

THE HERALD

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Electors Do Your Duty.

A very serious responsibility rests upon the electorate in the districts in which the Provincial Government have brought on the by-elections. It is of the utmost importance that every qualified voter in these districts should place himself on record on the 16th of March. Let none be lulled to carelessness by the thought that this being a by-election, it is not necessary to go to the polls. The reputation of the Government is more emphatically at stake in these elections, and their conduct of public affairs is a subject of even keener criticism than at a general election. The Government, well knowing that the great body of the electorate have no confidence in the administration, may be depended upon to exert all manner of means to get votes for their nominees; nothing will be left undone and no "human device" will be left untried to secure support for the Government candidates. In consequence of the Government's unscrupulousness and their utter disregard of political honesty it behooves the people to be on their guard and not allow themselves to go carelessly in the exercise of their prerogatives as the law makers of their country, through their representatives in the Legislature. With the record of the Government's incapacity, extravagant and scandalous administration of our Provincial affairs for the past thirteen years before them, the people can have no difficulty in concluding that no further confidence should be extended to an administration that has falsified every promise solemnly made to the electorate, broken every pledge by which honorable men should be bound, wasted and misappropriated the taxes of the people, instead of judiciously and economically expending them where and when they would do the most good.

We have time and again, given the facts and figures of the Government's financial record, and these facts and figures are more than enough to emphatically condemn and forever consign to political oblivion the Government and party now unfortunately controlling the public affairs of this Province. When the Liberals assumed power in 1891 the Leader of the Government, Mr. Frederick Peters, laid down as a plank in the platform of his Government that revenue and expenditure should meet and that the era of deficits was at an end. At that time the debt of the Province was about \$128,000, and as the Conservatives had assumed about \$57,000 of debt from the Davies Government about \$77,000 was all the Provincial debt for which the Conservatives are, or should be held responsible.

From that day to this the Liberal Provincial Government have been engaged in making revenue and expenditure meet with the result that our Provincial debt is now about \$700,000. The era of deficits was to cease and our Liberal friends have accomplished this end by rolling up average annual deficits of about \$50,000. While they were engaged in accumulating these huge deficits, they were at the same time extracting over \$400,000 a year taxes from the pockets of the people. The deficits and taxes taken together amount to upwards of \$90,000 a year, and what have the people to show for it? Is there anything to show for all this extravagance of the Government? For \$18,000 to \$25,000 a year are taken from the people under the name of road tax; but it is not used as road tax; but is put in with the rest of the money and wasted on favorites of the Government. In the mean time the summer and winter roads are in a worse state than ever they were. Their financial maladministration of Provincial affairs does not complete the indictment of the Government. They stand guilty of so amending the controverted elections law as to draw from the courts cases pending there and confirm in their seats members of their own party who had no right to sit in the Legislature. They have had the temerity to dictate to a Judge of the Supreme Court that he should change his report regarding the sworn evidence of witnesses relating to bribery and corruption in the Grit ranks, and failing in this, passed an act of the Legislature changing the law, so as to white-wash the guilty ones. In addition to all these political offences they have refused to submit to the Legislature evidence regarding the expenditure of public money paid by the Government to members of the House in contravention of the independence of Parliament Act. Not only that; but the Attorney General of the Province, went into court and strove to save the guilty one from the penalty which his infraction of the law necessarily inflicted upon him. All this has failed, as we have seen and the judges of the Supreme Court have declared a member of the Executive guilty of all the penalties involved;

the forfeiture of his seat in the Legislature, and the payment of a heavy money fine. Other members of the Legislature and the Executive have like cases hanging over them and may at any time be brought into court trial.

In view of all these facts, the question naturally arises; are the electors of the districts now opened prepared to condone all these political offences; all these prostitutions of the privileges of the Legislature; all these trappings on the rights of the people; these flagrant violations of the laws?

Are the electors of these districts satisfied that rolling up the debt to \$700,000 is the proper way to make revenue and expenditure meet? Are they satisfied that annual expenditure of \$35,000 in excess of their predecessors is an evidence of economy in the public service; are they satisfied that collecting \$50,000 a year in taxes and giving the people nothing in return is of any particular advantage to the Province? Are the people satisfied with a Government that brings disgrace and ridicule upon us by allowing members of the house and the Executive to violate the law of the land, and to be driven from the Legislature and condemned to pay heavy fines by the judges of the Supreme Court? Are the people satisfied with such incapable extravagant and disgraceful conduct as these political crimes involve? If they are not, and if they want not to hang their heads in shame, but to walk erect as free citizens enjoying all the privileges of independent electors, they will all go to the polls on March 16th, and vote for the opposition candidates.

Convention Full of Fight.

BY-ELECTION TO BE CONTESTED—MR. P. S. BROWN IN THE FIELD AS A CANDIDATE OF THE OPPOSITION AND THE WORKINGMEN—THE GOVERNMENT ARRANGED UPON FIVE POINTS.

The B.I.S. Hall was crowded last Wednesday evening. Not only the delegates were present, but a large body of electors opposed to the Government.

Mr. P. S. Brown, the convener, occupied the chair, and Mr. J. J. Johnson was secretary.

After some preliminary discussion in which James Paton, W. S. Crabbe, S. R. Jenkins, Saunders, E. Harris, A. E. Lyon, S. Bolger, A. A. McDonald, Peter McCurt, R. B. Norton, J. Currie, W. E. Bentley, L. P. Tanton, W. L. Cotton, E. H. Duchemin, W. W. Scott and others took part, it was moved by Dr. S. R. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. Alexander Home, supported by Mr. Simon W. Crabbe and others, that Mr. Simon W. Crabbe be the Opposition candidate for Charlottetown in the coming by-election.

The motion was put by the chairman and carried unanimously with the greatest enthusiasm.

A standing vote was called for and every man present stood up. Three cheers were then given for Mr. Crabbe. Mr. Crabbe responded, thanking the electors in convention for their hearty and enthusiastic denunciation. He appreciated it as an evidence of public satisfaction with his conduct as City Councillor and Sewer and Water Commissioner. But he could not accept the nomination at once—he would like to be allowed to consider the matter until Friday evening.

Some of the more impetuous and enthusiastic members of the Convention called out, "Now," "Now."

Whereupon Mr. Crabbe said that his answer must now be that he could not accept.

Mr. Home, Dr. Jenkins, Councillor Paton, Ex-Councillor Lyons, Mr. Donald Nicholson, and others were then suggested. But as most of these gentlemen were not present, or had stated that they could not run at this time their names were not submitted to the Convention.

Mr. John McMurrer then moved that Mr. P. S. Brown be the candidate of the Opposition.

This motion was seconded by Mr. P. H. Trainor, put to the convention by Mr. J. J. Johnson, the secretary and carried unanimously.

Mr. Brown desired some time to consider, but upon the request of many persons, accepted the nomination and stated his determination to win if possible.

his education in the schools of the town he entered the office of the *Uxbridge Journal* and thoroughly learned the printing business. Afterwards he was connected with several of the leading newspapers of Toronto and the United States—always keeping a careful eye upon a good horse.

His love of horses brought him to this Province—famed for his horses. Here Mr. Brown began his career as a trainer of horses, and took part in many of the more notable races that have taken place in the Maritime Provinces. Successful as a trainer of horses, Mr. Brown eventually embarked

St. Peter's Campaign has a Magnificent Opening

No Doubt as to Leanings of the Farmers of Morell—Premier Peters and Mr. Cummiskey Make a Miserable Showing and a Diabolical Threat—Mr. Kichham Poses as Independent.

The Incompetency of our Government and the Seriousness of our Position Clearly Pointed Out by Mr. McIsaac, Mr. Mathieson, Mr. John McLean and Mr. Morson.

A really magnificent meeting was that which ushered in the campaign in the St. Peter's District at Morell last night. A more representative more intelligent body of farmers it would be impossible to gather together in any very large one and the attendance was fifty per cent greater than at most of the meetings in the recent West Queens contest.

Outside of the two candidates—Mr. McIsaac, the Conservative standard bearer, the farmer-editor belonging to the district, and Mr. Kichham, the Liberal from St. Peter's—the Government was represented by Premier Peters and C. M. Cummiskey, while the Opposition was represented by Mr. John A. Mathieson, Mr. John McLean, and W. A. O. Morson.

All of these gentlemen are members of our Provincial Legislature. They are the Local Liberals' best and the Local Conservatives' best, and anyone who heard them all last evening, who would draw fair comparisons, man against man, debater against debater, statesman against statesman (if that word is applicable to Messrs Peters and Cummiskey at all) could not but award the palm by a long way to the Liberal Conservatives.

At the beginning of the meeting the audience appeared to be fairly well divided, and Mr. Kichham when he came forward received a hearty reception. But at the close of the evening the audience was overwhelmingly Conservative, and Mr. Morson, after talking for over half an hour, received more earnest and more prolonged applause than has for many years been tendered a speaker at Morell, while Mr. Cummiskey, who immediately preceded him was allowed to take his seat in absolute silence, not even a hand clap. This showed the effect produced by listening to the seven speakers and the hearing of both parties put forth their sides of the question.

Of course meetings do not always greatly effect the result on election day for it is certain that Mr. Kichham's and the Government's efforts will be doubled from now until the 16th to make things right for themselves in the Morell poll. But if every elector would vote, would be allowed to vote as his conscience showed him at the close of the last night's meeting there is not a doubt that the candidate of the Peter's Government would be snowed under on election day.

Mr. Judson Webster was called to the chair shortly before eight o'clock. Each speaker was to have half an hour and Mr. McIsaac began.

Mr. McIsaac referred briefly to his opponent, Mr. Kichham and to the fact that to different electors he makes a different canvass. While chosen as the candidates by Mr. Peters and the party managers he claims to be Independent Liberal and not pleased, not satisfied, with some of the acts of Mr. Peters and his government.

He briefly discussed the Financial Question, the Road Act and the unconstitutional Acts of the Government and its supporters. He reminded the electors of the Liberal promises of Economy, Carefulness, No Deficit, No Debt, and Businesslike Management of affairs, and he asked the Farmers of the district fairly and squarely if they were satisfied with the present state of the Island's finances; if they were satisfied with the shocking state of free speech in the Legislature and the illegal acts of the Liberal members; if they were satisfied with the way the Liberals had fulfilled their promises; and he pointed out that if they were not satisfied they had the remedy in their own hands. We are a free people and have a free country, and if elected the could be counted on to do the very best he could.

As Mr. Kichham began to speak a prominent Liberal was heard to remark "We must give Tom a clap anyhow." And Mr. Kichham certainly appears to be a jolly fellow anyhow. But he's not a talker. And although he had arranged for thirty minutes he had not another thing to say when nine minutes of thirty had passed. He appealed to the electors as a farmer. He had represented them in the Legislature Council for seven years and in that time had made no strong party votes while he had been one of the first men to vote in favor of many of the good acts brought before the Council by the Conservative government.

"An independent vote I will give in the interests of the farmers of this province," said Mr. Kichham and "the present Government is not without sin." He would act and vote in the interest of economy, honesty and fair play.

Mr. Mathieson, the Liberal-Conservative Leader followed, and he was received with a shout. Mr. Mathieson dealt with different points, but it was to the financial

question that he paid particular attention. In April last the Liberal Government had been in power for twelve years—this is the thirteenth and it is an unlucky one for them—and it was for twelve years that the Sullivan-McLeod Government held power.

The average annual income of the Conservatives for their term including every dollar from every source was \$265,000. The total average income of the Liberals \$269,000. (There were odd dollars in each case.)

The total expenditure of the Conservatives in their eleven clear years was \$3,038,662.87.

The total expenditure of the Liberals in their eleven years was \$4,061,121.20 more than the Conservatives did in their eleven clear years.

Mr. Mathieson challenged any man to deny those figures or point out any one figure that was incorrect.

On Dec. 31st, before the Conservatives came into office the debt was \$31,000.

On Dec. 31st, before they went out of office the debt was \$128,000.

The total debt at the end of last year by their own figures are not correct. We know that interest due has not been charged up. But we do not know how much their figures are incorrect.

Mr. Mathieson referred to the Whar case, the scandalous closing of off discussion on the floor of the house, the Minister of Agriculture we have who doesn't know anything about farming, the Stock Farm cattle sales at \$2 cents, and the small bridge, which should be built, with the people's money will pay for but which should not be used as a vote catching machine.

Peters followed and said he would find it very hard to answer all the charges brought against his Government in half an hour. He stated that there was a surplus last year; and "we really have no debt;" and then went on to prove that seven hundred and eighteen thousand dollars of the debt that we have is chargeable to the Conservatives. "Very few Governments can be blamed for running into debt."

He then went on to say that the whole amount which "poor John" (while he received illegally was \$140, and that the decision against him had been appealed to Ottawa.

In this connection he pointed out that C. E. McNeil, the law partner of Premier W. W. Sullivan, had received \$2,700 for work at revising the statutes and "he wondered how much of that \$2,700 went down W. W. Sullivan's leg."

He didn't think Mr. McNeil's leg all of it.

The Morell Bridge he said had nothing more to do with the By-Election than the hall door, and if the bridge turns out to be a failure "don't blame me." He hoped for a great big surplus the year after next and then we would be able to build a steel bridge over the Morell.

Mr. John McLean followed with a rattling ringing arraignment of a Liberal administration of Liberal administration of Provincial affairs reviewing all the more important questions. He didn't envy the man who would have to put things straight in P. E. Island and the earlier the date in which the matter is taken in hand the better.

Our Ottawa Letter.

MR. LEMIEUX'S "HONORABLE" PAST.

Rudolphe Lemieux is the latest Liberal to have "Honorable" attached to his name. He is the fortunate successor of Hon. H. G. Carroll to the office of Solicitor General, and will receive a salary of \$5,000 per annum.

Mr. Lemieux entered upon his "Honorable" career in June, 1896, as the Liberal candidate for Gaspé. At that time, H. A. Lemieux, father of the new Solicitor General, was a clerk in the Customs at Montreal. No doubt his keen interest in the son's welfare moved him to proceed to the Magdalen Islands and act as scrutineer in the Liberal interests.

But H. A. Lemieux did not stop there. He took the oath as a Liberal representative under the alias of H. A. Lamirande, and was addressed as such by his dutiful son, the Solicitor General, who happened to visit his father's polling booth, and who, thoroughly entering into the spirit of the joke, aided and abetted the perjury. The facts were subsequently placed before Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. Wm. Patterson and Hon. David Mills in sworn statements, but beyond promising to do something the government took no steps to punish the offenders.

But Sir Wilfrid Laurier, if he did not punish Perjuror Lemieux and his accessory, did not forget them. In 1896, when he took a false oath, H. A. Lemieux was in receipt of a salary of \$1,000. Shortly after, he was advanced to the position of assistant inspector of the port of Montreal with an increase of \$500 in salary and expenses paid. On July 1st, 1901, he was again promoted and his salary is now \$2,000 per annum. Mr. Lemieux Sr., in 1902, according to the Auditor General's report, was paid \$2,474.12. That was his reward for committing perjury for the Liberal party.

The "Honorable" Lemieux has even fared better for his share in the transaction, inasmuch as he will draw \$6,500 per annum and extras. The "Honorable" gentleman, however, presiding as he does over Canada's penitentiaries, should exercise clemency towards perjurers for whom he must have the kindest feelings.

It would seem from recent cabinet appointments, that a shady record is the best qualification an aspirant can possess.

G. T. P. WILL NOT STAND PUBLICITY.

"Mr. Charles M. Hays, second vice-president and general manager of the Grand Trunk, will sail today for England from New York, where he spent yesterday." "It is understood that Mr. Hays takes with him the modified agreement between the Canadian government and the Grand Trunk Pacific, and that he will submit it for the approval of the meeting of the company, which will be held in London, March 8."

The above news item, published in many Canadian papers, is all that has been announced concerning proposed amendments to the Grand Trunk Pacific contract. Mr. Hays knows all about the changes. The people know nothing. In the twelve constituencies in which bye elections were held eight members of the cabinet addressed the electors, but not one word of explanation was offered as to the concessions made to the railway magnates. Mr. Hays and Senator Cox are apparently the only persons worthy of the government's confidence. The electors are supposed to go it blind and do as they are told by the aristocratic few who have been let into the secret. Cabinet ministers were not free from suspicion, and during the progress of the negotiations, only the favored members of Sir Wilfrid's advisers were permitted to hear Mr. Hays' terms. The Minister of Railways was among those blacklisted, so that the expert of the cabinet was not allowed to express an opinion one way or the other. This strict secrecy was due, no doubt, to a desire on the part of Sir Rivers-Wilson to fulfil his promise to the Grand Trunk, "that the Grand Trunk Pacific would not cost the Grand Trunk shareholders a penny." The promoters of the new railway are taking no chances. They fear public criticism, and the government, in order to protect them, has treated Canadians in a most unwarranted and inexplicable manner.

SENATOR COX GETS ANOTHER GRAFT.

The erstwhile "democrats to the hilt," who occupy the Liberal seats in the Commons and Senate, are fast abandoning all claim to that much vaunted title. In the days of Conservative domination

in the Senate the rich and poor were treated alike. They had common access to the Senate quarters. Today a sign, "this entrance for Senators only," gives fair warning to all but Senators and their friends to go with the "common herd."

On the Commons side the same signs of Oppulence are in evidence. It is well known that Senator Cox refused to wait for the Grand Trunk Pacific deal to go through, but the fate being against him, the Senator had to forego the pleasure of an immediate participation in the expenditure of \$151,000,000 of the people's money. Perhaps it was with the idea of making the disappointment less keen that the Cabinet decided to cover the corridors of the Commons section with interlocking rubber lining costing \$16.15 per square yard. The goods are manufactured by the Dunlop Tire Company. Senator Cox is president of that concern and the order from the government is worth \$15,000. The wasteful Conservatives provided carpets costing \$2,000 at the outside. The "democrats to the hilt" insist upon walking upon \$15,000. But of course "Cox can't wait" all the time.

A LIBERAL ON BROKEN LIBERAL PLEDGES.

The Liberal press has been kept busy explaining the bye-election blow which, almost killed Laurier. Perhaps the following from that staunch supporter of genuine Liberalism, the Winnipeg Tribune, will be more satisfactory than the excuses of the machine press:

"In the 1903 tables of the Trade and Navigation returns received from Ottawa a few days ago, we observe the omission of the interesting table showing the amount of customs duties paid per head of population. Surely the fact that Canadians today are paying more customs per head than ever before in the history of Canada, did not prompt the government to purposely make this omission, though appearances are decidedly that way. We have the blue book before us and on page 13, we find ample space comparing it with the corresponding page in former years, for the missing column of figures.

"The amount of customs duties paid per head of population from 1890 to 1903 inclusive, is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Amount. 1890 \$5.01, 1891 4.84, 1892 4.20, 1893 4.26, 1894 3.56, 1895 3.52, 1896 3.94, 1897 3.83, 1898 4.22, 1899 4.84, 1900 5.37, 1901 5.40, 1902 5.94, 1903 6.76

"In 1865-96 we remember how the Conservatives were slated for having increased the Customs taxation from \$3.13 per head in 1878 to \$4.84 in 1891. Where do old Liberals find themselves today, when an administration sailing under Liberal colors has raised the Customs taxation to a point far beyond anything in the previous high tariff history of the country?"

WHAT DID G. T. SUPPORT COST.

How much will the election of a Liberal in the constituency of Hochelaga cost the people of Canada? Has that phase of the campaign impressed itself on the taxpayers?

If not, it is a matter for serious thought. The Liberal candidate, Mr. Rivet, was elected by the votes of the Grand Trunk Railway employees. In St. Gabriel's ward, where the Grand Trunk holds sway men were ordered to vote for the Liberal candidate under pain of dismissal. This activity of the promoters of the Grand Trunk Pacific deal manifested itself during the last four days of the bye-election campaign, and was responsible for changing an even vote into a strong Liberal majority.

The Canadian people can well devote time to a consideration of this hysteric interest on the part of the G. T. P. manipulators. For months the Grand Trunk magnates conducted unsuccessful negotiations with the Laurier government to secure a modification of the G. T. P. contract. No decision was definitely reached until Thursday, February 11th, when the government suddenly gave way and agreed to the demands of the promoters. On February 2nd, the Grand Trunk influence was exerted in Hochelaga and on February 16th, the Liberal candidate won by reason of this coercion of the voters. What was the price of that support? Is it to be reckoned

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