

TEN THOUSAND PEOPLE ACCLAIM SIR WILFRID

Canada's Great Premier Opens Political Campaign
With Brilliant Speech--Awaits Result of Com-
ing Contest With Greatest Confidence

Sorel, Que., Sept. 5.—Not for years has Sir Wilfrid Laurier shone to such advantage at the opening of a great political campaign as he did here this afternoon, when he was cheered to the echo by ten thousand people of the Richelieu valley, who were joined by steamers loaded down with excursionists from Montreal, Three Rivers, St. Johns and other places.

The Liberal chieftain was evidently in splendid health, full of the buoyant good humor which was so marked a characteristic before his fall in 1905, and his whole speech was marked with a ring of confidence and almost boyish hope for the future that delighted the audience. When in 1904 Sir Wilfrid opened the campaign here he opened almost pathetically to the encroachments of age, but to-day he spoke joyfully about it and declared that though the snows of over sixty winters had whitened his hair, his heart was still young for Canada, and he felt as strong as he ever did to work for her advancement. At the same time he significantly added that he still had a tooth to fight against the Conservatives, a Bourgeois faction to raise racial issues in conjunction with the Conservatives.

Dealt Only With Broad Issues. Sir Wilfrid spoke more as the great chieftain of a great party. He dealt only with the broader issues, leaving his colleagues and followers to take up the details. In general he pointed out that his life work had been devoted to bringing the diverse peoples of Canada into closer union, and with evident earnestness he thanked the people of Sorel for their recognition of this in the address of welcome presented to him.

No forecast of the date of the elections was given, but Sir Wilfrid declared that whether they came in 1908 or 1910, he felt absolutely certain that the confidence of the people was as surely with his government to-day as it ever had been since 1896, and that the present demonstration would be a sufficient answer to the charges of Ontario that were declaring that the people wanted a change.

Delighted With Reception. The premier was accompanied by Hon. Messrs. Brodeur, Lemieux and Bureau, as well as by several of the provincial ministers and members of the House of Commons. He was greeted by the members and senators of the Montreal and St. John's districts. So delighted was he with the hearty reception accorded him that at the close of the meeting he took a most unusual step for him and volunteered a second address, in which he warmly thanked the people for their cheering message to him and the Liberals of Canada. Sir Wilfrid was greeted with hearty cheers and spoke as follows: "It is four years since I had the honor of appearing before you, electors of the Richelieu valley, to discuss public affairs with you. Now it is the same business which brings me before you to-day. You see that in the interval the hand of time has been busy with me, and not many years now remain to me. The snows of winter have taken the place of spring, but however I may show the ravages of time, my heart still remains young and I feel that I have as much strength as ever for the service of my country. In spite of my sixty years, of which so much has been spent in the service of the Dominion, I am sure that some time remains for me yet to oppose these sinister combinations, and especially have I a tooth for the castors and the Conservatives. It is, therefore, not only with courage, but with delight and enthusiasm, that I come before you once more before finishing my political career."

Has No Anxiety as to Results. "It is always a pleasure for me to visit this, the home of French-Canadian patriotism. It was here in the Richelieu valley that, some seventy years ago, that your forefathers commenced their movement of liberty which culminated in the securing of that constitutional government which we now enjoy. In the election of 1904 I was asked what I was going to do. One must always be ready for victory or defeat and I count upon you people here to be ready when we appeal to the electors. As to the result of the election, I have no anxiety any more than I had in 1904, and for the rest, whatever may be the result, neither my voice nor my policy shall be changed. I have given my life to my country, and in the future, as in the past, I shall be able to say, in the words of the popular song, 'My country is my love.'"

"I can reply in another way to that question. I have read the leading Conservative papers you will see that they are all prophesying a Liberal defeat. You may be quite sure that they will be wrong and therefore we shall be elected. There is even a strategy of relation. My old friend Sir Charles Tupper, who after many defeats, has withdrawn from the struggle, has come from his retreat to predict our defeat. He has done this regularly since 1896, and is certainly as mistaken to-day as at any other time. We are certain of victory."

because the people of Canada still retain the same confidence in our government which they showed in 1904, and in every other general election during the last twelve years, I do not think too highly of myself, but I must say that I think a great deal of myself and I am modest enough to think I know my faults almost as well as the Conservative papers.

"Whatever my success may have been during the last twelve years, I must confess they have never reached my hopes, but whatever failures may have been, when I compare our work with that of the party which preceded us

loyal subjects of the Empire, and the same applies to Japan, whose ancient civilization has been so wonderfully modified of late. Two years ago a treaty was negotiated from which we expect a great deal in sending them our agricultural and forest products and importing their silks and other goods. The fact that a considerable immigration has since arrived from Japan aroused considerable opposition. It was asked by the opposition that the treaty should be denounced, but the treaty was made by Great Britain. Instead of asking that the treaty be brought to an end, as the opposition demanded, we sent Mr. Lemieux to Japan, who acquitted himself to the general satisfaction. He adjusted the difficulty, saved the treaty and preserved our cordial relations with Japan.

The Greatest Achievement. And may some day succeed, us, my courage comes back to me, and His Predecessors.

"In 1896 the government was in the hands of a band of men who were continually fighting amongst themselves, like dogs, and conspiring against each other at the council table. We were on the pathway to civil strife when the people called the Liberals to the helm, and during the 12 years that have passed since then our country has enjoyed the most remarkable period of prosperity in its history. A prosperity which you have enjoyed as much as myself. True, there has been financial depression of late in Canada, as all over the world, but I do not think we have suffered as much as other countries, and while this depression has affected the working classes, I think you farmers can bear witness to that never has our agricultural prosperity been greater than it is to-day. The opposition wish to give us the least possible credit for this and say that our prosperity was owing to Providence and not to the government. I do not deny that Providence has done good work for us, but I say that Providence in carrying out its designs uses human beings as its agents and Providence has used us for beneficent ends while it used the Conservatives to chastise the people of Canada. (Laughter.)"

Secured Reward For Farmers. "The whole aim of our legislation has been to secure the prosperity of Canada to bring to the working man the best possible reward for his labor and to the farmer the best possible reward for his community. The results show that Providence considered we did well. We commenced by reforming the tariff. Then we decided to subsidize steamship lines between Canada and England, France, Mexico and the West Indies. We encouraged the exploiting of new lines of communication and the building of great railways. We dug canals, we improved the St. Lawrence waterways and it has lately been shown that my colleague, Hon. Mr. Brodeur, has made that great St. Lawrence route as safe as any in the world."

Canada Stands Third. "I say to you with pride that the consequence of all this work we have done for Canada has been that to-day she stands third among the commercial nations of the world in her per capita trade. Belgium comes first with a population of 7,168,318 and a per capita trade of \$178.27; Great Britain comes next with 41,100,232 and a per capita trade of \$118.87; Canada is third with a population of about 6,800,000 and a per capita trade of \$88.67."

What was the position of Canada in 1897? It was an insignificant colony forgotten by France, hardly noticed by the rest of the world. To-day it is the brightest jewel in the British crown. We have placed Canada in the forefront of the world and made it one of the greatest countries in regard to its population, while theories of older countries are directed to this new star in the terrestrial world, the home of progress, liberty and civilization. (Applause.)

Government Deserves Praise. "No one who seriously discusses the matter can deny that the Laurier government has played its part in this progress. We have made great gains in every direction. Take for instance the French and Japanese treaties. After developing our commerce, we wished to have the power to make commercial treaties with foreign nations, in order to secure a freer and more favorable interchange of our products. If there was one country we would like to trade with more than another, it was France. The British government accorded us that privilege and a treaty was promptly negotiated by me and Mr. Brodeur, which secured for the Conservatives what we have attained nothing more than had already been ours. Sir Charles Tupper did secure a treaty with France but without wishing to detract from the glories of our adversaries, I think they in all justice must admit that that treaty did not obtain nearly as much content as that with the prophet of old, 'Lord, now let Thy servant depart in peace.'"

Ample Justification. "It is asked what have we done since 1904 to justify the confidence of the people's confidence. It would take more time than we can spare to attempt a justification of all our legislation. I will deal with three great works which alone justify our confidence. Our first is the income tax, the federal subsidy to the railways, the federal government's abandonment of their revenue, both excise and customs, to the federal government, conceiving in lieu thereof a per capita allowance, but which was to secure that negotiation should not be entered into and carried through by a colony unknown to and independently of his Majesty's government. The selection of the negotiator is principally a matter of convenience and in the present circumstances it will obviously be more practicable that the negotiations should be left to Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Canadian ministers. He undertook to conduct the negotiations. He applied to me as head of the federal government and I consented. The result of this conference, at which all the provinces were represented. We decided their request was just, and that the subsidy should be increased and given full power for the purpose. These instructions were given Hon. R. Lister, C.V.O., British representative.

The Treaty With Japan. "The result of Great Britain giving us freedom in this way will undoubtedly tend toward making all of us more

and strengthen their attachment to the Dominion. Manitoba Extension.

"Another work we have undertaken is the augmentation of the boundaries of Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec. Manitoba, the smallest of our provinces, has stretching northwards to Hudson Bay a vast unorganized district; Quebec has a similar territory in the district of Ungava. Each wished to increase its area and we considered that their requests were just. This change will make Quebec the greatest province of the Dominion, and will enable it to hold its position as the pivotal province of the Dominion. I am a citizen of Quebec, but I can assure all the other provinces that they will have nothing to fear from the justice done to Quebec. Further, I tell you, citizens of Quebec, I do not wish you to dominate, nor do I wish that the other provinces should dominate over you. (Applause.) We must have our rights here, and they must have their rights, and the work of our government will be given to the protection of all these rights."

Old Age Pensions. "There is just one other question. I wish to speak of which will interest the people of this province, though little is known of it as yet, and that is the old age pension act. We all wish to save something for our children. I know it is dear to the heart of many before me that by the time they shall attain the age of sixty they will be able to drop

have strayed into our flock we shall deem it our duty, not theirs, to turn them out. They have attacked the marine department and tried to create scandals about it, and we appointed Judge Cassels to look into the matter. My friend Mr. Brodeur is a man of honor and integrity, and one of whom the people of Canada may well be proud, and Judge Cassels, in his investigation within the last few days, has shown that his honor is fully vindicated. (Applause.) In an organization like ours, with thousands of employees and tens of millions of dollars, there may be men who are not all they should be, it is our work to turn them out, and we shall do it. The time has not come for me to say when the elections shall be, but when that time comes, I ask you to judge our acts fairly and I tell you that the people of Canada will find that we have done our duty."

An Apostle of Peace. Addressing the people of Sorel, more directly, Sir Wilfrid concluded: "I must thank you from the bottom of my heart for the cordial welcome you have given me and the appreciation contained in your address, especially of my endeavors to create harmonious relations in the Dominion. If there is one thing of which I am proud it is that I have succeeded in establishing peace and conciliation between the various elements of which our population is composed. The blood which flows in the veins of the Dominion is the blood of peace, and it is the blood of peace which you people of the province of Quebec. But I have never asked my fellow-countrymen to support me because of that. But I think I have a right to ask you not to put me aside because I am of your race. Some of the Conservatives have fallen to such a depth of baseness that their principal organ at Quebec, L'Evenement, asked the French of the province to vote against me because I am of your race. (Shame.) That paper says: 'We have always said that in a country like ours, where the majority is Protestant and English, it is a misfortune that the prime minister should be a Frenchman. An English prime minister, who would need the French group to keep himself in power, would always respect our rights and defend our privileges more vigorously than a French prime minister could do, who must necessarily count upon the goodwill of the English to keep himself in power.' Shame!"

Equal Justice For All. "I do not want to dominate any other province. All we ask is whom Providence has brought to this part of America. To-day English and French are united because both recognize no divisions of race and our party works along principles which are greater than racial divisions. Let me say that, although my friends of the English race are not perhaps quite so dear to me as the French, I recognize them all as my fellow-countrymen. I appeal to you, men of the Richelieu, to stand by your history. As in past days your ancestors fought in the defense of our rights, so to-day, I call upon you to work in the coming election as in the past for that party which stands for equal rights and liberty to all, and I would urge you to be ready in the elections which will come in 1908 or 1910, for whenever they come, our policy will always be the same in this respect."

The conclusion of Sir Wilfrid's speech was greeted by an outburst of applause quite remarkable in a French-Canadian audience. BIG MINING DEAL IS PROJECTED Two Boundary Projects May Pass Into Hands of B. C. Copper Company.

Phoenix, Sept. 14.—One of the biggest mining deals that has been under negotiation in the Boundary province some time now is on the table. While the consummation of the deal is not officially reported as yet, it is known that negotiations have been under way whereby the British Columbia Copper Company has secured an option on properties here valued at upwards of \$1,000,000.

The properties in question are the Molly Pritchard and Athelstan fraction, owned by Forbes M. Kerby, P. L. S. Grand Forks, and James Buckley, Phoenix. The Jack B. owned by Jas. M. Doyle, assistant local superintendent of the Great Northern railroad, at Sanderson, Phoenix, and Larry Morarty, Grand Forks, and the Buttercup, owned by John J. Farrell, Phoenix. Located in Wellington camp, about three miles from Phoenix, the properties adjoin each other, and are close to the Athelstan mine of the Dominion Copper Company.

Through the absence of Manager J. E. McAllister of the British Columbia Copper Company, the official confirmation of the bonding cannot be secured. The deal was about completed last fall by the same company, but on account of the financial panic negotiations were dropped. Within the past few days an inspection was made by Manager McAllister and Frederick Keffer, consulting engineer for the British Columbia Copper Company. The ore is an ardenite, or pyrite, good variety in grade. The assays run considerably above the average of the camp, and the properties should prove a big acquisition to the company's holdings.

Should the development of the properties bring the expected results the company will build a tram line to the Great Northern railway, about half the distance, shipping to Des Moines, the Great Northern and from there to their own smelter via the Canadian Pacific. INJURED IN STAGE ACCIDENT. Vancouver, Sept. 14.—Robert Stevenson, one of the best known of British Columbia's pioneers, was badly injured in the upsetting of a stage which contained eight people near Princeton. The horses ran away, and how some of the people escaped death is a miracle. Mr. Stevenson had been shot and was otherwise severely injured.

MOVEMENTS OF INTEREST IN DUNCAN DISTRICT

Good Salmon Fishing in Cowichan Bay—Display of Northern Lights.

Duncan, Sept. 14.—The property that belonged to Mr. Fall in South Cowichan, has recently been sold to Mr. Cue, a new-comer in the district. The price is said to be in the neighborhood of \$20,000. Mr. Fall will probably buy another home in the district.

Fishing at Cowichan Bay is splendid, some of the boats bringing in as many as twenty salmon in an afternoon. The Indian canoes mingling with the boats of the white fishermen, make a very attractive picture.

Aurora Borealis. On Friday evening last there was a magnificent display of the northern lights. The moon was full, the water was so still that the shadows were plain. The mountains on the Genoa side of the bay, against the moonlight, looked like a huge elephant resting on the water. Altogether it made a scene that would be difficult to rival in any part of the world.

On Wednesday next the Duncan Lawn Tennis Club will give the first dance of the season in the Agricultural hall. Miss Thelin's orchestra, from Victoria, will supply the music, and a committee with Mrs. A. H. Lomas at the head, will have charge of the supper arrangements.

Miss Agate Sutton, who has had the tea gardens on Station street during the past two summers, is opening "The Tea Kettle Lunch and Tea Rooms," with Miss Mary Powell as partner.

MINING EXPERTS VISIT FERNIE PROPERTIES

Party Comprised of 40 Members See Resources of B. C.

Fernie, Sept. 14.—The mining engineers' special, consisting of seven coaches, arrived here yesterday at 12.30 from the East over the C. P. R., making about an hour's stop at Homer, where they inspected the new tipple, the coke ovens and mines.

Manager J. D. Hurd and Chief Engineer of the C. P. R., West Pass Coal Company, met them at Coleman this morning and came through to Fernie with them. On arrival here the M. P. & M. had an engine ready and took their special train to the coal and coke mines, where they made a close inspection of all mines, especially the two where so many accidents have occurred. They will spend the day in Fernie and will probably be given a banquet or smoker here this evening, after which they will leave by special train for Moyle, Nelson and other Kootenay points. The party is composed of about 40 of the most prominent and expert mining engineers from the East and Great Britain. G. L. Lindsey, president of the C. N. P. C. Co., is with them.

RELATIVE OF SIMON FRASER.

New Westminster, Sept. 14.—Another relative of the famous explorer, Simon Fraser, has been discovered in Vancouver, according to information received by Mayor Kerby this morning in the person of Mrs. A. McDonald, of 763 Hornby street, Vancouver. Mrs. McDonald claims to be the nearest relative to the discoverer of the Fraser river in this province. She will probably be communicated with by the executive of the celebration, with a view of ascertaining any information regarding her illustrious ancestor which she may possess in family records.

TIMBER AT TAYLOR RIVER.

Party of Surveyors Looking Over Limits—W. Sloan to Open Alberni Show. Alberni, Sept. 13.—A party of surveyors was sent out by H. H. Brown, C. E., on Friday to survey a number of timber limits on Taylor river. They consisted of Capt. Roberts (in charge), J. Garvie, J. Quin, J. McKenzie, J. Bartlett, C. Ross, W. Shawish and Indian Jack, and they expect to be away for a month.

A meeting of the Alberni Conservative Association was held at New Alberni last evening, the object being to receive the report of their delegate to the convention held at Prince Rupert to endeavor to secure a candidate to oppose W. Sloan, the sitting member.

Mr. Sloan, M. P., has accepted the invitation of the Agricultural Society to open their annual show on the 17th inst. Capt. Guthrie, a grandson of the famous Scotch divine, Dr. D. K. Guthrie, has been spending a few weeks in fishing and other sport in this district. Chief Constable Cox left on the steamer Tees on Sunday night on a visit to Bamfield Creek.

LAKE BUNTZEN POWER PLANT.

Vancouver, Sept. 15.—The British Columbia Electric Railway yesterday awarded the contract to the John McDougall company of Montreal for the installation of the eleven thousand-horse power turbine at Lake Buntzen with other improvements at the power plant at the North Arm of the inlet will cost three hundred thousand dollars.

GRAND FORKS MINERS' UNION.

Grand Forks, Sept. 12.—The following are the newly-elected officers of Grand Forks Union No. 180, Western Federation of Miners, for the next six months: President, G. Riley; vice-president, W. Emard; secretary-treasurer, R. L. Cross; recording secretary, F. Stuber; conductor, J. Bush; warden, J. McLaughlin; trustee, J. N. Currie.

GOLDEN WEDDING.

Vancouver, Sept. 14.—Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dockrill, pioneer settlers of Port Moody, celebrated their golden wedding today. The venerable couple have eight children, twenty-six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

GRUESOME DISCOVERY IN WOODS NEAR ALBERNI

Wolf-eaten Remains of Aged Man Found in Several Portions.

Alberni, Sept. 13.—A gruesome discovery was made in the woods near here yesterday. While J. Macdonald, who is visiting his son-in-law, F. W. Gibson, of Cherry Creek, was passing through the bush lying south of lot 167 on the Woodward road, he came on the skull of a man and promptly notified the police. This morning a careful examination of the place was made.

Near the skull was a boot and the two leg bones of one leg below the knee. A few feet from where the skull was found a piece of skin, apparently part of the scalp, was discovered with a few gray hairs still adhering to it; there was also a small remnant of an ear. Otherwise the bones were completely bare. Some 10 or 15 yards away the searchers came on the remains of the unfortunate man's body. He had worn a pair of dark tweed pants, undershirt and upper shirt with a collar on it; no hat, coat or vest were found, nor any trace of anything which might have been in the pockets. The deceased had worn a common leather belt, which was in a fair state of preservation. A few feet away was found the other boot with fragments of a sock and the bones of the foot still inside.

There were no means of establishing his identity. He appeared to have been a man of more than middle age, as his teeth were much worn and plainly indicated where he had eaten a bush. The boots were of a fair quality, but much worn, but had no nails in the soles such as men would wear in the bush. The boots were of large size, No. 10 or No. 11 and the man's height judged by his leg bones must have been well over 6 feet.

How he met his death is difficult to conjecture as his body was not more than 150 yards from a public road, and the piece of bush is only a few hundred acres in extent and is completely circled by various roads so that no one who was lost could enter it without crossing a road or once in a walk of a mile or so in any one direction would bring one to a road.

It is reported that an old longshoreman named Mike McKee, arrived in Alberni two or three years ago and after spending a day or two about the town suddenly disappeared. It is said that since then he has not been seen in the other towns on the island where he was well known. An inquiry has been made for him here. It is now recalled that he acted rather strangely while here, though being a total stranger and only about for a day or two, but little notice was taken of him at the time, but it is now thought by some that he might have wandered up this road and in a fit of insanity or despair, having turned into the bush and died there.

"The disturbance of his remains is doubtless due to wolves which were heard by residents in that vicinity about the time when it is conjectured he met his death. The remains were gathered together and will receive decent interment. The coroner was notified but decided that no inquest was necessary."

CRACKED BIG SAFE AT CRANBROOK

Robbers Frightened Before Any Money Could Be Extracted.

Cranbrook, Sept. 14.—The store of the Fink Mercantile Company was entered on Friday and the big safe blown open.

Mr. W. D. Laidlaw, who is in the employ of the Fink Company, in an interview, tells the following story: "I sleep in the second storey of the Fink block. I was awakened, about 2 o'clock on Friday morning by a loud explosion, which shook the building, and which seemed to come from below in the store. I immediately suspected that the safe in the office had been blown open. I at once dressed myself and went down the stairs, and looked through the window into the store. Mr. Lorne Langin was passing, and I unlocked and opened the door. Mr. Langin then found Constable McLean, and together we entered the store and found that the safe had been blown open, the right hand door was partially blown from its hinges, and the lower front of the door from the base. The handle was blown fifteen feet away, striking and indenting the wall, the combination was torn from its socket, and the walls spotted with soap, which was used to fill the crevice around the door." The burglars must have heard Mr. Laidlaw when he came down stairs, and got away by the back door, which was found open.

Entrance to the store was secured by breaking the iron bars which covered the basement windows, after entering, the lock on the back door was broken and the door opened to afford instant escape. The burglar was seen to come from below in the store. I immediately suspected that the safe in the office had been blown open. I at once dressed myself and went down the stairs, and looked through the window into the store. Mr. Lorne Langin was passing, and I unlocked and opened the door. Mr. Langin then found Constable McLean, and together we entered the store and found that the safe had been blown open, the right hand door was partially blown from its hinges, and the lower front of the door from the base. The handle was blown fifteen feet away, striking and indenting the wall, the combination was torn from its socket, and the walls spotted with soap, which was used to fill the crevice around the door." The burglars must have heard Mr. Laidlaw when he came down stairs, and got away by the back door, which was found open.

It is evident that the job was the work of expert yegmen, who secured a sledge hammer and files by breaking into the backsmith shop of Frank Deziel.

It is the opinion of the police that the burglars are expert yegmen, who have been working in the Victoria and Alberni area for some time, having emigrated to the "Banana Belt" for new fields to work in.

Later on, in the morning it was discovered that the post office had been entered, and ten dollars or more taken from the till.