

The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, JUNE 17, 1912.

A CLEAN ELECTION.

On two or three occasions recently, the Telegraph has issued a warning to the electors regarding the danger of accepting money for their votes on election day, but the Telegraph has not yet stated that the law which makes possible the punishment of those who use money illegally in elections, was passed by the Hazen Government. Prior to the change in the law, introduced by Mr. Hazen, all sorts of dishonest practices at elections were legally possible under an Act passed by the late Mr. Blair.

Those who know the story of the struggle for a secret ballot in this Province, will remember the attitude of Messrs. Pugsley and Tweedie on this question. For years they resisted every effort to give the people the right to vote secretly, and during the same period they won their elections by the most flagrant bribery and by intimidation of the electors. Employees of large concerns throughout the Province were compelled to vote as their employers wished, or lose their jobs. They were driven to the polls in herds with government ballots in their hands, and watched until they deposited these same ballots with the polling clerks.

This was the Liberal method of dealing with the electors in more than one constituency and was the direct cause of the present Government when in opposition, forcing the Tweedie-Pugsley combination to grant a secret ballot. The first general election run under the new law resulted in the defeat of the old Government, something the people had been looking forward to for years, but had been unable to accomplish because of the bribery and intimidation exercised at elections by Liberal heels.

Unfortunately for the people, this eleventh hour repentance of the so-called Liberal party in this Province is not the result of genuine penitence for their old time methods. They would use money as freely as they ever did if they could get it to spend, but fortunately for the Province, they are no longer in the position to blackmail contractors to grant "rake-offs" to provide a big corruption fund, and the secret ballot act prevents intimidation. The present Government at Fredericton did not defeat the corruptionists with money. They did it by securing a large majority of the votes of the electors who had tired of the deception practised on them and recognized the necessity for a change if the Province were to be saved from bankruptcy.

This feeling is as strong today against the apologists of the old Administration as it was in 1908, when, notwithstanding their possession of all the "resources of civilization" they were defeated by large majorities in almost every county.

It was the present Government which introduced clean methods in Provincial elections and there is neither intention nor necessity to depart from their former policy. The electors of the Province have seen the fruits of honest government, and do not need to be bribed to vote for its continuance. They will go to the polls like men and cast their ballots for Mr. Fleming and his candidates in every county. They will do this largely because of the misrepresentation and untruth regarding the policy of the Government disseminated by the Opposition press and by Opposition speakers from Mr. Copp to his humblest follower since the present campaign opened.

THE CAMPAIGN IN KINGS.

The most desperate campaign waged against any of the Government candidates by the so-called Liberal party in this Province, has been carried on in the County of Kings. This is an old stumping ground of Mr. Pugsley, who has a strong desire to retain a vestige of control in that county. He has never forgiven Messrs. Murray and Jones for defeating his nominees, Messrs. McAllister, Wetmore and Scovill in 1908.

Since his first election as an alleged independent, many years ago, Mr. Pugsley has regarded Kings County as a pocket borough, which was at his beck and call at all times. The defeat of the candidates of the Robinson Government in 1908 was the first setback Mr. Pugsley had received. The next was the victory obtained by Mr. Fowler over his personal protégé, Dr. McAllister, in 1911.

Recognizing the certainty of his defeat when he next appeals to the electorate of St. John, Mr. Pugsley is desirous of keeping Kings under his control. For this reason, thousands of pamphlets misrepresenting the Government have been circulated through Kings which have not seen the light in other counties. Many of the Liberals of the Province have made campaign speeches in different sections of the county, misrepresenting the attitude of the Government and landing Mr. Pugsley. Particularly bitter attacks have been made upon Mr. Murray and Mr. Jones, who represented the county in the last Legislature. Viewed from every standpoint, the Opposition have conducted a meaner and more malignant campaign in Kings than in any other county, except perhaps the County of Carleton, where the campaign is under the direction of Mr. Carvell.

Notwithstanding the vicious nature of the campaign against them in Kings County, the Government candidates are promised increased support in every parish. Fair-minded people are not misled by misrepresentations, nor intimidated by threats. They recognize that both Messrs. Murray and Jones have done well by the county during their term of office. The roads and bridges are in better condition than they ever were before. The Agricultural policy of the Government operates in favor of the farmers, while the railroad policy of Mr. Fleming furnishes transportation for a large section of the county which has hitherto been without proper railway facilities. They realize also, that the Government have made an honest attempt to collect all the territorial revenues due the Province, and have expended their increased collections judiciously and in the best interests of the county.

The attempt of the Telegraph to have it appear that Dr. Pearson made things awkward for the Government candidates on Nomination Day at Hampton, is as ludicrous as it is untrue. Instead of making it even interesting for the supporters of the Government, Dr. Pearson only succeeded in making himself ridiculous and was utterly at a loss to find any real ground of attack on the Government candidates. His inability to explain the policy of Mr. Copp, or to account for the large over-expenditure and corruption of the former Administration, which Mr. Copp stands for, had a visible effect on the electorate. They absolutely refused to accept his statement that Mr. Copp now stands for good government in the face of his record in former years, when he endorsed every corrupt act of

the old Administration. The return of the three Government candidates in Kings County by an increased majority is an assured fact. The people of Kings stand for good government and an honest collection of the revenue.

NEW BRUNSWICK ROADS

A great deal has been said during the present campaign by Opposition speakers and the Opposition press concerning the roads of this Province. It cannot be said that the roads of New Brunswick were ever in too good condition, but it can be said with truth, that they are much better today than they ever were under the old Administration. Considering the fact that there are over 14,000 miles of highway in the Province of New Brunswick and nearly 100 miles of bridges and that the largest vote for maintenance of both these services which was granted by the Legislature last year, amounted to \$270,000, it will readily be seen that the sum is very small for the work it has to do. Small as it is, however, the grant of the present Government for the maintenance of roads and bridges is \$100,000 more than the old Government ever contributed to that purpose.

Ever since the present Administration came into power they have been called upon to spend large sums annually on the repair of bridges and the upkeep of roads which had been neglected by the old Government. Just what the total of this amount would be has never been calculated, but the sum would be a very large one. During the last four years of their administration, the old Government repaired or constructed 1,116 bridges, at a cost of \$341,420. The present Government in four years repaired and constructed 2,538 bridges, at a cost of \$695,104. This shows an increase of 1,422 more bridges dealt with by the present Government than under the old regime, and an increased expenditure of \$351,684 on bridges alone.

The increase in road expenditure by the present Government is in about the same percentage as the increase in bridges. Under the old Government the sum of about \$65,000 was collected from the people for road taxes and spent by the Government. Under the present Administration, the Government spends none of the road monies, but hands them all over to the Highway Boards, which are composed of the Municipal Councilors for each parish and a secretary-treasurer, appointed by the Chief Commissioner of Public Works. Since the new Highway Act, passed by Mr. Hazen, came into force, the improvement in roads has been noticeable, because the rates are expended where they are collected, and the Government are authorized, under the provisions of the Act, to make special expenditures in sparsely settled districts.

The hypocrisy of the Opposition speakers in dealing with the highway question has been very marked through out the campaign. Just before the adjournment of Parliament Mr. Borden introduced a measure into the House of Commons to grant Federal assistance to the Provincial Governments for highway maintenance. This measure was passed through the House of Commons by the Conservative majority representing the people of Canada. When it reached the Senate, which is controlled by a large Liberal majority, an amendment was moved, seconded by Senator King, of this Province, which carried, defeating the bill. Senator King has since confessed that the principal object, indeed the only one, in defeating this measure, was political, as it was feared the action of the Federal Government would have a beneficial effect on the electors. It was progressive legislation and in the interests of the whole country and, therefore, objectionable to such "stand-patters" as Senator King and his ilk.

The action taken by Senator King and his sympathizers in the Senate, has prevented New Brunswick from getting something over \$50,000 to expend on the roads of the Province this year. Had the Government received this sum, they could have sent \$400 additional to the Highway Boards to be spent on the roads in every parish of the Province. That they were unable to do so is directly due to the action of Senator King, who feared such an expenditure would have a bad effect on the Liberal party. The electors in the rural districts should remember that it is due to Senator King, Mr. Pugsley, Mr. Carvell and other Liberals at Ottawa that there is not more money to spend on the roads this year when heavy rains have made additional expenditures necessary.

This, taken from the Times of Saturday evening, is as remarkable for its impudence as its untruth. "It is to be regretted that a free use of liquor by the Government supporters appears to have marked the proceedings at several places on nomination day." The Times has evidently forgotten about that consignment of whiskey of poor quality that was captured in Queens County during an election campaign not long since and which was traced to those representing the Liberal candidate in that county. Liberal whiskey like Liberal money, has in the past been used very freely on nomination day and election day in this Province, and will be quite as much in evidence next Thursday as in former times, though, perhaps, in smaller quantities.

The desperate condition of the Liberal party in this city, which is without efficient organization in several wards, is shown by the following paragraph in Saturday evening's Times: "The three days of next week should be devoted by the Liberals to the task of perfecting an organization that will guard the people's interests at the polls." The Times craves very loudly, but already recognizes that defeat is in store for the six machine candidates nominated by Mr. Pugsley in St. John City and County. The electors of St. John are an intelligent class and are not to be deceived either by bombastic assertion, or misled by untruth and misrepresentation.

Mr. Copp has returned to Westmorland to find that his support is greatly weakened and that the defeat of his ticket, himself included, is a foregone conclusion, even the people of Westmorland have had enough of Mr. Copp. When the present Legislature was called into session, he appointed many of his own relatives to public positions, and persuaded the Federal Government to give jobs to others. The people of Westmorland recognize that if Mr. Copp were given the opportunity again, there would be very few offices left after the Copp family had been provided for.

The Opposition candidates in Charlotte County are making no headway in popular favor. They are all running on their own hook, each man trying to save himself. The election of the whole Government ticket in Charlotte is regarded as an absolute certainty.

That strong ticket nominated in York County has not yet held a public meeting anywhere in the County. It is an Opposition ticket in name only, notwithstanding the fact that it has been put forward by the Opposition press as likely to give trouble to the Government.

The British Manufacturers have come and gone, but the beneficial results of their tour, from the knowledge they gained of New Brunswick's resources and the opportunities for development, will be of lasting benefit to the Province.

Both Messrs. Carpenter and King, the Liberal candidates in Queens County, say that they accepted the nomination unwillingly. Unwilling service is always bad service. The proper course for the electors to take, is to leave these unwilling gentlemen at home.

The News in Short Meter

LOCAL.

Art Union to Dissolve.

E. T. Sturdee, hon. agent for the Art Union of London, has received word that the affairs of the union are to wind up and further operations are discontinued. This action is due to the annual loss to the society in producing the premium pictures, and the small number of subscribers in many of their agencies, and from the fact that picture dealers are able to produce artistic pictures in competition at very low prices. The union will pay all liabilities in full and carry out all obligations to all subscribers.

Broke Arm While Cycling.

Clarence Kitchen, a Carleton boy had one of his arms broken on Friday. He was bicycling when he struck a fence. His injuries were looked after by Dr. F. H. Nave.

Roxbury Priest Here.

Rev. A. J. Gunning, C. S. S. R., of the Mission Church, Roxbury, Boston, Mass., is in the city giving a retreat to the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. The retreat opened on Thursday morning and will be concluded on next Wednesday. He will then give a three days' retreat to the children. Father Gunning was stationed at St. Peter's church some years ago, and is well known throughout the city.

Honors for St. John Signalers.

The whole staff of instructors in signalling at Camp Sussex this year is chosen from No. 8 C. S. C., an honor that reflects the greatest credit on the corps. Divisional order No. 273, dated Halifax, June 10, details the following non-commissioned officers to be employed on the subordinate staff at Camp Sussex as instructors in army signalling and with orders to report for duty at Sussex on Monday, June 24: assistant to signalling officer, Quartermaster Sergeant Instructor J. Arthur Lindsay, No. 8 C. S. C.; Sergeant Instructors Nixon, O'Leary and O'Connor, No. 8 C. S. C.

GENERAL

Premier Asquith Insulted.

London, June 15.—While Premier Asquith was holding an official reception in the India office, last night, in honor of the King's birthday, an elegantly attired suffragette, who had been announced as a guest, approached and tried to tear the epaulettes off the premier's official coat. Mrs. Asquith tried to rescue her husband.

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from the unwelcome attention of the woman, and then an usher literally dragged the suffragette away from the premier and ejected her from the building, despite her stubborn resistance. A couple of minutes later a pale-faced youth of about twenty years was introduced to the premier and took hold of Mr. Asquith's arms roughly and shouted something that was inaudible. He also was unceremoniously thrown out of the room. According to some reports of the occurrence, the woman, whose name was not made public, beat Premier Asquith over the head with her fan.

King of Greece to Abdicate.

Athens, June 15.—King George has arrived home from Copenhagen, where he attended the funeral of King Frederick of Denmark, his brother. Concurrently with his arrival the newspaper Acropolis states that the King will abdicate in favor of the crown prince in 1913, when he will

complete half a century's reign. His Majesty has long wished to leave the throne, but has postponed abdication for reasons of state.

NATIONALS 5; TECUMSEHS 4
Montreal, June 15.—The Nationals, the speedy French Canadian lacrosse team, took a fall out of the Tecumsehs of Toronto this afternoon, winning by 9 to 4. This puts the locals at the top of the heap in the Dominion Lacrosse Association.

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