

IN THE POLITICAL ARENA

The Local Candidates and the Electors Have Another Field Night--Several Speeches Are Made.

The Conservative rally at the Miners' Union hall last night drew a large attendance. The house was filled with interested electors, most of whom gave indications of being men who work hard at manual labor for a living. As on the preceding Saturday night, there were quite a number of ladies in the audience, and they seemed to take the keenest interest in the proceedings.

For some more or less inexplicable reason, there is a growing sentiment against the candidature of Mr. Goodeve. It required no perspicacity to discern this much at last night's meeting. For the first time in the present campaign the newly appointed Provincial Secretary in the McBride government was roundly booed upon rising to make his address. In all candor it must be said that there is nothing in Mr. Goodeve's record that has given rise to this opinion. He has done as well as can be expected during the campaign that has justified such treatment. Still, there is a close estimate and judgment due and necessary in the case, in order to find the reason for this marked evidence of expressed disapproval. If it is not born of what Mr. Goodeve has done, it therefore is born unquestionably of what he has not done. And therein lies the secret of Mr. Goodeve's inevitable decline and fall.

Even the casual reader of The Miner for the last nine months cannot fail to have noticed that this journal has espoused the cause of Conservatism; but not a conservatism of words. It has preached, argued and persistently fought for the truest and highest ideals that Conservatives reserve and respect. Embodied in the simple doctrine of equality for all and special favors for none, coupled with a plea for genuine statesmanship, this journal day after day, week after week, month after month, has begged not only local Conservatives, but their fellows throughout the length and breadth of the province to show by word and deed that their party and its nominees for the legislative assembly are worthy of the unreserved confidence of the electorate. In addition to this, resolutions demanding the abolition of all government reserves on crown lands and concerning other equally important issues have been presented to the Rossland Conservative Association for consideration and adoption. Mr. Goodeve, as president of the association, even went so far as to vacate the chair to defend these resolutions and in doing so did not have the patriotism or the ability to offer any substitutes that would promise either the association or the electorate the slightest amelioration so far as the present sorry state of affairs is concerned.

Wholly contrary to Mr. Goodeve's statement last Saturday night and which he reiterated last night, The Miner has not opposed his candidature or quarreled with the Conservative party. If Mr. Goodeve will be honest with the electors; if he will take the trouble to show how he proposes to remove the per cent tax or any other tax on the infant industries and the masses without first raising more than half a million dollars in order to make up an existing deficit; if he will absolutely pledge himself and his government to make their fair share, instead of only one-tenth as they do now, and have done for years past, The Miner would congratulate not only him but the whole province.

However, Mr. Goodeve seems determined to confine himself to inconsequential verbiage, which, while smooth enough in the way he delivers it, is so palpably shallow and insincere that the public, after patiently listening to him on two occasions are absolutely forced to the unalterable opinion that he is guilty of a deliberate attempt to deceive, or is hopelessly incompetent to do what is so urgently required of him.

Mr. Goodeve has accused The Miner of declaring that the McBride party is getting financial assistance from, first, the Canadian Pacific railway, secondly, the Great Northern railway, and thirdly from the Dunesmuir. Twice he has made this charge. It is probably needless for us to remark here that nothing of the kind has been stated by The Miner. In making this charge Mr. Goodeve has been guilty of the grossest misrepresentation. He should be heartily ashamed of himself. This, however, would in no way deter him from doing its manifest duty to its readers and electors generally. For that reason an absolutely unbiased report of last night's meeting follows:

Mr. Mackintosh's Address

Hon. C. H. Mackintosh was given ten minutes at the opening of the meeting, but his remarks were not apropos of the questions of the day. He devoted himself to a denial of the statements attributed to him in connection with the Trail meeting last week, where it was said that he had held out hope to the striking Rossland miners that he would secure the general management of the Le Roi company and settle the strike satisfactorily, the result of such statement being to delay the wind-up of the Rossland strike. Some correspondence (appearing elsewhere in this issue of The Miner) was read on the subject. Governor Mackintosh's remarks being intended to demonstrate that no such condition ever existed. He endorsed the candidature of Hon. A. S. Goodeve, expressing the hope that a stable government having been secured and a cabinet minister appointed from Rossland, the electors would have the good sense to support Mr. Goodeve, always remembering,

For Stable Government,

A. H. MacNeill, K. C., attorney for the Great Northern subsidiary lines in the province, followed. Mr. MacNeill was expected to discuss the railway question by reason of his professional connection with the Jim Hill roads, but he eschewed the subject and devoted his attention for ten or fifteen minutes to a comparison of the Conservative and Liberal parties throughout the province, obviously to the credit of the Conservatives and equally unsatisfactory from the Liberal viewpoint. The campaign, Mr. MacNeill asserted, had one great point, prominent and pre-eminent. All knew the turmoil that existed in British Columbia from the political standpoint up to the juncture when party lines were adopted and the McBride government was formed. The province had lost the confidence of the world, and the desire for stability in the legislature was undoubtedly one of the potent reasons for the adoption of party lines. If Liberals had taken office on the dissolution of the old government and were in the field today with a possibility of retaining power the position would be altered, but the Liberals were not in a position to ask for the support of the people on the ground that they could give the country a solid government. The party was only good "in parts," like the egg which the curate got at the rector's breakfast table, and the egg which the country wanted was a good, substantial sample, about which he was afraid they would be disappointed if they returned the Liberals to power on election day. His authority for the statement that the Liberal party was only good in parts was Smith Curtis, who had publicly said a short time ago in Rossland, "One of the first things the Liberals must do is to get rid of Joseph Martin and Billy McInnes." The Liberals had not got rid of these men, and had not therefore lived up to Mr. Curtis' advice. The real question was as to which party could give the best government (Cries "The Liberals!"). Liberals must get rid of Martin, McInnes and Wells, and then tell the people who their leader would be.

Mr. Macdonald.

Mr. MacNeill closed amid some applause to be succeeded by James Alexander Macdonald, the Liberal candidate, who was greeted by a veritable ovation. It was a minute before the storm of applause concluded and the Liberal candidate was able to proceed with his address, a mastery and collected discussion of the prime issues of the day. He was in hearty accord, he said in opening, with the proposal that the differences of several years ago should be buried with the dead past. This was his third appearance on the public platform during the present campaign, and he left it with the audience as to whether he could be accused of introducing such topics; his desire was to conduct a clean and fair, and, he might almost say, non-partisan campaign, and was prepared to continue this attitude leaving dead issues alone and confining himself to the subjects that would be of importance to the electors for the next four years. (Applause.)

LIBERALS WILL WIN.

Mr. Macdonald expressed the opinion strongly that the province had done right in electing for party line government in the future, because of the discipline that party government ensures on the followers of both parties. Instead of members being responsible to their constituents only and having full liberty to change sides in the house whenever it suited their interests, each member of the house would be responsible to the party and to the province as a whole. In this lay the real benefit of party rule, although he did not take it that party government demanded party slavery or demanded that the electors should have no thought for the ability, character and record of candidates for the legislature.

At this juncture occurred one of the most amusing rencontres of the entire meeting. Mr. Macdonald poured himself a glass of water and was preparing to drink when a man in the audience who had interrupted frequently in a voice and accent that identified him thoroughly, shouted: "Take a drink with me, old chappie." "I would be glad to, my friend," came the retort as quick as a flash from Mr. Macdonald, "but this is scarcely your beverage." The crowd fairly howled with delight at the ready wit and cutting response, while the butt of the laughter subsided for the balance of Mr. Macdonald's speech. Proceeding, Mr. Macdonald addressed himself to Mr. MacNeill's remarks on the subject of stable government, turning the point entirely in his own favor. He admitted that the future government of British Columbia must be stable, but insisted that it must be good government in addition to its stability, and that if the people wanted this quality of goodness they must return Liberal government. It had been iterated and reiterated that the Liberals had no chance of being returned to power, and for what reason. None, whatever! His personal acquaintance with the situation satisfied him that, on the contrary there was such a bright prospect for the Liberals securing power at this election as to make the outlook decidedly rosier than the

Liberal viewpoint. In the twelve ridings from Similkameen to Fernie the Liberals were assured of eight seats, and possibly nine or ten. If this fair statement in respect to these twelve ridings was correct, did any reason exist why the balance of the province should not do equally well? The Island was determined to return Liberals to power, and this feeling existed throughout the province, so that it was idle for Mr. MacNeill, or any one else, to say that the Conservatives were bound to win. "It is absolutely not so!" repeated Mr. Macdonald with an emphatic confidence that elicited hearty applause.

The object for the circulation of such a report and its careful instillation into the ears of electors was to point to the alleged unpopularity of sending an opposition member to Victoria and, obviously, give weight to Mr. Goodeve's argument. The fact was, however, that Mr. MacNeill had not justified the Liberal vote, and not justified his "policy of intimidation." Mr. Macdonald continued to state that he was not on the platform to say anything derogatory to Mr. Goodeve, in fact he recognized the Conservative candidate's ability, but he did not like the manner in which Mr. Goodeve was taken into the cabinet. It was remarkable that the government having kept Mr. Goodeve's portfolio open for four months should then have made the appointment to affect the election in Rossland. He did not like the move, and would have respected Mr. Goodeve far more had the Conservative candidate said to Mr. McBride "No. I cannot accept this position at the present moment until such time as the electors of Rossland have said at the polls that I am the man they desire to send to Victoria," and he believed the electors of Rossland would have honored Mr. Goodeve for taking such a stand. (Loud applause.)

A CLEAR STAND.

Mr. Macdonald then took up the live issues of the day, referring to the East Kootenay coal and oil lands as a starter. He had already defined his position thereon, he remarked, but Mr. Goodeve had seen fit to express the opinion that the electors did not take his definition in fully and he would reiterate. But little required to be said as to the necessity of properly safeguarding the assets of the province in the shape of the public lands, inasmuch as these assets had suffered so severely in the past as to make the necessity all the greater at this time. From its public lands the province must hope to secure surpluses from the financial troubles facing it. In other provinces the public lands had been conserved for the benefit of the country, with the result, for instance that in Ontario the taxes per head were but \$2 as compared with \$14 in British Columbia. Since the commencement of affairs in British Columbia the public assets of the province had been dissipated, hence the additional imperativeness of preserving such assets as were left. Then outlined the process by which the East Kootenay lands fell into the hands of the Canadian Pacific after being originally refused by the government. Premier McBride was a member of the government which handed the lands over to the C. P. R., and Mr. McBride's excuse for his dereliction of duty was that he had had no authority granted that everything was all right and depended upon his colleagues to see that everything was straight. At this very juncture, however, Mr. McBride was minister of mines, and was supposed as a minister to be aware of the mineral riches of the disputed areas. What did the electors think of a minister of mines who knew nothing about such rich mineral lands and was prepared to hand them over to Sir Thomas Shaughnessy and the C. P. R., who fully appreciated their value. Mr. Shaughnessy afterwards admitted that the lands were worth millions? Is such a man fit to guide the destinies of British Columbia? asked Mr. Macdonald, and the query was answered in the negative by scores.

After the lands were restored to the province applications for licenses to prospect the ground were refused, although no such reserve actually existed. In law, the first applications had been made some years previously, but subsequently other prospectors made locations, notably two well known Rossland men, and their applications also had rights refused. Then an excitement ensued and syndicates were formed, many of them, he had no doubt, for speculative purposes, to send prospectors into the hills. These men were entitled to licenses—the prospectors who had discovered the richness of the country and planted the seed, but they had never received licenses up to date. The present government had been in power for four months, and the claims of the prospectors had been pressed upon them, as everyone knows, yet up to today the prospectors had been refused their rights. Moreover, the McBride government had declined to state its position beyond saying, "Oh yes. After election you will get your rights. It might hurt us in the province to give you your licenses now." It was anything but right to give private assurances and evade public promises of the kind. The McBride government was afraid of publicity before election they would be equally afraid afterwards. Personally he would reiterate his statement as to his own position on the subject.

CUT OUT THE DUMMIES.

Under the act governing the matter one man was entitled to one location of one square mile of land. Bona fide prospectors who put in their stakes should receive their licenses, and, further, those who grubstaked prospectors in a bona fide manner should also receive their licenses. But when it was found that three or four people formed a syndicate and went to other men to borrow their names, and endeavoring indirectly thereby to obtain ten times what the law allowed them to obtain in a direct and legitimate way, it was a case of fraud under the act. Every man who had thus permitted his name to be used and who would never secure or expect to secure any title or interest in the land, should be denied a license, and bona fide prospectors and grubstakers should have the valuable areas reserved for them. (Applause) His motto, in a nut-shell, was "Give the bona fide prospectors and bona fide grubstakers their rights, but cut out the dummies entirely." (Applause)

ABOUT TAXES.

Mr. Macdonald then reviewed and reiterated his previous utterances on the matter of a new fiscal policy for the province. His idea was to distribute the weight of taxes so that all interests in the province should receive fair and equitable treatment, instead of having one industry, notably that of mining, shouldering far more than a fair share of the burden of taxation. Such a policy, he asserted, would straighten out matters, make an adequate revenue and leave the struggling industries with a fair field.

HIS POLITICAL STATUS.

It was a fair statement. Mr. Macdonald continued, to say that from the start the provincial government had been controlled by Conservatives, and the record of provincial governments to date in such hands was such that it was easy to account for the numerous pledges of support from the Conservatives. Personally he was independent of many such assurances. He wished it understood that he represented no class in Rossland particularly, but stood for the general welfare of the community and the province. He had many friends in all classes. Some of his strongest friends, as was apparent and too well known to require further explanation, were among the organized laboring men of the city, who were helping him in the fight and working for his election. No higher tribute had ever been paid to him than to have these men support him early and late without asking or expecting anything in return for his serving their interests. He would serve the interests of all other classes in the community, if elected, to the best of his ability. The laboring men had not requested him to give their interest any preference over those of other classes, being satisfied that he would deal by them fairly, and the fairness with which was demonstrated thoroughly there. (Loud applause) He desired no fairer test of his candidature, and no higher compliment to himself, than that these men should support him in the belief that he would deal with all others fairly and as he would deal with all others.

COMPULSORY ARBITRATION.

Mr. Macdonald then repeated his advocacy of a measure to secure compulsory arbitration, and criticized Mr. Goodeve sharply for being unable to arrive at an opinion on the subject. Had there not been sufficient strikes in this province to direct the attention of a man seeking public office to the necessity of such a measure especially when the man seeking the cabinet minister? The question was so large and its importance so obviously great that no man seeking the suffrages of the people should face the electors with the remark that he had not considered the matter and made no definite opinion. The coming legislature, he adopted. The coming legislature in justice to the province must make an effort to provide an act that would deal fairly with the employer, fairly with the employee and fairly with the province generally. (Applause)

Hon. Mr. Goodeve.

Hon. A. S. Goodeve was received with cheer by his friends as he stepped forward to speak, and simultaneously with about 75 workmen retired from the hall, as they evidently did not desire to listen to him. Mr. Goodeve opened his address with a short chapter on personalities, during which he stated that he intended to keep away from them, as with such an intelligent audience as that which confronted him he did not believe they were all necessary. He could not refrain, however, from referring to what The Miner had said about his position in relation to the eight-hour law. He could only say in regard to the law that when the question of eight hours was a burning issue he had openly said from the platform that he strongly favored it.

Mr. Goodeve most emphatically denied that he had ever said that \$2.50 per day was a fair day's wage. "I say," he shouted, "as I have always said, that every man is entitled to all he could earn." (Groans and ironical remarks.) Next he charged The Miner with having insinuated that he intended to remove Mr. Boulbee from the position of police magistrate and to replace him with J. S. Clute. He declared that it was false.

THE SPECIAL CONSTABLES.

Mr. Goodeve was clearly on the defensive in the opening of his speech and denounced an erroneous certain statement that had been made in regard to a letter which he wrote to the attorney general at the time of the strike in regard to the employment of special constables to preserve order. The mine owners, he said, had represented to Mr. Boulbee that the appointment of some constables was necessary, and Mr. Boulbee, in his capacity of police magistrate, appointed these constables, as it was within his province to do so. Mr. Curtis had charged him with writing a letter to the attorney general which placed him (Mr. Goodeve) in rather an

unenviable light. The letter which he wrote to the attorney general contained nothing which should be ashamed of, of what he stated in it was that Rossland was in a quiet and peaceable state, and that there was no necessity for any extra police. (Cheers and groans about equally mixed).

(Note: Elsewhere in this issue is a letter from Mr. Curtis which is worth reading in this connection.)

THE CABINET POSITION.

Mr. Goodeve next turned his attention to Mr. Macdonald, and said that his opinion seemed to be sore because a Rossland man had been made a member of the cabinet. The opponents of the McBride ministry ask why Mr. McBride did not sooner name a Rossland man on his cabinet. The reason was because Mr. McBride did not wish to act hastily. (Groans and cheers). "As soon as it was known that I was nominated," continued Mr. Goodeve, "Mr. McBride said for me, and after consultation with the local leaders of my party I went to the coast, where I was proffered the portfolio, which I accepted. I do not flatter myself that he would have done this for me as a simple member of the party, but rather for the reason that I was the nominee of the Liberal Conservative party. (Cheers, yells and groans). Probably Mr. Goodeve said in all proffering Mr. Goodeve said in all proffering any Conservative nomination for Rossland would have been accorded the same honor.

THE COAL LANDS.

Mr. Goodeve forgot for a time his defensive tactics and became mildly aggressive, for he said that Mr. Macdonald's attitude on the East Kootenay land question had not always been the same as it was last night. He reiterated the statement, which he made at the meeting on Saturday night, that soon after he was nominated he was approached by those interested in these lands and asked to pledge himself to do all that he could to secure for them the land. Mr. Goodeve further declared that the position which he took on this matter, and his position was shared by Mr. McBride, was that those who had statutory rights to them should receive them. If elected he pledged himself to do all that was in his power toward securing the licenses for those who were legally entitled to them.

In regard to aliens, he said that when the province had invited them, in their laws, to come here and to take up mineral lands, they should be treated justly, and as a member of the government he would treat them justly; in short, he contended that every man who had complied with the law, whether Canadian or alien, should be treated justly.

In discussing the finances of the province, Mr. Goodeve went over much the same ground that he covered on Saturday evening. The annual revenue of the province was from \$1,750,000 to \$2,000,000, and yet there was an annual deficit of half a million dollars. That this annual failure of the receipts to cover the expenditures was due to the faults of the Conservatives, he denied, but at the same time, he admitted that individual Conservatives had been partly responsible for it. What he proposed as a measure to benefit the province and to make its financial condition better was party governments, which could be held responsible for their acts to the people.

RAILWAYS.

The railway policy of the McBride government would be to give no more land grants to railway corporations, and if cash bonuses were given the government should have the right to control the rates and have options to purchase the roads. The government policy was for absolute free trade so far as railways are concerned, and if the McBride government was sustained by the people the construction of railways would not be held back owing to the rivalry of other lines. "That," he dramatically exclaimed, "will never occur under the McBride government." (Hear, hear).

The coast to Kootenay railroad will be built and unless the McLean brothers, who have the charter, construct the road it will be turned over to the Hill company. Knowing that this is the policy of the McBride government, the McLean brothers have stated that they will begin construction on the road within three weeks, and if they do not the McBride government will immediately turn the road over to Mr. Hill.

At this juncture Mr. Goodeve went into a long explanation of Mr. McBride's position on the East Kootenay coal question, and said that as an outcome of it he was at the head of the government.

TAXATION AND REVENUE.

Mr. Goodeve next descended on how the McBride government purposed keeping the expenditures within the revenues. The railways, for instance, under a law passed years ago, were only assessed \$3000 per mile on their track. While this might have been fair at the time the law was passed, it is not so now, as, owing to the development of the mining industry and other causes, the earnings of the railways have largely increased, and as a result of this they have augmented in value. This being the case, he thought it would be nothing more than fair that the assessment of \$3000 per mile should be increased in a considerable degree. This would increase the revenues of the province. Besides, this was proposed to tax insurance, telephone and other corporations. Certain timber lands, given under old railway charters, owing to the terms under which they were granted, were not taxed. The attorney general, he explained, was evolving a plan under which the timber of the land would be made to yield a revenue to the province.

Mr. Goodeve next denied that the McBride government was receiving support from the Great Northern railway or other corporations, and said when it was elected to power it would have no corporate strings upon it.

It was his opinion, if civil service reform was put into effect, that from \$30,000 to \$40,000 per annum would be saved, and he declared that the McBride government intended to try the experiment.

The speaker next devoted several minutes to a discussion of the question of Oriental immigration, and tried to prove to his audience that the position of

his government was sound on this issue, which he declared had been proved by the action of the attorney general in relation to the putting underground of Chinese in the coal mines at Cumberland.

Mr. Goodeve made small bid for the labor vote next, when he stated that one of the planks of the platform was in favor of the acquisition by the government of the telephone lines. If private companies could make profit out of telephone lines why could not the government do the same, he argued, as in this way the profits would go to the people. This, would he said, be a first step in the direction, on the part of the province, of acquiring public utilities. If it was found to be successful other utilities could be acquired and a big increase made in the revenues; then that bugaboo of a deficit, which seems to be a sort of nightmare to Mr. Goodeve, would entirely disappear.

In conclusion Mr. Goodeve predicted that the McBride government would be sustained and would have a majority of from 6 to 10, instead of being defeated by 12, as prophesied by Mr. Macdonald. For several reasons above outlined he would ask for the suffrages of his auditors, and declared that he felt sure that he would be elected.

The meeting dispersed after cheers had been given for Mr. Goodeve.

THE STOCK MARKET

The week's business on the local exchange makes a small aggregate. Prices were generally weak, though there was no heavy decline in any case. American Boy and Mountain Lion were exceptions, both keeping up fairly well. Rambler-Cariboo, Payne and other silver-lead stocks registered declines. Cariboo McKinney said at 8, the lowest point it has reached for a long time.

Stock Name	Change	High	Low
American Boy	+4%	4%	4%
Ben Har	4	4
Black Tall	3	2
Canadian G. F.	4 1/2	3 1/2
Cariboo McKinney ex-d	8	7 1/2
Centre Star	23 1/2	20
Fairview	4	3
Fisher Maiden	3 1/2	3
Giant	2 1/2	2 1/2
Grassy Consolidated	\$4 50	\$5	\$3 75
Morning Glory	1 1/2	1
Mountain Lion	24	22
North Star	11 1/2	9 1/2
Payne	14 1/2	13
Quilp	18	18
Rambler-Cariboo	34	32
San Poll	3	2
Sullivan	5 1/2	4 1/2
Tom Thumb	4 1/2	3 1/2
War Eagle	13	11
Waterloo	7	5 1/2
White Bear (as. paid)	4	3 1/2

SALES.
 American Boy, 1000 at 4 1/2; Cariboo-McKinney, 1500 at 8; Mountain Lion, 2000 at 23 1/2; Fisher Maiden, 2000 at 3 1/2. Total, 6500.
 Cariboo-McKinney, 1000 at 8; Rambler-Cariboo, 2000 at 33 1/2. Total, 3000.
 Mountain Lion, 500, 23 1/2; Rambler-Cariboo, 1000, 33; Centre Star, 1000, 21. Total, 2500.
 American Boy, 500 at 4 1/2; Cariboo-McKinney, 1000 at 8; Mountain Lion, 500 at 23; Mountain Lion, 2000 at 23 1/2; Rambler-Cariboo, 1000 at 33; White Bear, 5000 at 3 1/2. Total, 6000.

FIRE IN A SANITARIUM.
 ANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 23.—One person was injured to death and five were injured in a fire, today, that destroyed the private sanitarium of Dr. E. E. Alph. The flames spread so quickly that the occupants were forced to jump from the second story windows.

Le Roi.....
 Centre Star.....
 War Eagle.....
 Le Roi No. 2.....
 Jumbo.....
 Spitzee.....
 I. X. L. (milled).....
 Kootenay.....
 Giant.....
 Iron Horse.....
 Velvet.....
 White Bear.....
 O. K.....
 Homestake.....
 Totals.....

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WAR EAGLE.—The from the mine is practically same lines of those turned for months. Slight a been made in the work earned by the nature of required, but in a gen