

# Bennett and Reduced Taxation.

(Founded in 1879 by W. J. Herder.)

## THE EVENING TELEGRAM

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St. John's, Newfoundland, Tuesday, April 24, 1923.

## DELAYED and DECEPTIVE

### An Undignified Manifesto!

It had been rumored that Sir R. A. Squires would not issue a Manifesto. Reading that which he published on Saturday last, it will be agreed that he would have shown wisdom by maintaining silence. A feeling of the Premier's utter lack of a becoming dignity is the first impression the Manifesto gives, and its insincerity is the last taste it leaves in the readers' mouth.

The personal references to his more prominent opponents, and their slighting and untruthful characters, are utterly out of place in a document intended to set forth a Government's policy. They serve to prove, however, that the inspiration of similar attacks in the Advocate and Mail has come directly from the Premier himself. The attempt, for instance, to create sectarian prejudice by representing Sir Michael Cashin as the actual leader of the Opposition, and Mr. Bennett as a "paw," is made as openly in the Manifesto as it has been in the Government organs, and proves that the Premier is the chief "sectarian firebug" in the Colony.

The callous mendacity of Sir Richard Squires is also strikingly evinced by his Manifesto. It has been shown by the News, in a series of articles called the "Great Betrayal," that of all the numerous promises made by him in 1919, not one has been kept, that the majority, in fact, have been deliberately broken, yet in this latest appeal to the Colony, the Premier claims that his pledges have been kept in the main, though he wisely refrains from mentioning even one fulfilled.

An illustration of the deliberate deception he seeks to profit by is given in the only reference to the financial record of his government Sir Richard makes. He tells the public that the budget framed by Sir Michael Cashin produced a revenue equal to \$43.67 per head in 1919-20, while the budget he submitted for the year 1921-22 will not collect more than \$34.78 per head, and the false impression he thereby seeks to create is that the burden of taxation and the gross expenditure have been less under his administration than under his predecessor's.

The actual truth is, of course, that with a very much lower rate of Customs duties, a greater revenue was received under Sir Michael because the Colony was more prosperous, while with a constantly decreasing prosperity, Sir Richard Squires constantly increased the rate of Customs duties, so that the share of their earnings paid in taxation by the people was much greater under Squires than under Cashin.

It is also true, of course, that while Squires was taking a greater share of the earnings of a poorer people, he was borrowing money abroad, thereby adding to the Public Debt, and so to the everlasting load which the people will have to bear for all time. Cashin, on the other hand, out of his greater revenue, was building up a surplus for a wet day, but, alas and alack, when that day came, he was not there to use it prudently, but in the hands of Squires and Coaker it was wildly squandered.

It is a matter of fact that the expenditure has been greater under Sir Richard Squires than ever before. This has to be paid for by the people, either in the present, by taxes, or in the future, by taxes; the method is the same in both cases, though the times may be different. It is also equally true, that the share of people's earnings taken by the Government has been greater under Squires than ever before; that as the people have grown poorer and poorer, and less able to earn and pay, he has taken from them a constantly increasing share; and in addition to this, he has borrowed and added to their debts, a larger sum each year than any other Premier. It is sadly true, also, that for all the vast sums expended under Squires, not one enduring thing except the debt itself can be pointed to as the result of his conduct of our finances.

If Sir Richard had chosen to explain, to excuse, to justify, even, a degree of sympathy might have been possible, but he has chosen instead to pervert, to deceive—in short, to lie most abominably about his record, and his reward should be that deserved by all liars, whether the pious ones who seek to deceive a few, or the monster who attempts to delude a whole people.

## THE SURPRISE OF THE DAY!

### Coaker's Colleague Nominated—A Vote for Dunfield is a Vote for Coaker.

The nomination of Brian Dunfield, for St. John's East, was the surprise of yesterday's proceedings. The secret had been well kept. Mr. Dunfield's card to the electors, bearing evidence of careful preparation, was circulated widely yesterday. He is what Premier Squires calls a "scion," being the son of a clergyman, the son-in-law of a Judge, and a Director of a fishery-supplying company.

It is a matter for regret that a candidate who claims to be of more than ordinary quality should be guilty of trickery at the very outset, for that is what the secrecy amounts to. Ordinarily, a candidate comes early into the field, addresses the people broadly and frequently, and if he stands for a cause, gives time for its adequate discussion. To do otherwise seems to aim at a snap judgment. Mr. Dunfield seeks to win by surprise.

It is a matter requiring explanation that Mr. Coaker did not find a seat for Mr. Dunfield in the supposedly safe North. It has long been understood that the notorious Fishery Regulations were framed by Mr. Dunfield. It is said that Messrs. Hawes and Brookes conceived the policy, that Mr. Dunfield put it into words, and that Coaker made those words law. Mr. R. B. Job was a member of the Fishery Board, and Job, Brookes and Dunfield were for a long period the chief defenders of the regulations when they came up for discussion in the Board of Trade. Mr. Dunfield was defeated in Trinity as a colleague with Mr. Squires, in 1913, supported the Squires-Coaker party in 1919, and believes, he says, that the same

## The Tyrant of the North.



The days of tyranny are rapidly drawing to a close and a happier and more independent people will be thankful for release. Coaker, the Government head and self-styled autocrat of the North, is now shivering in abject fear, for help is at hand and the Bennett Candidates are being proclaimed from all districts.

The shackles of Coakerism have been thrown off, and a happier people are acclaiming BENNETT AND BETTER TIMES!

## TORBAY AFIRE.

### Victory-Straight-Ticket-Trio Score one Hundred per cent Vote—Unparalleled Reception Given Bennett Standard Bearers

Wonderful scenes of enthusiasm were witnessed at a meeting of the East End candidates, Messrs. Higgins, Fox and Vinicombe held last night at Torbay Parish Hall. The building was filled to overflowing and as the candidates delivered their addresses they received tremendous ovations. Mr. William Gosse presided and on the platform were many veterans. It was a memorable scene and a memorable occasion, one that has probably never been paralleled, and certainly never excelled in Torbay. The reception prepared for the candidates was complete in every detail and all the residents participated scarcely a residence but was illuminated or showed signs of welcome. Along the road leading to the city the houses were also illuminated whilst bonfires blazed and volleys of musketry gave unmistakable signs of the popularity of the Bennett Trio. It is unanimously agreed that Torbay will vote the straight ticket and give 100 per cent vote for Higgins, Fox and Vinicombe. The meeting opened at 8 o'clock closed at 11 p.m. At the conclusion Mr. Gould proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was unanimously passed and cordially tendered. The candidates will hold a meeting to-night at Outer Cove where a big reception is assured.

### Harbor Grace Solid for Opposition.

The largest and most enthusiastic political meeting ever held in Harbor Grace District was held in St. Paul's Hall, Harbor Grace, last night by the Leader of the Opposition Party, Mr. J. R. Bennett and his colleagues Messrs. A. E. Hickman and F. Archibald. Between seven and eight hundred were present and scores were unable to gain admittance. The meeting was presided over by Capt. Jas. Parmenter, and opened shortly after eight o'clock. The chairman gave a short but pointed address, and called on Mr. Bennett to address the gathering. Mr. Bennett in a masterly address, lasting nearly two hours, outlined the policy of his party and tore to shreds the recent manifesto of the leader of the Government. He reviewed the misdoings of the government for the past three years and showed up in unmistakable terms the certain disaster that will overtake the country if given another term of office. He pointed out there was nothing left but to return the party of which he was leader, and dealt, without gloves, with the propaganda of the Government in the district, pointing out the underlying object of playing him with regard to the leadership and Sir Michael Cashin. He warned the people to beware between now and polling day against propaganda of the lowest and most contemptible description, tactics that will be used not alone in that district but throughout the entire country. All through his address, as he made point after point against the Government, there was the most enthusiastic applause and at the conclusion of his remarks the building fairly shook with cheers and hurrahs.

Mr. Hickman was the next speaker, and in a most practical speech dealt with the serious problems before us, and convinced the entire audience that the only hope for the country's future progress lay in the return of the party under Mr. Bennett's leadership. Mr. Hickman's address on this occasion exceeded even his former efforts, and after a speech of

### Nomination Protested.

#### GOVERNMENT CANDIDATE AN AMERICAN CITIZEN.

After the nomination of Mr. Amos Hearn, the Government candidate for Ferryland district, a protest was entered, claiming that he was a naturalized American citizen, and as such had no right to stand for election. It is claimed that Mr. Hearn took out naturalization papers some 15 years ago, and the fact was not disclosed until after nomination.

## Coaker and Squires Combined Against St. George's Coal Fields Development.

### Voted \$500,000 for Reids South Branch Coal Claims Which Turned out a Fizzle—Turned Down 2600 Local Shareholders and Tried to Block the Sale to an American Syndicate—Bennett will Encourage Local Enterprise and Development.

Newfoundlanders! The time is come when you must be awake to your interests. The scandals of the present Government are many and great, but perhaps one of the most glaring of them all is the manner in which both Mr. Coaker and his self Prime Minister dealt with the pleas and petitions of the local company known as The St. George's Coal Fields Company, Ltd., who by reason of the incompetence of Mr. Joseph Downey, now a Coaker-Squires candidate in the district of St. George's and the satellites of Messrs. Coaker and Squires were denied the most meagre consideration of encouragement, in fact they were not satisfied with going thus far as will be admitted by the knowledge that they worked unceasingly to prevent the sale of the St. George's Coal Fields claims to outside capitalists which, despite the opposition of the Reids, Coaker, Downey, Squires and the government, appears to have been consummated with the result that within a reasonable period we will be in a position to enjoy the glow of Newfoundland coal at a much cheaper price than the imported commodity which should, according to all sense and reason have been ours to enjoy two or three years ago.

The conduct of Mr. Downey, Mr. Coaker and the present Government in connection with the St. George's Coal Fields enterprise, is of such a character that needs no apology for its vindictiveness and spleen which so manifests itself in all their dealings respecting same—so accordingly we avail of this opportunity to register our denunciation of this outstanding scandal which from every standpoint merits the severest condemnation of all concerned.

### Correspondence re Ropewalk Incident.

#### MR. ALLERDICE REPLIES TO MAIL.

St. John's, April 23, 1923.

Editor Evening Telegram:—I am enclosing copy of a letter addressed to the Editor of the "Daily Mail" and should be much obliged if you can find space for it in this evening's issue of your newspaper.

Yours truly,  
F. C. ALLERDICE.

St. John's, April 23, 1923.

Editor "Daily Mail."

Dear Sir—I desire to give unqualified contradiction to two statements contained in your report of the meeting held by the Government candidates at the Ropewalk Club, the undersigned members of the office staff and workmen at the Ropewalk, wish to state that on no occasion did the Managing Director, Mr. F. C. Allerdice, ask us or anybody to interrupt the speakers or in any way interfere with the holding of the meeting. On the contrary, Mr. Allerdice expressed the wish that the speakers would receive a perfectly good hearing. It is also incorrect that Mr. Allerdice has made any attempt whatsoever to coerce any of us to vote against the Government candidates.

The statements made in your issue concerning Mr. Allerdice are most unfair to him and to the Company of which he is Managing Director and we ask you, therefore, to publish the letter.

Yours very truly,  
(Sgd.)—R. J. Predham, J. Lundrigan, Sr., P. Kearney, John Fitzpatrick, James Fitzpatrick, Allan Vaughan, P. Mullins, William Dooley, R. Pugh, come, H. White, James Lundrigan, Jr., H. Laing, D. Kennedy, N. J. Murphy, John Rodgers, W. McDonald, T. Walsh, Thos. McDonald, John Dunn, Luke McDonald, Frank Reardon, S. Whelan, Thos. Callen, John Kennedy, John McKellop, Wm. McDonald, Sr., Robert Beardon, John Cullen, W. Croxey, James Rodgers, G. F. Pike, H. Cranford, L. J. Green, M. Parsons, Fred W. Pike.

St. John's, April 24, 1923.

Editor Evening Telegram:—I enclose copy of letter addressed to the Editor of the Daily Mail and should be much obliged if you will publish same in this evening's issue of your newspaper.

every indication would cost very little in comparison to the South Branch areas to develop. But the Reids who were backed by W. F. Coaker, who is and was the controlling factor of the Government, had to be listened to, and they were so much so that half a million of dollars of the people's money were given them to boost their personal enterprise.

Mr. Coaker and his government were not satisfied with going thus far as will be admitted by the knowledge that they worked unceasingly to prevent the sale of the St. George's Coal Fields claims to outside capitalists which, despite the opposition of the Reids, Coaker, Downey, Squires and the government, appears to have been consummated with the result that within a reasonable period we will be in a position to enjoy the glow of Newfoundland coal at a much cheaper price than the imported commodity which should, according to all sense and reason have been ours to enjoy two or three years ago.

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