

COAKERISM IS DOOMED!

St. John's East and West Voters Turn Out in Their Thousands to Welcome

BENNETT AND BETTER TIMES

Four Hours' Meeting Concludes at Midnight.

CASHIN, LINEGAR, and HUNT, HIGGINS, FOX, and VINICOMBE Will Have Sweeping Majorities.

Today is Newfoundland's Independence Day

Candidates Plead to the Multitude to Refrain From Public Parade and Demonstration at Close of Meeting to Comply With Election Act.

Joint meeting held in the Star Hall was attended by old campaigners to be demonstration of the feelings of the people ever witnessed in St. John's. The immense auditorium filled to overflowing and hundreds were unable to gain admittance. 1,000 seats were provided according to the proprietors of the hall. 100 people were standing, so that the hall there were not more than 2,500 voters. The best record of two years ago the chairman of the meeting was Mr. F. W. Ayre, Director of the Star and Sons, Ltd. The platform was crowded with representatives from all sections of the city and the outports. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed and the cheering spontaneous and prolonged. There was no question as to the decision of the meeting. Early proceedings this was demonstrated by a request for a show of hands. As one man the immense cheering rose to its feet and gave three cheers for John R. Bennett and his party.

MR. N. J. VINICOMBE TELLS UNVARNISHED TRUTHS.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Vincent told the gathering of their attitude. He pointed out that since the meeting, there had been no change in the Government's platform. He still left with the one plank, "BETTER TIMES," which was still in the hands and was likely to remain there. He made reference to the expenditure of money and the expenditure in the Auditor General's report as presented at the last meeting of the House. The expenditure of \$150,000 on the Badger and Bay Roads and the Fish Scares were referred to as the worst expenditure at a time when there should be carried on. He said the Auditor General's report was the most unproductive that were ever carried on by the Government in his experience. He said Mr. Ayre, this was but a small part of the money that was being daily squandered. He said the last meeting, the Premier, Mr. A. Squires, had stooped so low as to go into the graveyards and dig up his respected brother and cast stones upon him. Because Squires has an idea that he should not be opposed. He has spoken of it in the Government and has harried the statement of Mr. Richard Squires to his ear. He wished to deny that he would not be doing justice. In his, Mr. Ayre's speech, Mr. A. Squires thinks he is a great man, but his wings would be cut off. Mr. Ayre then turned upon Mr. Linegar to address the gathering.

MR. LINEGAR was given a remarkable reception. He spoke especially of the willingness of the city, which was very voter to-day, who had shown its levelled in this country.

In the campaign in St. John's West, with Sir Michael Cashin and Mr. Hunt, they had witnessed scenes that were direct results of Coaker-Squires rule. To-day 1,800 of our best men are working in Government rock sheds due to Coaker's mismanagement of the fisheries of the country. As the representative of the laborer and workman on the ticket, he asked that labor set its representative this time, otherwise their opportunity of getting direct representation will never come again. The Government had not fulfilled one of its 23 promises. Squires to-day is as much to blame as Coaker, and with Coaker he has got to pay the price.

INDEPENDENCE DAY, MAY 3RD.

Mr. N. J. Vinicombe said it was a sign of the times to see the people out in their thousands for Bennett and Better Times. To-day the Government are appealing to the people without a policy; not a sane policy have they got except vilification and misrepresentation. The Mail and Advocate said that the issue in the lead was that Bennett is Johnny the Pawn. The fact is Bennett will be the Premier after polling day. The 3rd of May will be Independence Day for Newfoundland, because we lost our independence in 1919. The Squires Manifesto with its 23 promises which were never carried out shows that the Government failed in its duty. Mr. Vinicombe made a strong plea for the straight ticket for HIGGINS, FOX and VINICOMBE and resumed his seat amidst tremendous cheering.

HUMBER DEAL NOT THE ISSUE.

W. J. Higgins, leader of the ticket in St. John's East, the next speaker, thanked the audience for the reception and said that after to-morrow they, the candidates under Bennett's leadership, would come back with a smile on the face of the Tiger with the Squires party inside them. To some doubting Thomases who were present he said that it was all over, but the cheering when John R. Bennett's party came back from the polls with the greatest majority ever known. The question of what side of politics a man was on last election was a thing of the past. There were men on the platform who voted against them in 1919, but to-night they were solid to a man to put Squires out of power. Referring to the failure of the Government to open the House of Assembly, Mr. Higgins said that the Opposition could not eat them, they could only talk to them. If the Humber Deal was brought down and was not a proper one they could only raise a row. Now people are told that the election is called to decide whether we are to have this Humber Deal or not, which was absolute nonsense. If there was any man who was of the opinion that Squires had played the game, he was either a prejudiced rogue or a finished liar. He did not claim that all the brains were in the Bennett Party, but there was enough to salvage something from the wreckage left by Squires. The present candidates did not attempt to make believe that when they were elected everything would at once

become rosy and that money would fall like rain. It would take some time before matters would be straightened out, but it was certain that the party were able to give an honest day's work and will not be always muttering "Umber, Umber, Umber." The country's industries will all be helped but the main thing is the fishery and it will receive complete and close attention. It may be possible that relief work will have to be continued, but it will only be until men can be put back to work at their proper avocations. Mr. Higgins appealed to the working men of St. John's West, particularly, not to listen to the whisperings of "what about the Prime Minister?" Their duty is to vote the straight ticket only. The talk of Cashin as Premier was all bosh. Cashin will not be Premier. John R. Bennett is to be the Premier and he alone. The dying will of the Government is for a split vote and for the sake of all they held dear Mr. Higgins appealed to the men to vote all or none for one side or the other. Whatever district the people were in they have either to be satisfied with the Government or not. In conclusion Mr. Higgins stated he had received a telegram from Sir John Crobie, who sent his best respects to the people of St. John's, and assured them that a veritable landslide was going to occur in Bay de Verde and that he and Puddister were coming back with large majorities.

MALADMINISTRATION QUITS TODAY.

Sir Michael Cashin thanked the audience for coming in their thousands. He was struck very much by the remarks of the chairman, who was recognized as a thinking man. Sir Michael referred to the manner in which the Squires Government squandered the surplus left by the previous administration and had increased taxation. Where formerly thirty-seven and a half millions was the value of our exports, out of which a revenue of nine and a half millions was derived, to-day the exports are only ten and a half millions and eleven and a half millions are collected in revenue. The additional million was paid out of a six million dollar loan. The Government say they have a Humber Deal. What is it? Sir Richard Squires was using it to try and gain election, but he was afraid to come on a platform and discuss it with the people. Sir Michael referred to the manner in which the House of Assembly was closed and asked if the Humber Deal was the fine proposition they said it was, why didn't they put it before the House of Assembly as it should have been? To-night Squires was before the people with a manifesto which was full of abuse. The proper thing for him to do is to tell the people why he did not keep his promises of his 1919 manifesto. Continuing his remarks Sir Michael said the Mail called the fight a "spite campaign." So well it might be a spite campaign, the spite of every Newfoundlander against Squires maladministration. Sir Richard Squires was responsible for this and he was asking for re-election without showing why.

WHY YOU CAN'T SUPPORT GOVERNMENT.

Mr. Hunt joined with his colleagues in complimenting St. John's on their extraordinary demonstration, which was a sure indication of six candidates for St. John's. He pointed out there were four points on which the election had to be decided, viz: The record of the Government; the proposed Humber proposition; the Manifesto of Sir R. A. Squires; and the Manifesto of the leader of the Opposition, Mr. J. R. Bennett. The record of the Government was the saddest and blackest since we had responsible government. When they were elected in 1919 they made 23 promises not one of which was carried out. Throughout the sessions not one act of any benefit was carried into effect, for the fisherman, labourer or farmer. They had broken keep the promises of his 1919 manifesto on a policy of economy, and on sooner were they returned than they increased their own salaries from \$200 to \$1,000, and Executive heads from \$2,000 to \$4,000 and that at a time when men were looking for work in vain and widows were without food and clothing. They next appointed a Commission and imported detectives at a cost of \$15,000 to prove that Cashin and Crobie were honourable men. The blackest page in the history of the Government was the Fisheries Regulations, which cost millions to the country and sent many of our best firms to the wall. Coaker is now threatening nationalization of our codfisheries, if returned which means the ruin of St. John's, as once the fish is taken out of St. John's the labourer and all in the city will suffer. He was the great menace facing the country to-day, and it was not a fair deal for the people to be held in the grip of one man, to do as he dictated. The many cases of abject poverty in the city to-day were directly due to the mismanagement of our great fishing industry. Mr. Hunt referred to the Squires Manifesto and its lack of policy and compared it to Mr. Bennett's straight and open pronouncement which was the only hope for Newfoundland, as he promised above everything else the preservation of the fisheries which support 60 per cent. of Newfoundland and without which we cannot exist.

ABSOLUTELY NO EXCUSE.

Mr. C. J. Fox was the next speaker, and like the preceding candidates was given a whole-hearted welcome. In a forceful speech of nearly an hour, Mr. Fox reviewed the issues now before the country. The Government themselves were ashamed of their record, and that is why the House was closed, and a general election sprung on the country. They could not put forth a reasonable excuse for their actions. The Humber cry is a fictitious cry, as the Humber is not the policy of the Government. It is already as well known an accomplished fact and is being used to divide give them another term of office. As Newfoundlanders we must put an end to the wholesale emigration of our best manhood, 10,000 or more of whom have gone out the Narrows since Coaker and Squires got control. The Government has abandoned constitutional authority and have done everything by Minute-of-Council.

A RECORD OF INCOMPETENCE.

In response to the insistent demand of the audience, Mr. John Stone, the leader of the Opposition team in Trinity District addressed them. Mr. Stone took part of the Squires' Manifesto of 1919 and showed up its falsity. He referred in scathing terms to the fleet of ships which the country had to pay dearly. The manner in which the Herring industry was neglected as well as the possibilities of Refined Cod Liver Oil also came in for severe castigation. Squires said he would put the Reids in their places but as soon as he got in power

he gave them two millions and has so it is reported, given them another million and a half. He has allowed them to increase their passenger rates one cent per mile and freight rates from forty to eighty per cent. Mr. Stone referred to the famous roads that were built and also to the failure to erect the Outport hospitals. Mr. Stone's remarks were heartily received and at the close of his speech he was given three hearty cheers. Mr. Stone came to town yesterday to look after the Trinity Bay booth here. Mr. Higgins then called for three cheers for the chairman, for Mr. Bennett, for the candidates, which were given with whole-souled vigor and the meeting then adjourned near about midnight.

Outside the hall the citizens lined up waiting to hail the candidates home in carriages, but the lateness of the hour prevented it being done as it was in contravention of the Election Act to hold a demonstration on Polling Day. Mr. Hunt addressed the gathering from the gallery and explained this, and with cheers for the candidates the gathering dispersed.

Can't Help Bluffing.

Bluffing seems to be a complaint with the Advocate and Mail scribes who throughout the campaign have turned and twisted every argument and contention which called for truth and verification. In the special edition of the Mail this morning the reporters of the meeting stated almost three thousand people were present in the Majestic Theatre. To prove the absurdity of this statement we have only to mention the seating capacity of the Majestic which is 1135 allowing that between another three or four hundred would find standing room, it will be clearly seen that if the hall was filled to capacity, the most that could possibly assemble, at one time would not exceed fifteen hundred. Make a fair comparison with this gathering and the meeting, at the Star Theatre which is without exception the largest in the city which was crisscrossed to the doors, hundreds could not get standing room. Bares, aisles and entrances were jammed with an eager enthusiastic assemblage and long after midnight hundreds despite the inclemency of the weather waited in the hope that they would hear open air addresses from their popular representatives and accord them a public demonstration. But as it was long after midnight before the theatre was vacated, it was deemed advisable to refrain from any demonstration of this nature for the principal reason that without exception all the St. John's Bennett candidates will be elected with sweeping majorities and their opponents might avail of this excuse to have them unseated. If there were two thousand people in the Majestic there were five thousand in the Star and bluffing and misstatements of this nature do them cause very little credit or advantage. The people will have spoken to-day and all the deceit they can manufacture cannot stare off the inevitable that is generally accepted in the slogan of Bennett and Better Times. St. John's is finished with Coaker and Squires.

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East End Ballot Paper

How to Mark Your Ballot

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1—BARTLETT
Henry Bartlett, of St. John's,
Contractor. | |
| 2—BULLEY
Arthur R. Bulley, of St. John's,
Commission Merchant. | |
| 3—BURKE
Joseph P. Burke, of St. John's,
Insurance Salesman. | |
| 4—DUNFIELD
Brian Dunfield, of St. John's,
Barrister. | |
| 5—FOX
Cyril James Fox, of St. John's,
Barrister. | X |
| 6—HIGGINS
William J. Higgins, of St. John's,
King's Counsel. | X |
| 7—VINICOMBE
Nicholas J. Vinicombe, of St. John's,
Grocer. | X |

VOTE THE STRAIGHT TICKET
FOX HIGGINS VINICOMBE
5 6 7

West End Ballot Paper

How to Mark Your Ballot

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1—CAMPBELL
Hon. Alexander Campbell, of St. John's,
Minister Agriculture & Mines. | |
| 2—CASHIN
Sir M. P. Cashin, of St. John's,
Merchant. | X |
| 3—FITZGIBBON
Joseph Fitzgibbon, of St. John's,
Draper. | |
| 4—HUNT
Charles E. Hunt, of St. John's,
Barrister-at-Law. | X |
| 5—LINEGAR
William F. Linegar, of St. John's,
Cooper. | X |
| 6—SQUIRES
Sir Richard Squires, of St. John's,
Prime Minister and Colonial Secretary. | |

VOTE THE STRAIGHT TICKET
CASHIN HUNT LINEGAR
2 4 5

Knowling's

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BEANS—Scarlet Runner.
BEANS—French Dwarf.
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TURNIP—Second Early "Golden Ball."
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BEET—Egyptian—very early.
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