ENTHUSIASTIC EARNESTNESS CHARACTERIZED DELIBERATIONS OF GREAT PROVINCIAL OPP. CONVENTION ASSEMBLED HERE THURSDAY

FOSTER-VENIOT GOVERNMENT SCATHINGLY ARRAIGNED BY THE HON. JAMES A. MURRAY

(Continued from page one.)

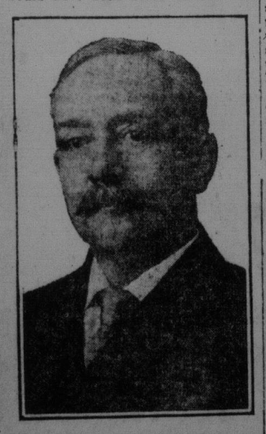
sink into the popular mind as a war tax. It is not a war tax. It is the pennies of children taken from them by force so that the master spender of the administration may go his own way. And this from a party which was pledged to honest collection of revenue and to economical expenditure. Now we come to Mr. Veniot, the man who more than any other is dragging down to bankruptcy this province of New Brunswick. With the exception of a few patches of road here and there we have not got in this province the roads for which we have paid. In every locality our roads are being neglected or are beeing given temporary repair, this repair being chargeable to capital. We were content, in a manner, when the legislature authorized a road expenditure of quarter of a million. But did Mr. Veniot pay any attention to this? He did not. He spent on alleged permanent roads more than a million dollars, but now, faced with the realization of his own mal-administration, he has changed his tune and calls them "durable" roads. We are being mulcted of hundreds of thousands for the benefit of the spendthrift of the present administration, and we are

L. P. D. TILLEY

Legisiative Member who was live wire at yesterday's Convention.

being saddled with a tremendously increasing debt, not for permanent roads but for temporary repairs and development.

In the Crown Lands Department the government does not know its own mind. If time permitted I might review the record of the past two years to show how stumpage rates have been put up and put down, how the ingenious Mr. Smith has offered excuses and apologies, but I will content myself with merely mentioning this one fact. The real administration of our Crown Lands Department commenced with the Hazen Government, and in our years of administration we collected without such increases as the present government imposes, more than two hundred thousand dollars per year more than had ever been collected, and had the lumber market in those years been as good—or half as good—as it is today, our collections would have been much better. The



DR. TAYLOR, M. L. A.

Enthusiatic Participant in Deliberations of Opposition Convention.

Foster Government has repudiated every plank in its platform, has acted with an utter disregard for the rights of the people of this province. Again, there is the matter of water powers, a natural asset of untold value to this province. What is the record of the present administration? Last season the premier, Mr. Foster, introduced a bill, made a most optimistic speech, received the applause of his servile supporters and then—. Since that address was made not one word has been heard of the much-heralded water powers bill. It has been pigeon-holed, forgotten, and one of the most important assets of New Brunswick still goes to waste. Just as has been the fate of our greatest source of power—Grand Falls—as a result of the crime of 1905, perpetrated by the predecessors of the present incompetents.

Mr. Murray dwelt at some length with the administration of the Department of Agriculture. He went into detail in every branch of this important work and pointed out how the present crowd had bungled in everything undertaken, and had brought that department from its proud position of the best organized in Canada, to one that has become a jest and a byeword throughout Canada.

Turning to the Valley Railway, Mr. Murray related how the Foster crowd despite repeated pledges, turned aside from the pathway of progress and handed over to a group of commissioners, the whole administration of the road. And these commissioners who had to borrow money at the start to finance their own expense accounts, have done very well indeed, gathering in from the railroad funds, many thousands of much-needed dollars. These directors have looked after themselves mighty well, but the people of New Brunswick have been given scant consideration as witness the bungling which marked their childish attempts to get running rights over the C.P.R. to St. John.

We have in office today the most wildly extravagant government in our history, an utterly incompetent and irresponsible crowd, who dare to criticize the former administration, and that former administration despite any errors of judgment which might have been made, was in my opinion, that of absolute honesty, and gave to this province the best government it had enjoyed since Confederation. And today when the Foster party has been in office only a few years, the banks are beginning to question our provincial accounts, just as they did in 1908. What we need in New Brunswick today is a government not of extravagant, irresponsible, incompetents, such as we have at present, but men with an appreciation of their duties of office and of the possibilities of New Brunswick.

In 1917, when this party was in power, I was leader of the government. By virtue of that position, I continued as leader of the opposition, but now I feel that the time has come when I should hand back to this party whatever authority I may hold. And in surrendering this office to which I am not a candidate for re-election, I wish to say that during my years of leadership I have done my duty as I saw it, mistakes I may have made. Crimes I have not committed. I retire from the leadership of the opposition because I feel that the choice of a leader should be left now to this meeting. My resignation, I take it, you will at once accept and I am not a candidate for re-election. But on retiring, permit me to say that in giving up a position which I have held with a deep sense of appreciation, I do so without a qualm of conscience, but in knowledge that my personal and public supervision of New Brunswick affairs has been marked throughout by absolute honesty of purpose and of act. I have nothing with which to reproach myself, for I have never profited to the extent of one dollar, nor acted unjustly toward any person in this province. I thank this gathering for the very kind reception given me, and for the consideration which you have accorded to an address which I fear has exceeded in length my first intention. On concluding his impassioned address, Hon. Mr. Murray was tendered an ovation lasting for several minutes.

The following report of the committee on organization was then submitted:

"Your committee recommends that a Provincial Executive Committee be appointed to be composed of a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary and treasurer, and a duly elected representative from each county organization in the cities of St. John and Moncton.

(2) "That the chairman, vice-chairman, treasurer and secretary be appointed by the committee.

(3) "That the Provincial Executive Committee appoint a chief organizer and two assistant organizers.

(4) "That the chairmen of the county organizations, and the cities of St. John and Moncton call conventions forthwith.

(5) "That a general provincial convention be called at least once in every two years.

(6) "That the name of the opposition Party be changed, and recommend the name of the Opposition party be known in the future as the People's Progressive Party."

G. Earle Logan said one organizer should be a French Acadian.

Dr. James Manning brought forward the question of appointing a lady organizer, to get the women interested.

It was decided to leave these suggestions with the incoming executive, and the first five sections were adopted.

On the last section J. B. M. Baxter said it was a radical proposal, and moved that it be laid over for consideration, as the first order of business, at the evening session. Adopted.

Mr. Magee moved that the chair appoint a committee to nominate candidates for permanent officers of the Provincial Association.

The Chair—"I will not accept the responsibility."

Mr. Shannon moved that Mr. Richards of Fredericton be chairman of the provincial organization.

The Chairman—"Out of order."

Mr. Murchie moved in amendment that the present organization committee be a committee to make nominations for officers, and report at the evening session. Adopted.

London, Nov. 6—General Denekine reports that the Cossacks have destroyed a Soviet division to the east of Kharge, capturing 3,200.

PROVINCIAL OPPOSITION PARTY ORGANIZATION FOR WORK OF THE CONVENTION

Full and Free Discussion of All Matters Pertaining to Organiaztion—Committees on Organization and Resolutions Named.

The forenoon session was almost wholly devoted to registration of delegates and to organization of committees. By unanimous consent J. E. McAuley of Millstream, Kings county, was appointed chairman, with Frank T. Lewis as secretary. While the names of representatives from different constituencies were being enrolled, Hon. B. F. Smith of Carleton county introduced the first matter of business, namely the appointment of a committee of organization representative of all parts of the province, to consider the situation as it exists today, and present to the convention such suggestions as might be deemed of value to the party. This precipitated a discussion in which Mr. Mersereau of Chatham, Mr. Tilley of St. John, and others took the view that before any such course were adopted there should be opportunity for a free discussion of all matters connected with party organization. Hon. J. A. Murray, Mr. Baxter and others urged that to expedite business this committee be appointed, and presented the view that until the remainder of the delegates arrived on the noon train it would be unfair to enter into a general discussion of matters of province-wide interest. This view prevailed, and a committee was appointed as originally suggested together with such other representatives from cities and towns as were desired by delegates present. In this discussion the deepest interest was manifested by all. Mr. Murray, Mr. Baxter, Mr. Tilley and others who spoke being very warmly received. At a little later hour a second committee was authorized, to be named by the chair, this being a committee of resolutions to prepare and present the order of business for the afternoon and evening sessions. The fact that the chairman, Mr. McAuley of Kings, read from a list the names of the seven members chosen by him evidently led one or two in the hall to believe that this was a cut and dried committee prepared in advance, and remarks were made intimating to the meeting that any such appointments of previously prepared committees would be objectionable to the speakers. This criticism was, however, overcome by Mr. McAuley's explanation that not being in personal touch with every constituency he had, in anticipation of being called upon to name such a committee, consulted with two or three others among the delegates who were in a position to advise him, that he believed the committee named by him was an entirely satisfactory one and that he would stand by his selection.

HON. B. F. SMITH

Leader of Carleton's Delegation, Whose Wise Counsels Were Productive of Result.

Provincial Organization.

While registration was being completed, B. F. Smith spoke briefly of the necessity for province-wide organization and offered a motion to the effect that one representative from each county be chosen to form a committee to consider this and report back to the convention. This was seconded.

Mr. Mersereau of Chatham felt that the first thing to do was to consider the form provincial opposition organization was to take, whether on federal lines or otherwise. He believed a change of policy necessary, that the existing weaknesses of the party have come from the inside, and that a full discussion should be held before action is taken. He urged that the policy and platform of the party be first considered.

Mr. Tilley agreed with this view and felt that the future platform of the party should first be considered.

Mr. Smith enlarged his idea somewhat, pointing out that his suggestion was merely the appointment of a committee on organization, who would consider the situation, and offer to the convention suggestions for future activity which might be freely discussed later.

In view of this explanation, Mr. Mersereau promptly withdrew his previous objection and endorsed Mr. Smith's motion.

Hon. Mr. Murray speaking to the motion, advocated the fullest possible discussion of all matters of party interest, but felt that such discussion should be postponed until the other delegates arrive for the afternoon session. He thought the suggestion of a provincial committee to consider organization would facilitate business.

The motion carried unanimously and the following committee was chosen:

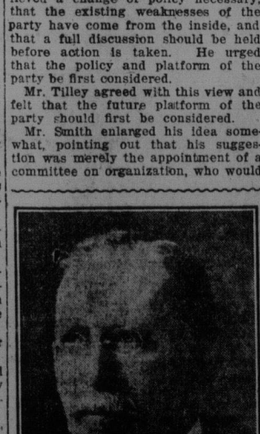
Albert, Lewis Smith; Carleton, W. S. Sutton; Charlotte, D. Maxwell; Gloucester, J. E. DeGrace; Kent, Alexander Doucet; Kings, Ralph St. J. Freeze; Madawaska, Max D. Cormier; Northumberland, Geo. M. McDade; Queens, L. I. Flower; Restigouche, P. M. Shannon; St. John, Wm. Golding; Sunbury, F. A. Smith; Victoria, W. E. McMonagle; Westmorland, Rene Richard; York, J. K. Pinder; St. John City, Dr. Jas. Manning; Fredericton, C. D. Richards, Convener; Moncton, E. A. Reilly; Sussex, W. D. Turner; Sackville, F. B. Black; Bathurst, J. B. Hachey; Shediac, C. D. Cormier; Woodstock, J. R. Brown; Albert, George Prescott; Campbellton, D. A. Stewart; Dalhousie, W. S. Montgomery; Hartland, M. L. Hayward.

In selecting the above committee the original intention was to have one member from each constituency, but this was varied, to include such incorporated towns as desired representation, the idea being that the advice and suggestions from such town members would be valuable.

On Resolutions.

On motion of Mr. Baxter, the chairman was empowered to select at his discretion a committee of seven to consider resolutions to be presented to the convention and arrange them in order for discussion. The committee so chosen was: J. L. Stewart, Dr. Landry, George Gilbert, W. S. Sutton, R. St. J. Freeze, E. A. Reilly, T. A. Goggin.

After further brief discussion on matters of organization, the convention adjourned until afternoon.



DR. CAMPBELL, M. L. A.

RESOLUTIONS

(Continued from page one.)

powers. We have given away far too much, and it is time we called a halt.

R. B. Hanson, of Fredericton, told of the disadvantage at which Fredericton is placed through lack of cheap power. He wants the province to assume control, but he does not necessarily favor government operation of such powers. However, in view of the importance of these powers to the province, he would support the amendment.

Hon. Mr. Murray recalled that in a previous manifesto the party had advocated government control, but that the question of operation should be carefully considered.

Many speakers followed, discussing questions of procedure. Eventually the water powers resolution was amended as published herewith.

Labor Question.

In the somewhat lengthy discussion which took place on the fifth resolution, Mr. Baxter recalled that an alleged labor representative from St. John had, in former years, proven a triad to the government and untrue to labor. While it is only fair that labor shall be generously recognized, he could not but feel that the old government had done for labor perhaps more than labor itself had expected. Legislation had led to the appointment of an excellent commission to study and report on all phases of workmen's compensation. Unfortunately the work of that commission was not completed before the defeat of the government, and the present administration has been able to take advantage of the work we performed. The plan of compensation now in effect is good, but it is administered in an extravagant manner, which not only reduces to the minimum what workmen are entitled to receive, but takes from the employers of New Brunswick more than they should be fairly called upon to pay. We have done much for labor in the past, and we are prepared to do it again.

HON. JAMES A. MURRAY RE-ELECTED LEADER AMID HEARTIEST OF ENTHUSIASM

(Continued from page one.)

and the establishment of a system of technical education and industrial training, were adopted, and in addition a number of important measures were brought before the gathering which it was impossible to fully consider in the time at its disposal. The failure of the Convention to take a stand on these other matters does not mean that they will be excluded from the party programme, the understanding being that the platform actually adopted was only a foundation, and that with the development of the new Province-wide organization facilities will be provided for enlarging the platform if the adherents of the party consider it advisable.

The proceedings were marked by an intense interest. The atmosphere was electrical at times. While there was harmony on general principles, the discussion of details was warm.

J. E. McAuley, who was elected chairman, presided over the deliberations in an able manner. He gave everybody a fair show, though, as he repeatedly pointed out, the convention was pressed for time. Perhaps he might be criticized on the score of being too generous to speakers who did not always stick to the point.

A feature of the evening session was the ovation tendered Mr. Baxter when a motion was made that he be appointed to the leadership, an honor he declined to accept.

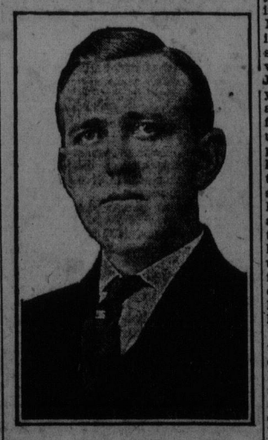
Evening Session

At the evening session of the Convention, in view of the fact that matters of party organization were to be discussed, a motion was made that the meeting go into private session. The press retired. Several resolutions, consideration of which was not concluded during the afternoon, were discussed and, as read or amended, were added to the list of new planks in the platform previously adopted. Dr. Campbell was especially enthusiastic on the subject of technical education and the discussion which followed his remarks was of wide interest. He was not especially in favor of the extension of technical training to all the high schools in the province, but rather endorsed the idea of one central institution. The view of others was that whenever possible opportunity for such training should be given the residents of all localities. The original motion endorsing the policy of carrying technical training to all parts of the province, was adopted.

The Language Question

The succeeding resolution, deprecating any attempts to create discord between the English and French speaking people of this province. Dr. Landry felt that the original wording did not specify clearly enough the attitude of the Convention and offered a more carefully worded one. Both were enthusiastically received. Mr. Mersereau of Chatham regretted that in the not distant past speeches had been made which certainly tended to create anything but harmony between the two races. He deprecated such incidents, and spoke eloquently in support of Dr. Landry's resolution advocating the cultivation of a more friendly feeling. Men like Mr. Potts, a member of the Legislature who had made speeches of an objectionable nature, were not hurting the French people, but were merely creating a bitterness much harder to overcome than to create. Every French child wants to learn English. But some men are trying to force this on them. Why not leave the matter alone and let those of French descent follow their own inclinations?

Mr. Potts in reply to Mr. Mersereau defended his course in commenting on the French race. His remarks had been caused by the course pursued by Peter Veniot who had repeatedly insulted Hon. Mr. Baxter for his friendship toward the French race. Such conduct as was apparent on the part of Mr. Veniot was enough to make any man feel annoyed. Personally Mr. Potts has nothing whatever against the French race as such. But if the people of that race desire better things let them throw out those who now so grossly misrepresent them and choose honest, fair minded men who will maintain in public those standards of citizenship of which the French race are so proud. Mr. Potts concluded with an appeal for united action which, he declared, must inevitably result in success to this party. Mr. Potts seconded Dr. Landry's amendment.



SCOTT GUPTILL

Enthusiastic Member of Yesterday's Convention

In place of the road policy resolution submitted by the committee, Fred A. Dykeman read a more lengthy one going into detail in the matter of proposed road and tourist policy. He spoke at some length on the advisability of developing tourist trade by more careful attention to roads, painted a glowing picture of the beauties of this province, and dwelt on the value this business might prove to our country. The original resolution carried.

Questions relating to timber policy, and to the sale of liquors developed lengthy discussions and the resolutions dealing with these subjects met with various fates, the liquor proposal for the government sale of liquor being voted down.

The Leadership

The work of selecting a leader had been fixed for ten o'clock. As that hour had now arrived other business was set aside.

Mr. Mersereau opened the debate.

Other speakers followed, some voicing the opinion that the election should be deferred while the majority seemed enthusiastic to supplement the platform already adopted by the selection of a leader. Get your leader and get into the fight, seemed to be the slogan. Many are available better men from every standpoint than are leading the present government.

Dr. Manning of St. John supported the motion to choose a new leader at once. No more opportune time could arrive. The whole province is awaiting our action in this respect. Our party is as good as it ever was and our leaders are men for whom I have the greatest respect. But now is the time to choose—the trains are going soon—and we have no much time to lose.

The name of Albert E. Reilly of Moncton was submitted in nomination by Mr. Shannon, of Restigouche, but Mr. Reilly declined to assent to this.

Mr. Baxter.

Col. F. B. Black paid an eloquent tribute to Hon. Mr. Murray, complimenting him on his work of past years, and speaking very highly of his action at today's meeting. He did not think it necessary to go outside the present house to secure a leader, but wished to place in nomination the name of J. B. M. Baxter. The applause which greeted this nomination almost raised the roof. It was a notable tribute to one whose outstanding ability has been everywhere acknowledged. Mr. Black expressed the hope that Dr. Baxter would permit his name to go before the convention. This nomination was heartily seconded by Mr. Stewart, of Restigouche, who felt that Mr. Baxter was the one man to fill the position. He spoke in highest terms of Mr. Murray's services.

The feeling of the convention was again made apparent by the applause which greeted Mr. Baxter when he attempted to reply.

Mr. Baxter acknowledged that the tribute was very pleasing indeed, but under no circumstances could he accept. He believed in personal as well as party loyalty, and while he may have made many mistakes of the head he has made none of the heart. He had been invited by the late Mr. Clark to enter the government and did so through a feeling of party loyalty. His entry to the ministry came at a time when he found that the province was up against a difficult proposition in what has become known as the Belgian potato transaction. His own attitude was to tell the people the true facts of the loss they had sustained. This, however, was not the decision of his colleagues and by reason of his party loyalty he has for years borne criticism and personal abuse. The party has not done its duty to the ministry in this respect. It has condemned him along with three others, and has made impossible his acceptance of leadership. "Do you think for a moment I would sit in the House beside my friend Jim Murray and lead the House while having to listen to the jibes of the other side, and to see the sneers of those who have condemned myself, Murray, Jones and Smith? I want none of your leadership. You are here to get a leader and I hope you may get one from among those who have criticized us. Play the game, play to win, but play it with Jim Murray as your leader. I have personally lost more than any man in the party, but my skirts are clear as Murray's are clear. If he is not fit to lead you, neither am I. Now, through the agency of the other party's press, an impression has been created that four of us are under a cloud. Get away from these four, if you want to, and choose if you can one who is clear, who has been loyal to the party and I will support him through thick and thin.

Mr. Gilbert thought Mr. Baxter was too strong on personal loyalty and did not appreciate the position. Mr. Murray had resigned and had not sought re-election. If there had been a possibility of Mr. Murray retaining office Mr. Gilbert would have lifted both hands for him.

Mr. Potts who said that he had unwillingly voted for the motion of censure, still maintained that under the leadership of those involved in that resolution it would be difficult for the present members to face their constituents, and this in spite of the fact that none of those so condemned have ever profited one dollar by their conduct. Mr. Potts regretted that Mr. Murray is not now leader, but urged that the party secure one whom all could follow to victory.

Mr. Jones (Apohaqui) endorsed every word Mr. Baxter had said. Personally, none of the four involved in the vote of censure, desired that it should be passed, and Mr. Jones does not believe it was justifiable. If it had been, would not the present government have taken action to deprive those four of their seats. He had given his best efforts to the party for years, and expected to continue to do so nder the leadership of whoever may be chosen by this convention. But he had suffered under a sense of injustice, and this alone had prompted him to speak tonight. His work in the interests of the party and of the province has at all times been absolutely honest, and he has never profited to the extent of five cents by his participation in public affairs.

Mr. Tilley following said that in his term of service he had done what he considered his duty in office, but when the time arrives when he can no longer do this he will be more than pleased to retire. He fights in the open and feels that whatever differences may exist in the St. John constituency at least have been due to lack of sympathy between members As a government we have been censured and condemned by ourselves. The curse of the party has been the professional politicians, the hangers on, who have sought their own personal profit at the expense of the party. We in the House are amateurs but we have suffered in the timber collections, the Valley Railway, and the potato deal by the professionals who put it all over those in the House or the ministry. Could we who sat in the House sit by idly and swallow the condemnation of our leaders when those leaders had brought the trouble on themselves. If we want the same sort of leaders in the next election, get them, but there will be some of us among those missing under such leadership. The people want a change and the people will rule. The great mass of our citizens are watching the result of our work tonight, and they will decide the future of this party.

Dr. Campbell felt hurt at some of the remarks Mr. Baxter had made, but acknowledged that plain speaking would be of advantage.

W. D. Turner (Sussex) spoke eloquently in support of the attitude taken by Mr. Baxter and Mr. Jones in their loyalty to their leader, and contrasted this with the addresses given by St. John members. He asked if the men who had called this convention and had expressed a desire to clean house—three of them men who had voted against the present leaders—really desired to clean house. If they do, then let this convention back their efforts by naming a convention committee. But, on the other hand, if the feeling of this gathering is otherwise, let this convention vote on the question of acceptance or rejection of the resignation of Mr. Murray.

It was moved by George B. Willett (Moncton) and seconded by George Gilbert (Bathurst) that Hon. J. A. Murray be chosen as leader of this party. The motion carried enthusiastically, with but few dissenting voices. Mr. Tilley called for a standing vote. This was taken, and the election of Mr. Murray was endorsed by an overwhelming majority, practically the only opposition coming from the city of St. John.

Mr. Slipp (Fredericton) urged that all get behind Mr. Murray and send the party to victory. He had served under Mr. Murray for years, all had conceded his personal honesty and all should be glad to follow him. Mistakes may have been made, but none of these could in any way compare with the deliberate dishonesty of the previous administration. Now Mr. Murray had taken the proper course and had stepped down, only to be accorded the unanimous support of his friends and colleagues. Mr. Murray will, with the experience he has enjoyed, be a better man than ever. There is a tendency in our party to be too thin-skinned. We are too critical of our friends. But following this magnificent convention let us get together for the good of our party and of our province. Leadership of this party is a man's job. Let us boost our leader and our Province, keep together, perfect our organization, and remove from power the most corrupt government that has ever held control.

The convention proceeded to the appointment of a provincial organization committee. Those named were:

Chairman—A. D. Ganong, St. Stephen.

Vice-Chairman—M. E. Agar, St. John.

2nd Vice—J. B. Hachey, Bathurst.

Secretary—Rene Richard, Sackville.

Treasurer—J. D. Palmer, Fredericton.

And one representative to be chosen by each constituency.

The convention adjourned.

HUNGARIAN GOV'T DEMANDS POGANY OF AUSTRIA

Vienna, Nov. 5.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Hungarian government has demanded from Austria the surrender of Josef Pogany, Minister of War in the Communist government of Bela Kun, for trial as the instigator of the murder of Count Stefan Tisza, head of the Hungarian movement during the greater part of the war.