all Dr. Pugsley's eloquence could save them from defeat. An attempt was being made to get voters to scratch one of the opposition ticket and vote for Mr. Sears or Mr. Purdy. He hoped there would be no splitting of votes and that the whole ticket would be elected as one man.

Speaking of the auditor's report, Mr. Maxwell said Mr. Skinner let the cat out of the bag when he mentioned in the court house that the report was not an audit but was being issued to refute Mr. Flemming's statements. It was nothing but another attempt to deceive the people. Mr. Maxwell, referring to the secret ballot act, said Messrs. McKeown, Lantalum and Purdy in 1899 all voted against it and that was only one instance of how the government and their supporters had voted against the interests of the people.

In discussing the International Railway, Mr. Maxwell pointed out that when Mr. Pugsley as attorney-general made the statement that Engineer Schrieber had said the road would cost $27,000 a mile, the engineer's estimate referred to only the first thirty miles. He contended that the guarantee of $8,000 a mile on the whole road, which included eighty miles not even surveyed, was obtained from the legislature by fraud.

At the close of Mr. Maxwell's speech hearty cheers were given for the king and the candidates and the meeting adjourned.

IN VICTORIA HALL

Rousing Meeting Addressed by John E. Wilson and Dr. Alward—Mr. Hatheway's Hustings Speech.

An opposition meeting was held in Victoria hall, City road, last evening and was well attended and rousing speeches were given by Dr. Silas Alward and John E. Wilson. W. H. Clawson presided.

Dr. Alward, the first speaker, said we were on the eve of a very important election. The government came with a record of twenty-five years asking to be judged by that record. They came in power in the ides of March, 1883, and in March next they would disappear. (Applause).

In that government there was a member who was in the house when that government came into power. That individual was Mr. LaBillois. It was a mistake to leave a government in power too long. They forgot their promises. In England a government was scarcely in power two terms.

He referred to the government in Ontario being in power for many years. For a time it was a good government, then they became extravagant, there were heard accounts of scandals, etc. In 1905 that government fell and Mr. Whitney came into power and he has given a good government. The local government started well but they had been too long in power and were getting wasteful and extravagant.

Broken Promises.

Dr. Alward referred to some of the pledges made by Mr. Blair just previous to the government coming into power. A more economical executive was promised, but this pledge had been broken. He had promised to reduce the executive from nine members to five. Now the government comes before the people with eight members. Mr. Blair had promised to keep the revenue within the expenditure, but he had violated that promise. A new department and a new commissioner, that of agriculture, had been created, adding thereby nearly $5,000 to the annual expenses of the country. This work could have been done by clerks in the other departments.

Another expenditure incurred was to increase the number of members from forty-one to forty-six, making that much more expense. The counties given extra members were: Kent, Gloucester, Madawaska, Victoria, and Carleton. They had also increased the parliamentary indemnity from $300 to $500 a year. They had likewise increased their term from four to five years.

He would give two specific examples of extravagance. The highway act had been hailed as a great measure. They were now saying, "send us back to power and we will repeal this great piece of legislation." He referred to certain sections of the act, dealing with the granting of certain sums to certain municipalities. In the county of Kings, for instance, Capt. Peatman was paid a salary of $625 for looking after the expenditure of the money for road work in the parishes of Westfield, Greenwich and Kars. The total amount of money collected was $660.92, of this amount Capt. Peatman got $625 and the roads got the balance.

This same Capt. Peatman received more than $2,000 for taking the snags out of the St. John river, a work that a river captain had told him could have been done for $300 and it would be a good price at that.

Referring to the cost of the revision of the consolidated statutes, Dr. Alward reviewed the discussion in the house on this matter. Mr. Blair had promised that the expense would be very small.

The speaker then read from the provincial report the various amounts paid from year to year starting in 1901. Starting at about $2,000 it increased to $5,000, and then to $10,000 a year. As time went on they were more grasping and were reaching out for the graft. The total cost for the revision was $41,357.58. "If you return the present government to power you deserve to be lashed with whips of scorpions," he added.

He then took up a review of the finances of the province, showing a steady increase in the debt. In the last report of the auditor-general an increase of nearly $2,000,000 in the net debt was shown, and during that time additional burdens were placed on the people.

John E. Wilson entered the hall at this point and was given a rousing reception.

Dr. Alward, continuing, said the tax on banks, insurance companies, etc., was a tax on the people. (Applause.) It was a tax on the people to take a per centage out of estates. In view of all these extra charges, he asked them to look at the state of the finances today.

He spoke of the many changes in the government leaders in the past 25 years. Mr. LaBillois had been in the house all the time. It seemed that, "men may come and men may go, but Labillois goes on forever." (Laughter.)

The government boasted of what it had given to St. John, but while it had given $2,500 a year it had taken out $176,000.

He said he could not help coming to the meeting to speak to them, for he had the city's interests at heart and he appealed to them to turn out the present government. Some of the members had seen what was coming and they secured life preservers. Tweedie, Pugsley and Ora P. King got out in time. W. H. Truceman had been speaking in the government's interests, but he was well paid for it. He received $2,000 on the consolidated statutes and $3,382.50 for the judicature act.

In closing, the speaker said the people could expect in a few days to see that great expert's audit report spread abroad for election purposes. This four-day audit was arranged by the government to bring in just the kind of report they wanted. They should beware of it. "Turn them out on the third of March next." (Applause.)

Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Wilson, who the next speaker, was given a great reception. He said he was glad to be able to address a few words to the electors of Victoria ward. The government had not done their duty to the people. The opposition had proved that. It had been proved beyond the shadow of a doubt by Mr. Flemming in the Opera House. A government that would misrepresent the finances of the province should not be continued in power. He challenged any man of the government to defend the school book ring. They could not do it. They could talk slightingly about his remarks on this subject, but they couldn't disprove them.

He asked what the government had done to develop the province. They had done practically nothing. They were too busy diverting money into other channels. The people were asked. not to return the government to power for what they had done, that cause was too weak, they were asked to return them to strengthen Mr. Pugsley's hands. Mr. Pugsley would soon have to answer to the people himself for his acts, his own time for seeking re-election was coming.

Referring to Mr. Hatheway, who was ill, he said, he hoped every man before him would work in Mr. Hatheway's interest. He had been very much misrepresented. There was not a man in St. John who had the city's interests more at heart than Mr. Hatheway and he wanted to urge everyone of them to vote the ticket, the whole ticket and nothing but the ticket. This was not a time for personal ambitions, but it was a matter of prinicple and he urged all to stand for the prinicple involved.

Reads Speech for Mr. Hatheway.

Mr. Wilson said he had been given on nomination day by Mr. Hatheway, a speech to be delivered at the court house, but the government candidates had objected to it being read as Mr. Lantalum was not going to speak. He then read the address, which was as follows:

Mr. Sheriff and Electors of the City of St. John:

About ten days ago Dr. Pugsley, at the Opera House, made a strong demand for your suffrages in support of the Robinson government, largely on account of the railway policy of that government, and of the dominion government. He pictured in visionary terms the docks along Courtney Bay and declared that the policy of the Grand Trunk Pacific was to carry Canadian freight through St. John, Halifax and other maritime ports. On the strength of this statement and of a letter from Mr. Hays, of the G. T. P., suggesting that borings be made in Courtney Bay. Mr. Pugsley claimed your support for the Robinson government. It is neither the policy nor the pretext of the G. T. P. to carry Canadian trade through the port of St. John in the winter. Not for the next ten or twenty years will St. John export any Canadian freight carried by the G. T. P. All of that business will be done through the city of Portland (Me.), and any possible surplus will naturally be given to the city of Halifax.

The Facts.

Please consider how the G. T. P. has resisted all efforts to build into St. John. When this contract was before Ottawa, three years ago, the G. T. P. refused to agree to build a branch line from Chipman to St. John. The contract provided that the company should build a branch from Fort William, Lake Superior, up to the main trunk line, which trunk line from Winnipeg to Quebec and Moncton, was to be built by the government. The G. T. P. also agreed to build a branch into Montreal. But it flatly refused to build a branch into St. John. At the same time, however, it insisted and obtained special running rights over the I. C. R. from Moncton to Halifax. The government, likewise, careless of St. John, but deeply interested in Halifax, refused to make a branch line from Chipman to St. John part of the whole trunk system. If the government had done this our shorter connection would have been secured.

Mr. Pugsley stated at the Opera House that his government was assisting this patriotic and national work, that is, he is assisting the G. T. P. in providing ways and means at Fort William for 40,000,000 bushel elevator capacity, meaning docks and dredging, elevators, etc. and also at Tiffin on the eastern shore of Georgian Bay, for many million bushels of grain elevator capacity.

The G. T. P. have purchased 1,600 acres of land at Fort William, and are spending there in all about $4,000,000. The government is spending about the same amount at Fort William. Over half a million dollars' worth of dredging has been done there during the last three years, and the town, which is ice-bound for six months, has now a population of 10,000 people.

All of this immense trade should flow to Montreal in the summer. Where will it go during the winter? The G. T. P. and the Grand Trunk railroads are practically the same company. Almost all their stock is owned abroad. This company will transact its business only on soundest business principals. When the contract was signed three years ago, they refused to agree that their freight should go through Canadian ports. They refused because Portland (Me.), their terminus, was only 292 miles from Montreal, whereas St. Joun, by the G. T. P. would be about 600. They refused because they had spent millions at Portland (Me.), and nothing at St. John.

A Letter Which Mr. Pugsley Did Not Read.

Mr. Pugsley did not quote the letter he received a year ago from Mr. Wainwright, of the Grand Trunk, stating that if the Central Railroad had new rails, and the grades reduced from one per cent to half per cent and the trestle work filled in with earth, that then it might do for a trunk road in connection with the G. T. P. Virtually he said: "You would have to build a new railroad." There is not a line in either his letter or Mr. Hays' letter which intimates that they will buy the Central Railroad.

If the G. T. P. had any idea of locating in St. John, why don't they buy 160 acres of land here, since they have already bought 1,600 acres at Fort William? Or why don't they propose to build with the city a bridge across Navy Island to Carleton and have their freight terminus between Sand Point and the breakwater, where there is no rock, and much less dredging than at Courtney Bay? Or why don't they make some proposition about a terminus at the Ballast wharf or up at the head of the harbor?

Unopposed, and with the consent of both parties, Dr. Pugsley went to Ottawa last fall. Today the only shadow of hope that he can give us about the G. T. P. coming to St. John is that the company suggests we make borings in Courtney Bay. The board of trade, last summer, had borings made below Sand Point, and the C. P. R. paid half the bill.

Gentlemen, it is a vain, idle dream to expect the G. T. P. to give up Portland for St. John, as their contract does not force them to do so. I do not know that Dr. Pugsley, or the provincial government ever made the effort to get that clause inserted in the contract, forcing this company to use Canadian channels for Canadian trade, and yet Mr. Pugsley uses the phrase. I do know that the late Mr. Blair did all he could to have the contract so changed, but there were other forces too powerful for him.

If Mr. Pugsley is sincere in his belief that the G. T. P. will make St. John and Halifax their terminus, I here point out to him a sure way of forcing that happy conclusion. Let him and Mr. Fielding next month enact the law that the preferential tariff will only apply to goods coming into Canada via Canadian ports. The protest of the G. T. P. and the Grand Trunk will be so violent against such a law that Mr. Pugsley will not dare to advocate it.

But, gentlemen, let us turn from the borings of the bay, the G. T. P., etc., and ask why is it that the provincial government should claim so much for having given $2,500 a year since 1893 for wharves at Sand Point. In twenty years that makes $50,000. This amount is being put into our treasury. But at the same time the government is taking out every year about $15,000 of license money that properly belongs to the city. This amounts to $300,000 in twenty years, a loss in all of $250,000 to this city.

Mr. Sheriff and gentlemen, you are called upon at this time to elect, out of the eight men who are before you, those who will carry on in the wisest way the business of this province. Two of those, Mr. Lantalum and Mr. Purdy, have been for ten years at Fredericton. They are thoughtful, business men, and did not thoroughly believe in the increased guarantee to the Central Railway or to the International, and yet both of them voted for that guarantee. And further, they permitted the Cold Storage Company Act and contract, by which the city of St. John loses the right to tax one dollar on the cold storage building in Portland, valued last year by Mr. Pugsley at $100,000 and this year at $150,000.

Another gentleman has been mayor of the city for the last two years, yet ten days ago an evening paper asserted that St. John was on the verge of bankruptcy. Mr. Skinner has yet to be tried in the fires of Fredericton, and we know that he is a firm supporter of the present government and cannot see its errors.

To John E. Wilson you largely owe the privilege of the secret ballot, which boon you can use so well on next Tuesday. To Mr. Maxwell's eloquence you can atttribute the fear and trembling of the provincial government when they had to take over the Central Railway not long ago and run it as a government road. Whatever evils there are existing in the present system, Dr. McInerney will try to mend in his philosophic way, in all of which, if I have the honor to be elected, I will aid and abet him with all my power.

The reading of the address from Mr. Hatheway was received with much applause.

Vote the Whole Ticket.

Mr. Wilson, continuing his remarks, said the government had a weak cause and they would try every way to bolster it up from now on, but the people should vote them out of power. He scored Dr. Pugsley for coming here and dictating to the St. John people what they should do. "We should not have to support a corrupt government to get our rights," he said. He closed his address with an appeal to all to vote for the whole ticket on March 3rd and send the four opposition candidates to Fredericton. (Cheers.)

The meeting was then brought to a close.

In Fairyland Hall.

There was a rousing meeting in Fairyland hall, headquarters for Dufferin ward, and the six speakers were listened to with close attention. Messrs. Wilson, Maxwell and McInerney and L. P. D. Tilley, H. O. McInerney, E. M. Burke, W. H. Thorne, W. H. Harrison and R. B. Emerson all spoke. Philip Grannan was chairman.

Bacon—There's one thing I can't understand.

Egbert—Tell it to me.

"When a couple get married, it is said they become one. But, again, they say it takes two to make a quarrel."—Yonkers Statesman.

HUSTINGS SCENE OF UPROAR AS THE PROCEEDINGS CLOSE

(Continued from page 8)

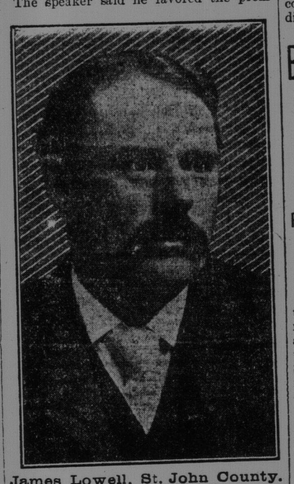
tered. He was willing to meet Mr. Mosher at Tynemouth Creek and discuss the bridge matter or any other matter. He would appeal to the electors on personal grounds. He did not ask Liberals to support him if they didn't consider him worthy. He claimed Mr. Maxwell or no other member of the opposition voted against the expenditures in the house, and therefore they had no right to criticize the government for extravagance.

Mr. Maxwell rose to protest against the statement made by Mr. Lowell, and an uproar followed. He denied having voted for the expenditures as charged by Mr. Lowell.

Mr. Lowell called Mr. Wilson to task for saying the government should not tax insurance companies and corporations.

Mr. Wilson—"When you tax them you tax the people." (Applause).

The speaker said he favored the premier's proposal for free primary books and hoped some scheme of this sort would be adopted.



James Lowell, St. John County.

He appealed for the support of the electors for himself and his colleagues.

Mr. Clark.

Alfred H. Clark was the last speaker and his remarks were by no means uninteresting. He was cheered as he arose. He said some of the government men were appealing to the electors on party lines, Mr. Lowell said throw away party lines and Mr. McKeown was appealing on all lines. He had gone out into the county to seek the vote of the farmers, but he hadn't said a word on county matters. Except a vote for Mr. McKeown, the attorney general had no interest in county affairs. Why did he go to the county now after raising the issue in the last campaign that Mr. Agar was not a county man?

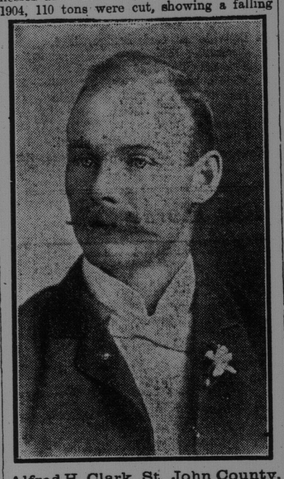
If Mr. McKeown had been a fighter he would have been in the city, and not trying to pull the wool over the farmers' eyes. (Applause.)

The canvass was being used that the speaker and his colleagues were opposed to having a bridge over the falls. This was not so, they were in favor of it and also of having a better ferry service at Pleasant Point. He referred to the government's agricultural policy that was driving young men to the west. What was wanted was some industries that would keep the young men in the province.

He referred to the provincial hospital accounts and this started an uproar from W. A. Quinton, steward of that institution, who was present. "The hay," he said, "cut at the provincial hospital in 1896 was 196 tons, according to the government report."

Mr. Quinton—"That's a lie."

"I can prove it in courts of law by witnesses and documentary evidence." In 1904, 110 tons were cut, showing a falling off in the production even though more ground was under cultivation. What has become of that hay?"



Alfred H. Clark, St. John County.

"Voice—"It didn't grow."

"Then the agricultural policy of the government," continued the speaker, "was not worth a snap of the fingers." The property was bought from the Steeves estate, but houses on it are used by an official.

Mr. Quinton—"You're a damnable, diabolical liar."

Mr. Clark—"It's up to you to say who owns it."

Mr. Quinton—"None of your damned business."

There was a wild scene by this time. Mr. Clark said he was not there to raise an uproar, but he would condemn the government and the representatives from the county in connection with those matters. "Another piece of property that belongs to an estate in New Brunswick was sold to a party who transferred it to another party and that piece of property is being tilled and fertilized by the government. I ask you Mr. Attorney General and Mr. Lowell what rent the government pays for it?"

Mr. McKeown—"That is just hearsay talk. Bring your charges. If you make a statement to the government it will be investigated."

Mr. Clark—"One of the heads of a big financial institution reported it to the government."

(Cries of "Manchester.")

Mr. McKeown—"Not when I was in the government."

Mr. Clark—"Well it was in the government presided over by Mr. Tweedie, in whose footsteps you are following."

There was considerable uproar at this time and Mr. Clark said he could not proceed as a gentleman by the door was making interruptions.

Mr. Quinton (in a loud voice)—"Yes, and he's a ratepayer too."

The sheriff here had to appeal for order and quietness was partially restored.

Mr. Clark, then in response to cries of "go on," "give it to him," said: "You are paying eight cents a quart for milk, one of your government officials has fenced off a piece of property and grazes his cattle there. There are also two lunatics who get their meals at this institution, night and morning and sleep there. There is nothing in the report of the provincial hospital to show that they have been paid for their services."

As it was getting late, nearly 6.30, Mr. Clark said he would not take up any more time, although the crowd wished him to continue. He said the government should look after the small leaks as well as the big ones. He was ready to repeat his charges and prove them in any court of law.

The meeting then adjourned with a vote of thanks to High Sheriff Ritchie for the impartial manner in which he had presided. Cheers for the candidates were then given.

Outside the court house quite a crowd lingered for a time, expecting some demonstration when Mr. Clark and Mr. Quinton met outside, but the men did not come together and the crowd gradually dispersed.

BRITAIN WILL TAKE A HAND IN CONGO REFORMS IF NEEDED

Parliament Supports Sir Edward Grey's Stand About Troublesome Question.

London, Feb. 26—The house of commons tonight, after a short debate, adopted a resolution asking the government "to do all in its power to secure the transfer of the control of the Congo Independent State, and failing such transfer within reasonable time, assuring the government of parliament's hearty support of any measures that it might be necessary for the British government to take, either alone or in conjunction with the powers that signed the Berlin Act, to ensure the effective carrying out of its provisions."

Speeches on both sides of the house severely indicted the existing administration of the Congo Independent State and urged the government to take steps to leave the Belgian government in no doubt regarding the settled determination of the people to assert Great Britain's treaty rights.

Sir Edward Grey, secretary for foreign affairs, in a speech sympathizing with the terms of the resolution, repudiated, on behalf of the government, any desire to establish political or territorial claims, or do anything directed against the Belgian people. No transfer, he said, would be satisfactory unless it gave the Belgian parliament a free hand and full control. It would be impossible for Great Britain to take the initiative while the discussion on the Congo question was proceeding between King Leopold and his people. "But," he added, "this government will always welcome the co-operation of the other powers and, if at the close of the Belgian parliament session, we have to deal with the existing government of the Congo unchanged we must be free to deal with the questions arising out of our own treaty rights in our own way."

Earl Percy, on behalf of the opposition, expressed approval of Sir Edward's statement and the resolution was adopted without division.

WATERSIDE, ALBERT CO., SOLID FOR OPPOSITION

Waterside, Albert county, Feb. 25—A very interesting political meeting was held in the Orange Hall in this locality last evening in the interest of the opposition. C. W. Anderson was elected chairman and opened the meeting at 8 o'clock. The speakers were George D. Prescott, one of our candidates, Dr. Murray, of Albert; Wm. M. Burns, of Hillsboro, and W. B. Jonah, of Elgin. W. B. Dickson was not present as he was engaged holding another meeting elsewhere in the county.

Dr. Murray was introduced as the first speaker. He dealt principally with unbusinesslike methods of the government and injudicious acts of Messrs. Osman and Ryan, our former representatives. His speech was very forcibly delivered and well received.

Geo. D. Prescott was next introduced and made a very clever speech. Mr. Prescott does not hail as a platform speaker as he has never had experience in that line, but his speech from a business stand point was well chosen and very much to the point of the question at issue, and created a very favorable impression on the meeting.

Wm. M. Burns was the next speaker. He dealt chiefly with the road law, and the school book question. He made a very convincing argument and showed conclusively that the school book business has been a great swindle on the province.

W. B. Jonah made the closing speech. He handled the financial business and railway policy in a masterly manner and gave good reasons that showed plainly that the audience fully believed that the present government was unworthy of being returned to power. The meeting was very harmonious indeed and was closed by unanimous vote of thanks to the speakers, and the singing of God Save the King. This locality comprises about sixty votes and seven-eighths of them are solid for the opposition.

MORE FOR THE ASKING.

(The Tatler.)

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