

ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY DECEMBER 28 1906

SEVEN

# CROWDS AND ENTHUSIASM

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## MAYOR SEARS' ADDRESS.

Mayor Sears was enthusiastically received. He said that he appeared not as the mayor of the city, but as a life-long Liberal. He had always adhered to the ship of liberalism, even when unfavorable winds blew, and he was very proud of his party. His words of praise for the party's leaders were received with tremendous applause. Mayor Sears said that he regretted that he had to leave to go to the banquet, as his inclination was to remain with them. (Applause.)

## J. F. TWEEDEALE, M. P. P.

John Fletcher Tweedale, M. P. P. for Victoria county, was then called upon. He spoke of his country being inland and receiving but little aid from the government, as but little was needed. He was proud of the standing of the Liberal party as expressed the hope that this convocation would perform a great deal of good in the party. He referred to Hon. John Costigan, remarking that since entering public life as a member of the local government he had constantly remained a member of parliament, being in the House of Commons since Confederation. He stood today without reproach and with a spotless reputation, being known throughout Canada as Honest John Costigan.

## R. E. ARMSTRONG.

R. E. Armstrong, editor of the St. Andrews Beacon then spoke. He referred to the time when the war in the thick of the fight in this city, and said he oftentimes recalled the old days when under the late Hon. Mr. Burpee and Senator Gilmour the fires of Liberalism were kept kindled. He thought the labors of these men should not be forgotten, nor the work of those who carried the standards of Liberalism into the days preceding 1896. He said that transportation was a national problem now and hoped for the nationalization of the ports. St. John has done more than should be expected of it in advancing the interests of the government so far as regards port improvement is concerned, and now the government should assume control and pay the cost.

## MAYOR SEARS

## J. T. HAWKE.

J. T. Hawke received a hearty welcome. Mr. Hawke traced the history of the party and corrected for the benefit of the younger men of the Liberal party, statements made by the Conservatives. The Liberals also sided, he said, in the establishment of Confederation and also aided in the building of the C. P. R.

## F. B. CARVELL.

F. B. Carvell in a forcible speech, which was roundly received, was prepared not to stand by the older history of the party but by its present record. He spoke of the Conservative policy of scandal and how little it really meant. He mentioned incidentally that Hon. Geo. E. Foster, who is the real leader of the Conservatives, is by means free of suspicion himself. Hon. R. L. Jordan, a worthy gentleman, has no voice whatever in his party's affairs, which are controlled by Foster and a set of Ontario politicians so narrow that they had not any shadow.

## DR. GAUDET.

Dr. Gaudet was then called upon, and he also gave a stirring address.

## SPEAKER ROBINSON.

There were many cries for Robinson, and at last Speaker Robinson came forward. He said that he had been born into the Liberal party and was very proud of his heritage. Unlike the Conservative party which, as Mr. Hawke had pointed out, began to decline after ten years of power, the Liberal regime is progressive and is still gaining power. He spoke of the favorable way that N. B. claims had been treated by the Liberals, mentioning the eastern extension claims as an example.

## HON. FRANCIS SWEENEY.

Hon. Francis Sweeney was loudly called for and came to the front. The preceding speaker, he said, had been elected in 1896, but had been stolen from him. The Liberal party will be victorious in the next election, be it this year, next year, or the year after, if we will only be true to ourselves.

## MR. ROGERS, EX-M. P.

Mr. Rogers, ex-M. P. of Albert county, gave an address and accused the Conservatives of bringing undue influence upon the electors of Albert county.

## D. GILMOUR.

D. Gilmour of Charlotte county, responded readily to a call for him, saying that at a Liberal meeting he was always prepared to stand up for his party. Before '96 the Conservatives had said that the Liberals were a different lot of people, but that they had not the faculty of ruling. How different from their forecasts, he said, the result has been. Good times have come with the Liberal regime, and he would not be so modest as to say that it was not, to a very large extent, due to them.

The Conservatives claim that the present tariff is the N. P. again, but the British preference. The Post Office department, which the Conservatives said could only be run at a loss with three and five-cent postage, is now yielding an enormous surplus. He suggested that the Conservatives should adopt a constructive instead of the present destructive policy.

## CHARLOTTE COUNTY.

H. B. Smith, W. V. Bean, E. R. Squires, Matthew Bohan, H. V. Daiting, Hon. W. P. Jones, F. B. Carvell, M. P., J. W. Smalley, J. W. Wallace, J. S. Leighton, Jr., W. C. Good, W. B. Nicholson, M. Ryan, John H. Thompson.

## GLoucester County.

M. J. Robichaud, A. Mercier, W. H. Ryan, Herbert Armstrong, J. C. Coroner, George Doucet, G. Mann, H. Rive, H. G. Polaris, T. B. Cyr, P. P. Morris, F. O. Landry, Henry Scott, John Loyer, O. Turgeon, M. P., J. E. de Grace, H. M. Dugas, F. F. Landry, Frank Curran.

## KENT COUNTY.

John Richard, James Barnes, Cliff Atkinson, Thos. O. Murray, David I. Mumie, J. D. Irving, H. A. Irving, L. J. Wathen, G. W. Robinson, Pascal Herbert, F. N. LeBlanc, Athelien Coroner, J. Robichaud, Robert G. Lalant, T. Hebert, A. J. Dyrast, C. B. Legere, John Jardine, A. F. Curran.

## KINGS COUNTY.

H. G. Titus, Walter Kilpatrick, W. S.

# NEW BRUNSWICK LIBERALS HONORABLE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS

Banquet Last Night Marked By Warm Enthusiasm and Good Fellowship — Mr. Emmerson Predicts Future of Prosperity and Expansion for the Intercolonial Railway and Canadian Ports.

(Continued from Page 1)

## BRANCH ROADS.

"It is in the interests of St. John to see the I. C. R. expand in these different directions. By branch lines the different sections of the province are brought together. Anything that strikes at the I. C. R. strikes at the interests of St. John."

"I will tell you plainly that I will never favor the carrying of the products of the West over any line to the exclusion of the I. C. R. Formerly the I. C. R. was discriminated against by steamship companies who would refuse to sell a through ticket which would enable one to travel over the I. C. R. and then transfer to a subsidized steamer that will work against the great national road, is not in the interests of Canada. I would not injure any other steamship or railroad company. I do, however, claim that the I. C. R. should participate in some of these expenditures."

## PORT OF ST. JOHN.

"In closing, I may say that I have worked for the promotion of the interest of the port of St. John. It may be that eventually this great trade from the West will seek an outlet at other ports as well, but it is our duty to see that the port of St. John is not neglected."

"There are, however, lions in your path here. The solution of these problems must be proceeded with before the broader and greater question of nationalization. Those who have read the report of the Transportation Commission must have been struck with the recommendation that the port of St. John should be made free. While the port of St. John is being developed, the Atlantic ports and the Great Lakes are being able to accomplish the solution of all these great questions there is preliminary and essential work to be done. The port of St. John. There are problems here that require immediate solution. So far as I am of any service to you I am yours to command, as whatever benefits the port of St. John benefits the people of the province and of the whole of Canada."

## GEORGE ROBERTSON.

Geo. Robertson, M. P. P., then proposed a toast to the Senate and House of Commons, coupled with the names of Senator John F. Ellis and of Charles MacNeil, member of the House of Commons from Bonaventure, and Deputy Speaker of the House. In responding to the toast Senator Ellis said that he would not enter upon a long disputation, but wished to remark that the senate is endeavoring to bring that body to a higher pitch of perfection and has a sincere desire to do what it considers best in the interest of the country. The Senate is in thorough sympathy with the government on all great questions. It realizes that the country needs the great railways which are now in process of construction. He was sure that the port of St. John was by far the most important in the Dominion of Canada.

## CHARLES MARCII, M. P.

Charles Marcell, M. P., then arose to reply to the toast to the House of Commons. He was given a grand ovation and a sincere desire to do what it considers best in the interest of the country. The Senate is in thorough sympathy with the government on all great questions. It realizes that the country needs the great railways which are now in process of construction. He was sure that the port of St. John was by far the most important in the Dominion of Canada.

## PREDICTS BIG SURPLUS.

"I do not wish to indulge in prophecy, as it is sometimes dangerous to do so, but if it has a surplus for the past nine months, I venture to predict that for the next year its surplus will not be far short of half a million."

"When that time does come hostile interests will say if it can show a surplus under these conditions how much better it would be if its branches showed in all directions. These branches have been subsidised, but are not performing their mission."

"A voice—They are paralyzed."

"The representative in parliament of the I. C. R. capital account should be closed. Has the C. P. R. closed its capital account? On the contrary they have appeared before parliament several times in recent years asking for power to increase their capital on one occasion by \$25,000,000."

"The I. C. R. requires new rolling stock, ties have been renewed and rails changed, the same as any other road. The branch roads cannot fulfil their functions because they have no credit and their capital is exhausted. These conditions show the necessity of taking steps whereby the people can get the full fruit of the expenditures. In answer to the criticism that too much is charged on the I. C. R., Mr. Blair, has there been one dollar charged to capital account for ballasting."

Mr. Blair, in his speech, predicted a big surplus for the next year. He said that the I. C. R. had a surplus of half a million for the past nine months, and he predicted that for the next year its surplus would not be far short of half a million. He said that when that time does come, hostile interests will say if it can show a surplus under these conditions, how much better it would be if its branches showed in all directions. These branches have been subsidised, but are not performing their mission. A voice—They are paralyzed. The representative in parliament of the I. C. R. capital account should be closed. Has the C. P. R. closed its capital account? On the contrary they have appeared before parliament several times in recent years asking for power to increase their capital on one occasion by \$25,000,000. The I. C. R. requires new rolling stock, ties have been renewed and rails changed, the same as any other road. The branch roads cannot fulfil their functions because they have no credit and their capital is exhausted. These conditions show the necessity of taking steps whereby the people can get the full fruit of the expenditures. In answer to the criticism that too much is charged on the I. C. R., Mr. Blair, has there been one dollar charged to capital account for ballasting.

## SENATOR ELLIS

They were working hand and hand with the Federal Government, and whether we are all Liberals or not does not matter, as we are all in the same boat."

## DR. PUGSLEY.

The attorney general was heartily applauded. After some happy introductory remarks he said he wished to touch on one subject which is close to the hearts of the people of this province. He referred to St. John as a winter port. Away back in 1890, when the ocean steamers were going to Portland for their freight, taking off their mails at Halifax and then passing, as it were, ships in the night, to a foreign port. "It was at that time that a number of us went to Ottawa to the government of that day and asked for a subsidy sum for a subsidy. We went around and visited various members of the cabinet and I will tell you something which I have never seen in print. We were then told by Hon. Mr. Ives that we had come at a very inopportune moment, as a contract had been about arranged between the C. P. R., the G. D. R. and the Allan line to make Portland the terminus of the mail steamers for ten years. We felt that we had come at an inopportune time but at a most appropriate time to prevent an outrage on the people of Canada. It was at this time that the local government, under the able leadership of Hon. Mr. Blair, ventured to offer a subsidy for a service here."

D. J. Purdy, M. P. P., said that he was pleased to be here to do honor to the Minister of Railways and Canada, who was leader of the government when he first entered the local house. He suggested that Hon. Mr. Blair should be heard. His remark caused loud applause.

## HON. A. G. BLAIR.

Hon. A. G. Blair said that he had no intimation that ex-ministers were to be called upon to speak or to give an account of their past conduct. He wished, however, to express his personal satisfaction in being present and to add his tribute to the words of praise for the Minister of Railways. "My name has been frequently seen in the local press and has been often been called upon to speak or to give an account of their past conduct. He wished, however, to express his personal satisfaction in being present and to add his tribute to the words of praise for the Minister of Railways."

"Let me say once and for all, that if any provincial constituency at a general or by-election wishes my services, I am prepared to render them in my hearty loyalty to the Minister of Railways."

## COL. H. H. McLEAN.

Col. McLean proposed the toast of The City of St. John. He congratulated Hon. Mr. Emmerson for the grand stand he had taken in the interest of the I. C. R. and thus of the people of the province. St. John will have its requests granted, he said. Everything which has yet been done for this port has been done by the Liberals. To the Conservatives the city owes not one earthly thing. St. John and New Brunswick aided in this building up of the West and now in return they wish St. John to be what by nature it was intended to be, the chief winter port of Canada.

He wished to say that St. John was a Liberal city and would have returned a Liberal at the last election but for Hon. Mr. Blair, but for Mr. Blair alone, who announces tonight that he is returning to the party.

Hon. Mr. Blair—I never left the Liberal party."

Col. McLean—"A Liberal is one who upholds Liberal principles, which Mr. Blair did not do."

Mayor Sears was greeted with cheers. He said that he came before them as a life-long Liberal. After referring to the efforts and aspirations of St. John he referred to Mr. Blair as having made this evening a confession for both and said that there was no man who was more ready to stand up for the city's interest (applause) although he went a little astray (applause). The gathering broke up with the singing of the national anthem.

TORONTO, Dec. 27.—A Regina despatch says that the crisis expected tonight in the case of Premier Scott, who is ill with pneumonia, His condition is extremely critical. The Ontario Legislature has been called for January twenty-fourth.

The future of the country is assured. Canada has outgrown its childhood. The speaker said that he knew the sentiments of his people. No man has more exerted his efforts, in my humble way to further the prosperity of this city and province.

"Let me say once and for all, that if any provincial constituency at a general or by-election wishes my services, I am prepared to render them in my hearty loyalty to the Minister of Railways."

## THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT.

John Keefe then proposed the toast The Provincial Government, coupled with the names of Premier Tweedale, Attorney General Pugsley and D. J. Purdy, M. P. P.

Hon. Mr. Tweedale was greeted with applause. "The province of New Brunswick," he said, "has had good government for twenty-five years. Our policy is a progressive one and calculated to conserve the interests of the whole people. It gives me much pleasure and hearty sympathy with the Minister of Railways, and I am glad that the minister has been able to lift up the I. C. R. from its deplorable and prophetic for next year a surplus of half a million."

The premier spoke about the readjustment of subsidies which will result in the local government getting so much larger a grant each year.