

HUSTINGS SCENE OF UPROAR AS THE PROCEEDINGS CLOSE

W. A. Quinton, Government Official, Uses Violent Language Interrupting A. H. Clark

Opposition Candidates Received With Marked Favor by Big Crowd in Court House--Their Speeches Presage Victory--Speakers Limited to Half-Hour Each and All Is Over by 6.30 O'Clock.

Wednesday, Feb. 26 From 2 o'clock until 6.30 p. m. yesterday the battle of eloquence between the rival candidates in the city and county raged in the court house. The proceedings started rather tamely, but warmed up as the speech making proceeded and wound up with a hurricane finish. A. H. Clark, the last speaker, in the course of his remarks made certain charges in connection with the management of the provincial hospital which roused the ire of W. A. Quinton, the steward of the institution, who interjected several controversial and unmeasured terms and amid considerable uproar. Owing to the illness of W. Frank Hatheway, the number of speakers was reduced to ten, Edward Lantulum on the government side standing down to make the number even. The opposition speakers, as was generally expected, scored their opponents right and left and came in for a great reception. The opposition cause was clearly the popular one, and most of those who attended left the court house convinced that the government will be soundly beaten on March 3.

Dr. J. P. McInerney and J. P. Mosher, to name but two, made speeches which greatly delighted the assembly and marked them as strong and resourceful campaigners. For the government Hon. H. A. McKewen and James Lowell were the most prominent and the most fighting speakers. The popular North End opposition candidate made with a great reception which was repeated a few minutes later on the arrival of John E. Wilson. All the candidates arrived within a few minutes of one another and took their places reserved for them behind the judge's desk. The nomination papers for the eight city candidates and four county candidates for the forthcoming provincial elections to be held on Tuesday, March 3, were filed with Sheriff Ritchie at the court house yesterday afternoon. The papers were filed with the exception of W. Frank Hatheway, who is ill, and Dr. J. P. McInerney, who was present. The court was opened at 10 o'clock and all the papers were filed before 12, at which hour the time expired. The court was held open, however, until 2 o'clock, in case any candidates were filed, but none were forthcoming. For each candidate the sum of \$100 in Dominion currency was deposited, so that the sheriff had \$1,200 in \$1 and \$2 notes. A conference between the candidates and some of the party leaders was held a little after 12 o'clock, and it was decided that the speaking should commence at 2 o'clock. Mayor Sears to be the first speaker, and the other candidates to follow alternately. The speeches were limited to a half hour each.

In the City. Robert Maxwell, John E. Wilson, James P. McInerney, and W. Frank Hatheway were nominated by: Thomas Walker, M. D., physician. W. H. Thorne, merchant. J. B. M. Baxter, barrister. J. Douglas Hazen, barrister. M. E. Ager, merchant. W. O. Baskin, merchant. Henry H. Pickett, barrister. Boyle Trevers, M. D., physician. T. E. Simms, government candidate. C. Berton Lockhart, manager. Silas Alward, barrister. J. E. Stone, gentleman. Robert B. Emerson, merchant. John R. Armstrong, barrister. F. Robertson Inches, physician. Jas. Rodgers, Assistant manager. Florence McCarthy, tailor. R. F. Quigley, barrister. Leonard P. O. Tilley, barrister. Harry C. Green, express manager. Philip Grattan, merchant. Edward W. Sloop, manufacturer. William McKulkin, trader. James Sproul, builder. H. Colby Smith, merchant. John Sullivan, laborer. Charles Daley, laborer, and many others. The nomination papers of Edward Sears, Daniel J. Purdy, Edward Lantulum and A. O. Skinner, government candidates for the city were filed by W. H. Truman and the following names were appended as nominees: Thomas McCreary, H. E. Edie, Brooks, Joseph Allison, Wm. H. Barnaby, Thomas Gorman, Robt. Thomson, F. J. G. Knowlton, John Sealy, Timothy Collins, W. G. Scott, John E. Moore, Jas. Fender, Alex. Macaulay, George H. Nixon, F. E. Holman, Wm. Doherty, Alex. McMillan, A. Blain, H. C. Hankin, Geo. W. Ketchum, John M. Robertson, F. B. Scholfield, A. W. Adams, James V. Russell, H. N. Coates, W. E. Foster, G. H. Flood, R. J. Walsh, M. J. Nugent, H. B. Schofield, Henry Gallagher, G. A. Knodell, John M. Robinson, E. C. Elkin, A. N. Shaw, T. O'Brien, George McKean, James Knox, W. A. Foster, J. M. Elmore, F. H. Foster, W. E. Vroom, J. F. Gregory, John Flood, G. S. Smith, W. W. Allen, A. M. Rowan, Henry Maher, E. J. Mooney, W. E. Scully, D. J. Brown, and many others.

In the County. Judson P. Mosher and Alfred H. Clark were nominated by: James H. Gray, M. D., Fairville. George T. Clark, Fairville. Frank E. Josselyn, Crouville. John Gallagher, Fairville. James W. V. Lawlor, Lancaster. Henry Shillington, Silver Falls. William Golding, Fairville. John McDonald, Jr., Simonds. Thomas B. Carson, Gardner Creek. William Fox, Fairville. Catherwood, Fairville. J. Neve, Lancaster. J. Bettison, Lancaster. Raymond, Fairville. Red Head. sec. per Harbor. Loch Lo.

idea of running this election on dominion lines and contended that the administration should be judged by the record of its performances. He then turned his attention to the importance of the present campaign. He did not believe that the people of St. John fully appreciated this aspect of it. In reality a provincial election was of as great moment to the citizens as a civic one. He said he remembered the time, when he himself had a seat at the council, the local government took away the revenue from liquor licenses from the city. George Robertson, who was then mayor, consulted the city charter and gave it as his opinion that the legislature had no power to do such a thing. Mr. Wilson himself had consulted the recorder whose only answer was that the government was all-powerful. This the speaker said was the only explanation for the government's action. If the government ordered a glass roof put over Market Square if such a thing were possible, the city would have to comply with the demand.

In talking over the matter of the public debt the government candidates made it clear that they had no objection to the government's debt, so far as these representations as to enter into the matter of the public debt. The speaker said that the government had broken faith as regards the Ottawa grant towards the payment of the public debt. They secured \$100,000 as an additional grant annually "I tell you right now," said Mr. Maxwell, "before the attorney general, that they have already violated their agreement."

Hon. D. J. Purdy, St. John City. In his opening remarks, after courteously greeting the other candidates, the mayor spoke of the issues as being of vital importance in the present campaign, and went on to refer to his being in the fight not for his own personal ends, as had been claimed by his opponents, but from a public spirit. He alluded to his career during the last twenty-five years, mentioning that he had first been elected an alderman for Queens ward and to his having more recently been elected mayor. He would have entered the contest, again, but it had been pointed out to him that, having sat for four terms, it was hardly fair to monopolize the position.

The School Book Question. Turning to the school book question, Mr. Wilson read from the Sun the statement of Premier Robinson that the school would soon be supplied to the primary grades free of charge. He claimed this as a victory for the opposition. (Applause.) It was another case of political death by repentence, but he did not believe the people would put much faith in the promise.

John E. Wilson, St. John City. The last delegation to Ottawa and amid slight applause pointed out that as a result the government had undertaken to build a viaduct.

Turning to a consideration of the provincial government, the mayor said that during the twenty-five years they had been in office he was not prepared to say none of their actions had been worthy of criticism. They had passed good, bad and indifferent legislation, but on the whole it had been good. The times had been unpropitious, yet there had been signs of prosperity in this province. After praising the policy of the government in connection with farming interests, he passed on to refer to the charges of the opposition. Many of Mr. Wilson's questions, he contended, were put to deceive the public, and he claimed that no government was in a position to speak on the amount of money which had been taken from 1898 for use in 1907 until passed on by the governor in council. Dealing with the Central railway he spoke, among other matters, of the work shops which would be built in a few months. "Everything is booming," he added, "and the government has done well. He criticized the opposition contention that the government had run the province into debt, taking the ground that the assets were far beyond the amount owed. It was necessary to go into debt, he claimed, to expand the resources of the province and keep pace with competitors. The opposition looked at the matter in a narrow spirit. After speaking of assistance the provincial government had frequently obtained from Ottawa for New Brunswick, and of the factory award the mayor closed with an appeal for confidence in the old government and for the return of his comrades and himself as the city's representatives.

Mr. Wilson. John E. Wilson, who was the next speaker, was accorded a rousing reception. At the outset he expressed his sympathy with the former speaker and said he would not for the world use any expression which might in any way hurt his feelings. He remembered, however, that five years ago his worship stood on the opposition platform and not only said some very kindly words about him (Mr. Wilson) but also strenuously contended the same government he was now engaged in supporting. Mr. Wilson protested against the

Opera House on Friday night, the premier had sought to show that the government had done for St. John. The only thing that the provincial government really had accomplished for St. John was the annual grant of \$2,500 a year towards west side improvements. Everyone knew that they had to pay taxes into the treasury at the chamberlain's office, and while the government put \$2,500 in the treasury with one hand, with the other they took out \$16,110, the revenue from liquor licenses. From the county treasury, into which city voters paid 88 per cent of the taxes, the government also took from \$2,500 to \$3,000 a year for the maintenance of paper liabilities for the city.

These assessments were not made by any previous government, and even if they had been it was ridiculous for the government to charge the opposition with the responsibility for the misdeeds of an administration which held sway when the present candidates were infants in their cradles. "We are the new party. We are the young men's party," he said, "the party of progress and reform in government."

Senator King had profited by the branch railways, but out of Premier Tweedie's own mouth came the construction. In reply to a question he had stated in the house that five miles of branch entered Gibbon's coal mine and that another branch entered Senator King's.

Today, said Mr. Maxwell, the government were deliberately deceiving the people with reference to the road. Senator King stated that the speaker had made mistakes when he spoke of the road, but the senator used too many "ifs" when speaking of the railway. As Mr. Hill, of Charlotte, had said of the St. John Valley Railway, it was founded on two telegrams and many lies.

Mr. Maxwell then discussed the auditing of the accounts. For the purpose of referring statements made by Mr. Flemming to the auditor would be presented. This audit had been made in four days, and any man who knew anything about business could place the report at its true value. In St. John there had been occasions to have an audit made, for the purpose of accounting for \$12,000, and yet it was not done. He asked the speaker if he was assisted by Adam McIntyre, the present controller, and the whole staff of the branch of the Imperial Oil Company in this city it was sometimes necessary to make an audit, and he had been informed by a member of the firm that from six to eight weeks were occupied in completing the audit. In the Bank of Montreal it took five men five days to examine the books. Yet the premier

W. F. Hatheway, St. John City. amounting to \$30,500 which made the actual loss to the province \$32,856.33. In his Chipman speech Senator King had used figures which the speaker did not possess. He had written to George McAvity, one of the Central commissioners asking for a report. He received a reply stating that the actual loss was not yet printed, but the statement was that the surplus for that year was \$8,011.13 and that the royalty on the coal carried amounted to \$3,008. The royalty amounted to 10 cents a ton and if these figures were accepted the amount of coal was 30,068 tons. This was 1,000 tons less than in 1906 and it was difficult to see where the great development was coming in.

Alleged Surplus, Actual Loss. As regards the surplus, since the same system of accounts was in vogue, the sum of \$3,000 would have to be subtracted for railways. The interest on the bonds amounted to \$34,812, and when the surplus of \$3,296 over working expenses was deducted an actual loss of \$31,516 was yet printed, but the statement was that the surplus for that year was \$8,011.13 and that the royalty on the coal carried amounted to \$3,008. The royalty amounted to 10 cents a ton and if these figures were accepted the amount of coal was 30,068 tons. This was 1,000 tons less than in 1906 and it was difficult to see where the great development was coming in.

Referring to the International Railway, Mr. Maxwell characterized it as the greatest outrage ever perpetrated upon an unsuspecting province. Last year Hon. Mr. Pugsley asked the legislature to guarantee bonds to the extent of \$8,000 a mile for the last fifty miles, on the strength of the report of Chief Engineer Schreiber. As a matter of fact, the chief engineer had never seen the road or the territory, and the \$8,000 was voted without even the report of the provincial engineer. The speaker himself had called at the office of A. R. Wetmore, provincial engineer, and asked to see the plans but was told that there were no plans or surveys beyond the first fifty miles. "Never was a more reckless government," he declared, "than that which has done this. His statement was received with applause. In closing, the speaker urged the voters to think calmly and dispassionately and judge the parties and the government by a ruling course which he finished.

Robert Maxwell, St. John City. and attorney-general had the audacity to ask the public to stand by the work of one man for four days. (Applause.) The speaker said that the government which had so much pluck had allowed in the last few months the various features of legislation which they had started rolling and would not stop. "Voice--"Any more joint debaters?"

The attorney general first spoke of the International Railway. It was, he said, a railway that had passed through the country and it was thought at first that \$5,000 a mile would be sufficient. It was the policy of the government to guarantee bonds rather than to give money away in subsidies. In the very act which guaranteed the further issue of bonds it was recited that the railway cost from \$2,700 to \$28,000 a mile. Now the province held a first mortgage for the sum of \$8,000 a mile. The country traversed was as good as anywhere else and the government considered it good business to take the mortgage for the \$8,000 a mile. The government had completed the company to execute a bond for the continual payment of interest until the road had been built.

Use Opposition Idea in School Books. We returned to school books but Attorney-General McKewen and Solicitor-General Jones had stated that school books were sold as cheaply as possible in New Brunswick. "I state," said Mr. Maxwell, "that I, as one member of the opposition, would use my utmost endeavor to supply primary school books, blank books and similar, to the children of the province, and the premier heard about it and last night, in the North End, announced that the government were prepared to provide primary readers free. The government are prepared to swallow the brains of the opposition party and everything else in order to remain in power."

Mr. Maxwell then went into the Central Railway question and said he would stake his political reputation on his statements as they were bona fide facts. When the bonds were first issued the attorney general stated that the bonds were for the whole road from Norton to Fredericton. In 1904, when the second issue was asked for by Mr. Pugsley said Mr. Hazen's statement was based on superficial knowledge of the facts and that there was no doubt that the road would be built through to Fredericton. Altogether they had expended \$700,000 which they said was well expended as it went for the development of the coal areas in Queens and Sunbury.

Mr. Maxwell. "They have done more than that," said the speaker, "they have deliberately squandered thousands of dollars of the people's money and further have deliberately misappropriated the funds voted for expenditure on the road. Every dollar guaranteed was for the whole road, yet they had constructed nine miles of branches into coal mines for the benefit of their friends. The cost of these branches is placed at \$8,000 a mile and in this way \$72,000 of the public funds was deliberately misappropriated for the benefit of Senator King and others."

the \$15,000 has already been placed in reserve." With regard to the liquor license, continued the speaker, Mr. Maxwell knew very well that the government had arranged the license so that the city were not too loath to the extent of a single dollar, when the government took over the license fees. Mr. Maxwell also omitted to say anything as to the school grant made by the government to the city of St. John. In closing, Mr. McKewen said the government believed in the future of the province.

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