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RECIPROCITY AGREEMENT WINNING FRIENDS FOR GOVERNMENT IN ONTARIO

James J. Harpell, Mining Expert and Man of Wide Business Connections, Declares it Will Be Fine Thing for Canada—Annexation Talk Absolutely Insane—Conservative Members in Ontario, Who Opposed Agreement, Not Likely to Be Renominated.

Saturday, March 25.

A careful student of economic conditions and a man of wide business interests, James J. Harpell, representative of the Mine Products, Limited, who sailed yesterday on the C. P. R. steamer Empress of Britain on a selling trip to Europe, places the hearty stamp of approval on the reciprocity agreement and believes as a Liberal of the old school that its adoption will result in a great increase in the popularity of the Laurier government.

Mr. Harpell is the author of an excellent treatise on the trade agreement and expended much time in the collection of material for this work. He investigated thoroughly the effect that reciprocity will have upon the various industries of the dominion and in the course of an interview with a Telegraph reporter on board the Empress yesterday, he touched on these various phases of the tariff question.

"If anyone interested in the exploitation of the natural resources of Canada, whether it be the mine, forest or farm, does not regard the reciprocity agreement as a step in the right direction then he does not understand the conditions," he said. "We have made very little progress in the development of these resources within the last twenty years. Any increase in the mining export is accounted for by fresh discoveries such as the Cobalt silver, while the trade in gold and many of the non-metallic ores in which I am particularly interested has fallen off. We no longer export manganese and the mining of graphite has to a great extent ceased.

Government Gains Popularity in Ontario.

"This reciprocity agreement is warming the hearts of many Ontario men to the Laurier administration. Liberals will fight to the last ditch in the great Tory strongholds of Ontario, as of old. As a matter of fact, the Liberal government has never been in better favor than at present. In my native country, Frontenac, the Conservative member, Dr. Edwards, will probably not be re-nominated owing to his stand against the agreement, and no anti-reciprocity candidate can be elected in this county at least. I am told that Mr. Northrup, one of the opposition leaders, tried in vain at three farmers' meetings to have resolutions adopted against reciprocity, but failed.

"The straw votes taken by the Toronto News and other partizan newspapers are simply a farce. I know for certain that the man engaged by one of these papers after interviewing the people in a neighborhood simply draws up the ballot to suit the views of his paper.

"The feeling of the farmers is well indicated by the story of a man near Brockville who told me he had a barn full of hay which he wintered for two years waiting for better prices. 'Reciprocity will bring the price up $4 a ton,' he said, 'and I will wait for it. If I am able to make a fair profit on this hay in Canada will I not be more satisfied to stay here under those conditions and think less of moving across the line or of helping to erase that line from the map?'"

How It Works Out.

"If prices are higher, as you say, will the cost of living in Canadian towns be increased?" was asked Mr. Harpell.

"No. The conditions are somewhat peculiar," was the reply. "Hay is one of the few things from which the farmer receives directly an increase in the price. While live hogs are cheaper in Canada than in the United States, pork products are much dearer. It is the same with cattle on the hoof and prepared beef, Canadian wheat and the milled flour. This means not only that our cost of production is greater, but that the middleman in Canada receives an inordinate profit. Reciprocity will mean a cut in the difference between the price of raw material and the cost of the manufactured product. One will be increased and the other lessened."

An Insane Idea.

"What about the annexation bogie?" the reporter asked.

"Annexation to the United States is about the most insane idea I ever heard expressed," he replied, "but I will admit that many honest and intelligent men believe in this danger, misled by the course of such hitherto responsible papers as the Montreal Star, but many of which are now in the hands of party managers."

Mr. Harpell's firm markets such ores as mica, feldspar and manganese in Europe, drawing their supplies mostly from Canada but in some cases ordering from other countries. He complained that the United States and Canada were discriminated against by the transatlantic shipping combine, which imposed a tax of forty cents per ton more on all goods carried to Europe from these countries than was paid on shipments from other nations.

Asked if his firm, which has headquarters at Toronto and branches at London and other European cities, had been interested in any maritime province properties, Mr Harpell said that there was an excellent market for mica from Nova Scotia and antimony and manganese from New Brunswick in Europe. It had been found, however, that with the present tariff the high cost of machinery and the steamship discrimination, that the development of mines of this class was not very profitable.

Mr. Harpell will remain in Europe for about a month, returning by way of New York.

LIBERALS OF CARDWELL GETTING READY FOR THE NEXT CAMPAIGN

Penobsquis, N. B., March 24—The Penobsquis Liberal Club held one of the largest meetings in the history of the organization last evening at their committee rooms here. Although the weather was unfavorable for travel, the number present and the enthusiasm shown proved conclusively that good old Cardwell is stronger for the Liberal party than ever before. President Albert Stone was in the chair and at the beginning of the meeting the secretary, William S. Teakles, read the minutes of the last month's meeting and reported the election of the following officers for the present term:

President—Albert Stone.
Vice-president—H. S. Secord.
Second vice-president—William Lockhart.
Secretary—William S. Teakles.
Assistant secretary—Archibald Robinson.
Treasurer—Albert Hall.
Chairman membership committee—W. D. Stewart.

A resolution was passed that some action be taken by the club to have the C. P. R. trains stop at Penobsquis station, and a petition to this end was prepared and signed by all present. This petition will be sent all over this section for signatures. If the petition should result in having the trains stopped it will be a great convenience for the whole community. Speeches were delivered during the evening by several members, and the speakers were heartily applauded. The next meeting will be held on Thursday evening next, and all friends of good government and the Liberal party are invited to attend. The club meetings are both instructive and interesting and all who have any interest in public affairs are made welcome and asked to take part in the discussion.

YOUR OPPORTUNITY

A pathetic case has lately come to light. An elderly woman, for years one of the society ladies in a fair Canadian city and thought to be wealthy, has through unfortunate investments fallen upon hard lines, and the sadness of her case is increased by the terrible fact that she has been stricken down by an incurable disease. During her prosperous years she thought but little of the future, and a large portion of her income was spent in "keeping up appearances." Now, penniless and homeless, she must seek admission to some place of refuge; her friends of yesterday know her no more. Such cases as these should cause young wage-earners to appreciate the fact that they may escape such a fate if they are but willing to take advantage of the Canadian government annuities scheme, for by investing with the government but a small portion of their weekly wages they can provide an income to begin at 55 or later that will insure them independence and happiness no matter how long they live. Give the matter your most serious consideration, and if you desire further particulars on the subject these may be obtained on application to your postmaster, or to the superintendent of government annuities, Ottawa, to whom all letters go free of postage.

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For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher

OBITUARY

Mrs. Emma Bragaw.

Mrs. Emma Bragaw, widow of Lewis S. Bragaw, died of old age at her home, 47 Hamilton avenue, Lynn (Mass.), recently. The deceased was seventy-five years of age. She was born in St. John, but had been a resident of Lynn for the past 25 years and was an attendant at St. Stephen's church. Two daughters survive her in Lynn, Mrs. Frank I. Folkins of 47 Hamilton avenue, with whom she made her home, and Mrs. Albert Fisher of 99 High Rock street, also one son, Lewis Bragaw of Lynn, and a brother, W. W. Potter of Pensacola (Fla.)

Miss Amy Turner.

Sackville, N. B., March 23—In Middle Sackville this morning Miss Amy Palmer died. She was born on December 4, 1814, and was nearly ninety-seven years old. She was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Philip Palmer. The late Judge Acalus Lockwood Palmer was a brother. Her mother, who was twice married, was Senator Wood's grandmother.

Mrs. Edward McGowan.

Friday, March 24.

The death of Mrs. Gertrude McGowan, widow of Edward McGowan, occurred in this city yesterday morning. She had been ill for five or six weeks. She is survived by one son and two daughters. The son is Edward, and the daughters Miss Margaret and Mrs. Haggerty of Fairville.

Robert Herbert.

Harvey Station, March 24—Word has been received here from Melbourne, Australia, of the death of Robert Herbert, which occurred at that place on January 4. He was the eldest son of Thomas Herbert, one of the pioneers of Harvey, and came here from Northumberland, England, with his parents in the year 1837. He resided here and helped to clear land until the year 1849, when the news of the great gold discovery in Australia induced him to start for that place, which he reached after a voyage of more than six months. During his 61 years residence in that far off southern land he never visited his old home here. He had some success at the gold diggings and acquired a fair share of this world's goods, which he lived long to enjoy. He is survived by a large family. He is also survived by three sisters residing here. They are Mrs. Margaret Little, who is still well and hearty in her 86th year, and Mrs. Mary and Mrs. Jane Robison. The late George Herbert was a brother, and the late Thomas Robison, M.P.P., was a nephew of deceased.

Robert McKinnon

Richibucto, March 22—The death of Robert McKinnon occurred last evening at his home in town, after a lengthy illness. He had completed his 70th year on the 12th inst. He leaves to mourn his loss his wife, four sons, William, Hugh, George and Robert, all at home, and two daughters, Mrs. Harry Lannigan, of this town, and Miss Ida McKinnon, at home. He also leaves his sister, Mrs. Benedict Haines, of Richibucto, and other relatives.

Robert Thompson.

Richibucto, March 23—The death of Robert Thompson occurred at his home in the North End on the night of the 20th inst. He was born at Sunderland (England), 84 years ago. After coming to this country in 1849, (sixty-two years ago) he married Miss Mary Conroy, of Barnaby River, Northumberland county, who survives him. He also leaves two daughters, Mrs. P. Quinn, of Chatham, and Miss Elena, at home, and three sons, William and Thomas, in Waltham (Mass.), and Matthew, at home. The funeral took place this morning, service being held in St. Aloysius church, Rev. J. J. McLaughlin officiating. Interment was made in the R. C. cemetery.

Andrew McHugh.

Saturday, March 25.

The death occurred yesterday of Andrew McHugh, a life long resident of the Black River Road. The deceased, who was 86 years of age, was never married and was the last surviving member of his family. He lived for several years with his brother-in-law, George Henry, the caretaker at Rockwood Park.

Ivy F. Cameron.

Ivy F. Cameron, ldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Cameron, of Round Hill, Greenwich, Kings county, died there on the 21st inst., aged 23 years. She had been in poor health for about four years during which time she was a great sufferer. She displayed great patience, however, throughout, and is survived by her father and mother, three brothers and one sister. Miss Cameron was very popular and will be missed.

Mrs. Isabella Smith.

McDonald's Point, Queens county, March 23.—The death of Mrs. Isabella Smith, widow of the late William B. Smith, occurred at her home, McDonald's Point, Wickham parish, on Sunday evening, March 19. She was in the 82nd year of her age and had enjoyed good health until a day or two before she died, when she contracted a severe cold. Her death came as a sudden blow to her adopted son, with whom she lived. Of a sterling character, she will be greatly missed by her many friends. Funeral services were conducted on the 21st inst. at her home, and church, by Rev. R. W. Campbell.

Ezra Keswick.

Newcastle, March 24.—The funeral of the late Ezra Keswick was held on Tuesday last and was one of the largest ever seen in this section of our country. The service was conducted by Rev. J. R. Miller, of Bass River. At the close of the regular service at the house a short memorial service was held by the Foresters and at the grave the service was in charge of the Orangemen.

The services throughout were very impressive. Interment was in the Bass River cemetery.

James Heans.

The death of James Heans occurred at his home in Paradise row Saturday afternoon. He is survived by two daughters, Misses Lillian and Ette, at home, and four sons, Gordon Beverly, Leonard, Osborne, and Harry. Two sisters also survive, Mrs. Margaret Small, of West End, and Mrs. John Smith, of Prince Rupert. He was a brass moulder by trade, and was foreman in the Fleming foundry. He was taken ill only on Tuesday last.

Arthur Walker.

Monday, March 27.

R. E. Walker, of the Standard, received word Saturday of the death of his brother Arthur, who was run over and instantly killed by a train near Cape Town, South Africa. The late Mr. Walker went through the South African war and following concussion of the brain, received during the campaign, was subject to attacks of giddiness. He was walking on the railway track at the time of the accident and it is supposed a sudden attack rendered him helpless and caused his death. Mr. Walker is survived by two sisters in England, Mrs. J. Dalrymple Hay, of Bedford Park, London; Mrs. Harold Merry, of Radlett Herts, and five brothers, Rupert E., of this city; Tom, of Wimbledon, England; Edward, in Singapore, India; William, in Johannesburg, S. A., and Craven H., in Egypt.

Mrs. W. B. Murphy.

Monday, March 27.

Mrs. T. Fred Powers received a telegram Saturday morning from Appleton, Wisconsin, announcing the death of her sister in that place. She was the wife of the late W. B. Murphy and a daughter of the late Stephen E. Stevens. She is survived by one brother, Robert, of this city, and two sisters, Mrs. C. H. Barbour and Mrs. T. Fred. Powers, also of this city.

William Witherell.

Newcastle, March 25—After a lingering illness, William Witherell, one of the best known and most highly respected farmers of Newcastle, died yesterday, aged seventy-two. He is survived by his widow Margaret (nee Matheson), two sisters—Mrs. William C. Anslow, of Ruby Creek (B. C.), and Mrs. Edmund Tozer, of California—and the following children: Lewis, California; Joel and Ernest, Montana; Mrs. Seignious, Boston; Fred, New York; Clinton, at home, and Claude.

James Byrne.

Sussex, March 26—James Byrne, aged 84 years, a highly esteemed and respected resident of Sussex and well and favorably known throughout the county, died here tonight at 12 o'clock, surrounded by all the members of his family. Mr. Byrne was born in the county of Tyrone, Ireland, and emigrated with his parents to this province in the forties, landing at the city of St. John. Before the building of the Intercolonial railway he settled in Sussex, being one of the town's earliest settlers. He carried on business for many years, retiring in the eighties and having since led a quiet life. Starting life as a poor boy, he took an active interest and was well versed in the affairs of the country. He was a man of sterling honesty and his word was recognized as good as his bond.

He leaves his widow and the following children: Sarah, at home; Alice, wife of Dufferin W. Harper, manager of the Bank of New Brunswick, Riverside, Albert county; Madam Mary Byrne, of the Sacred Heart Convent, London (Ont.); Felix and George, at home; James P. Byrne, M. P. P., barrister, Bathurst; Dr. Thomas Ives Byrne, Chatham (N. B.), and the Rev. E. J. Byrne, rector of the Sacred Heart church, Norton.

WEDDINGS

Smith-Jessiman.

Chatham, N. B., March 23—A pretty wedding took place yesterday morning at Douglastown, when Miss Ida, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Jessiman, and Norman R. Smith were united in marriage by Rev. F. C. Simpson. The bride looked very charming in a traveling suit of brown chiffon broadcloth, with hat to match. After the ceremony, a dainty wedding breakfast was served, and the happy couple drove to Newcastle, where they took the train for St. John. The honeymoon will be spent in Boston and other American cities, and on their return Mr. and Mrs. Smith will reside on Howard street. Many beautiful presents attested to the esteem in which both principals are held.

Fowler-Patchell.

The following from the New Castle Courier, of New Castle (Ind.), of March 16 will be read with a great deal of interest by many in this city and province. The groom is a son of R. R. Patchell, grocer, Stanley street, while the bride is a daughter of Josiah Fowler, of the Josiah Fowler Co., Ltd., also of this city:

"A quiet and simple wedding occurred Monday evening at 7.30 o'clock, when Miss Aline Fowler, daughter of Josiah Fowler, was united in marriage to Samuel Patchell, formerly of St. John, New Brunswick, at the Fowler home on South Twelfth street. The ceremony was very simple and was performed by Rev. T. Worsley Maguire,

LOCAL NEWS

Correspondents who send letters to The Semi-Weekly Telegraph and who wish to have them returned if they are not printed, must send stamps for return postage.

The board of health reports twenty-one deaths for the week.

W. Frank Hatheway, M. P. P., is still confined to his house through illness and will be unable to take his seat in the local legislature at Fredericton this week.

Word was received here last evening of the serious illness of Mrs. Hayes, mother of Ald. R. T. Hayes, at her home in P. E. Island. Her many friends here will regret to learn that her recovery is unexpected.

Auctioneer Webber sold two properties at Chubb's corner Saturday morning. A house at 424 Main street was sold for $1150 to Morris Ring, who also became the purchaser of a house at the corner of George and Carleton streets at $380. Both houses belonged to M. Whitman. Auctioneer Potts, on the Market Square, sold a horse for $46

County Secretary Kelley, the councillors delegated and some parties interested returned Friday night from Fredericton, where they had been presenting the county bills before the municipalities committee of the legislature. D. G. Lingley, the chamberlain, appeared for the city, Councillors Donovan, Dean, Cochran and Connely for the county and H. M. Hopper and F. R. Taylor for the St. John Railway Company.

Among a number recently graduated in nursing from St. John's Hospital, Lowell (Mass.), was Miss Mary Doherty, daughter of William H. Doherty, Wright street. In addition to receiving an honorary diploma she was also successful in winning a gold medal, awarded for general efficiency. Following her graduation she was offered a position in the general public hospital, Lawrence (Mass.), which she accepted. Her many St. John friends will be pleased to learn of her success.

A. E. K. McKenzie, chairman of the relief committee in Campbellton, arrived in the city at noon Saturday and will leave for home at night. He says that things are now prospering in the thriving North Shore town and before long all traces of the recent conflagration will be erased. Work will soon be begun on the new I. C. R. station, the post office and several of the churches. Handsome new dwellings have been erected and the place is beginning to present a new aspect.

One sees enamelled buttons in the palest of green and gold enamel, trimmed with cut steel pearls, silver and chased gold.

YORK SEES THAT HAZEN IS BLUFFING

(Continued from page 1.)

This afternoon this second letter was sent to Mr. Guthrie:

"3.45 p. m.

"Fredericton, N. B., March 27, 1911.

"P. A. Guthrie, Esq., Secretary Government Committee, City.

"Dear Sir,—I have a telephone message from Mr. Carvell since writing you this morning, and am instructed to inform you that he will be glad to have Hon. Mr. Flemming attend his meeting at the Opera House here next Wednesday evening to discuss the Valley railway question.

"As for the Marysville meeting, Mr. Carvell is very willing to meet Mr. Flemming there Tuesday evening and continue the discussion, but as the meeting is shared with him by A. B. Copp he referred the matter to the Liberal executive, and I am instructed by them to inform you that there has been a special request for Mr. Copp's appearance at Marysville, and as there will be some difficulty of dividing the time between three speakers, to suggest that Hon. Mr. Flemming discuss provincial issues with Mr. Copp there and the Valley railway question with Mr. Carvell in the Opera House. Kindly give me a reply if this is satisfactory.

"I am,

"Yours truly,
(Sgd.) "E. S. CARTER,
"Liberal Organizer."

Up to the hour of writing, 10 p. m., no reply has been received from the government executive, but one may come later.

The meeting in the Opera House will be most interesting, and Fredericton people will have a chance to judge of the merits of the different Valley railway propositions.

Liberals Confident.

In the meantime, while Mr. Carvell has been the storm centre and the Valley railway question the main issue, the campaign is going on merrily and energetically in all directions, and the record of the Hazen government is on trial. The Gleaner says the Liberals are not confident of victory. There never was a lot of men more confident or more eager, and their only regret is that there is insufficient time to thoroughly complete their parish organization.

Every possible influence has been brought to bear against the Liberal forces. Contributions have been levied upon inspectors and contractors, and a portion of the amount overpaid to them on bridge and road work will be part of the immense funds that the Tories are throwing into York to help resist public opinion.

No Liquor to Be Used.

And there are other influences beside money being used. That people feared this is shown by the following resolution:

"At the regular meeting of the official quarterly board of the Methodist church on the Nashwaak circuit a motion was unanimously carried, that the committee of each political party be requested to send no liquor to the polling places at Nashwaak village and Taymouth on the 30th inst.

"DANIEL R. CHOWAN, Supt.,
WM. MONROE, Rec. Steward.
"Taymouth, March 24th, 1911."

The reply of the Liberal executive follows:

"Fredericton, N. B., March 27, 1911.

"To William Monroe, Esq., Rec. Steward
Nashwaak Circuit Methodist Church,
Taymouth, York County, N. B.:

"Dear Sir: I beg to acknowledge the receipt of a resolution unanimously carried by the official quarterly board of the Methodist church on the Nashwaak circuit to the effect that the committee of each political party be requested to send no liquor to the polling places at Nashwaak village and Taymouth on polling day.

"It affords me very much pleasure to say that the executive of the Liberal party for York county determined at the beginning of the campaign that no liquor should be sent out to Liberal committees throughout the county, and that this resolution has been and will be strictly adhered to.

"I am, yours very truly,
(signed) "E. S. CARTER,
"Liberal Organizer."

A Lively Campaign.

Tonight Hon. Mr. Robinson is speaking at Cross Creek with N. W. Brown and J. D. Phinney. There is a very large hall there and Stanley parish will turn out in force to hear the leader of the opposition and the other speakers.

Mr. Carvell reports a splendid meeting at Southampton today, and he is speaking again tonight at Pokiok, where the candidate, Mr. Burden lives. There are committee meetings all over the county, but the heavy rain that has set in will make traveling almost impossible and speakers will have great difficulty in reaching places to speak. There is more snow in the country than there has been all winter, and with the heavy rain the condition of the roads can be imagined.

Hot Fighting.

But Liberals are jubilant over the result of their decision to contest the bye-election. They have shown a fighting spirit that they did not dream was in the party. They have forced the Hazen government to put up a fight for its very life.

Tonight is an example. The Opera House platform is occupied by the federal member, O. S. Crocket, and Messrs. McLeod, Morrissy and Flemming, and there is darkness in the house of assembly. Business has been practically suspended and committees met but seldom.

The reciprocity amendment drags in the house. It was not debated today, and there were only two incidents to mark the afternoon's session. One of them was that the opposition leader called a statement of the Standard, preferring to a remark of his in the house, "a frigid and palpable lie;" and the other was Mr. McLeod's declaration that he never did it—never said that the government had signed a contract to build the Valley railway.

Tonight all of the speakers in the Opera House are indulging in heaping abuse upon Mr. Carvell. Their vocobulary has been extended. And nothing is too hard or horrid to say about the Carleton man who has dared to come to York and tell the truth about the Valley railway. How these Tories hate Carvell!

CITIZENS DEMAND CIVIC HOME RULE

(Continued from page 1.)

ent they would certainly have opposed the resolution submitted by the bills and by-laws committee. (Applause).

The chairman said that all the leading merchants were in favor of an elective commission as well as the laboring men. "In this work," he said, "we know no politics. We don't know Liberals. We don't know Conservatives. Our politics is St. John, first, last and all the time." (Applause.)

He then stated that the meeting was open to any who desired to express their views on the question.

Miles E. Agar, in response to calls from the audience, arose to register his protest against the vote on a royal commission. It was to be regretted, he said, that people in St. John had been apathetic in regard to civic politics in the past, but now there seemed to be an awakening. He spoke of the men who entered the common council, good men many of them, who failed to make their mark. This was largely owing to the system, which was wrong and handicapped the man no matter how good his intentions. The present system was too cumbersome and took too much of a man's time. The remedy was to change the system, and it seemed after exhaustive inquiries in other places that commission government was the best suited to St. John's needs. This meeting was called, however, not to talk commission, but to consider the action of the common council which in voting for a royal commission had "drawn a herring across the trail."

It was on account of commission that the meeting was being held and it was important that all should understand just what the system was and what it meant. There had been much in the press both for and against and everyone should know by this time what commission meant.

The speaker appealed to the audience to take hold of the question earnestly, for after all it was more important than federal or provincial politics. He hoped all would feel interested enough to vote for better government, which would be commission government. Some people said it would be difficult to get the right men, but he could not think there was any lack of good men in St. John. What was wanted was young men.

Must Leave Right With Us.

"Now as to the reason for this meeting," he said: "The council has asked the legislature to appoint a royal commission to decide on the form of government we want here. The legislature has a right to make laws for the province, but not to say how St. John should work out its system of self government."

If the plebiscite for commission carried, it was fit and proper that the common council should draw up a charater, but they should not ask the government to take away the city's right of self-government. He hoped the meeting would unanimously condemn the action of the common council in asking for a royal commission, and that on election day they would vote for the adoption of the commission plan.

If the people were apathetic they would get indifferent government, if they were alive and alert they would get an energetic and active government. (Applause.)

L. P. D. Tilley.

L. P. D. Tilley, who was the next speaker, was received with applause. He said he was not like the aldermen who were afraid to came out on the public platform, but as a citizen he felt he had a right to speak his mind. This was a critical stage in the city's life and he felt that there was a stronger feeling in favor of commission than in any public question for a long time. The majority of the merchants, professional men and the labor men were in favor of the commission government.

The aldermen had sidetracked the plan by asking for a royal commission, and if that idea was adopted by the legislature St. John would probably not get commission government for five years. He was not in favor of a royal commission because it savored too much of the common council, where one had to beat all around the bush before one could get anywhere. If a royal commission was appointed it was probable that the majority would be opposed to an elective commission and it would be a long time before the city would get it.

Four weeks ago while in Fredericton he was told that a certain alderman from one of the North End wards—(Voice—"Which one?"

Mr. Tilley—"It was the alderman from Stanley ward."

This alderman was getting members of the legislature to agree to the appointment of a royal commission. He wanted a royal commission to see if it was necessary for the people to vote on the question. (Laughter.)

The public wanted commission, the speaker said, and it was going to have it. He would say it in spite of the fact that a member of the board of directors of the Standard—Miles E. Agar, was present. There were other directors present and he (the speaker) was also one. (Laughter and applause.)

He thought there would be brains enough in the common council as it would be constituted next year, with the assistance of the citizens' committee and a few able lawyers, to draft a charter for St. John. (Applause.)

Standard's Misrepresentation.

Mr. Tilley then proceeded to deal with some statements that had been made by the Standard about meetings that he had addressed recently on commission. It had been stated that the west side meeting was composed of men and boys, but he wanted to say and he would ask anyone from the west side to bear him out, that the meeting was a well attended one. He had counted personally 235 men in that audience and only 14 boys. He did not mind criticism personally, but he liked to see things presented fairly and squarely. It had also been said that the speakers on the west side had held out as a bait, that if there was a commission a bridge would be built. He denied that there was any difference in their platform for the east and west sides. What had been said, at that meeting was that a commission might have saved the city about $12,000 a year and that amount would pay the interest on a bonded indebtedness of $300,000 for a bridge. He might also have stated that the city might have saved the $100,000 spent for the ferry steamer and have had two smaller boats built for the same money and the work done on the west side. (Applause.)

The main point was that five men could do the work and if they didn't the citizens could remove them. If there was a commission, they could drop on five men easier than seventeen. He also remarked that there were men now at the council who could make good commissioners, but the trouble was that there wasn't enough of them to do the business properly.

He referred also to the criticism in the Standard that his reference to the methods of the council in dealing with an application for the purchase of land was inspired by a desire to get possession of lands in an underhand manner. He argued that he had contended that a commission would act in a businesslike manner, not hurriedly but without sending an application from one place to another and delaying the matter until it was too late to do anything. Under the present system, it was "according to how you can pull a certain alderman's coat-tail. (Applause.)

The speaker cited an instance where a client of his had offered $1,000 for a city lot, but it was refused because it had been promised to someone else for a rental of $20 per year, which would be on a valuation of $400.

He said he was glad to stand on the platform and say that this was a movement in which there was no politics. There should be no politics in civic affairs. (Applause.) If all would stand together, the laboring men, the merchants and the professional men, they would make St. John a city to be justly proud of. In closing he asked them to give a vote of three to one for commission on election day next April.

Timothy Donovan.

Timothy Donovan, of the west side, was the next speaker and he made a characteristic speech which kept the audience in roars of laughter. He said he felt sure in looking over the large audience before him that the people were terribly in earnest. It had been argued that a royal commission was needed now because one had been appointed at the time of the union, but the commission had not done anything for Carleton on that occasion except to increase their taxes. He paid his respects to the Standard and said the headlines they used in connection with their articles on commission were very far fetched. He spoke of the recent letter in which reference was made to irregularities of one of the commissioners and said he had not noticed that the commissioner had been accused of taking any stone. (Laughter.)

He had asked several of the aldermen who was responsible for introducing the resolution asking for a royal commission, but none of them seemed to know. "I would like to know," he said, "whose is the head that wears the helmet, whose the hand that wields the sword?" (Laughter and applause.)

The only way to deal with the matter, he thought, was to send a large delegation to Fredericton, as the legislature could not refuse the application of the people. They were terribly in earnest. "They had put their hand to the plow and they would not turn back." (Applause.)

Resolution Unanimous.

At the conclusion of Mr. Donovan's remarks, E. L. Rising arose and said he thought it was fitting at this time to move a resolution to test the feeling of the meeting. He then introduced the following resolution, which was seconded by Timothy Donovan:

"Resolved, That this meeting of citizens condemns in the most vigorous terms the action of the aldermen who voted for a resolution asking the legislature to appoint a royal commission to frame a new city charter, a bill which may be of the greatest importance to every citizen of the city, and the framing of which no outside influence should be permitted to control.

"If by the vote at the coming civic election a new charter is required it will be the right and duty of the aldermen then elected to prepare such a charter and submit it to the legislature for final approval, we naturally expecting that the common council will, in the framing of this very important bill, seek the aid and advice of the best talent representing the various interests of the city.

"We submit it was a gross breach of trust for those aldermen, with only a few weeks of office remaining, to attempt to vote away such an important right of the people who elected them, and to deprive their successors in office a few weeks hence of the right and privilege of carrying out the will and voice of the people.

"Further resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to Hon. J. Douglas Hazen, Hon. Robert Maxwell, and J. E. Wilson and W. F. Hatheway, urging that they use all their influence with the government and legislature to prevent the passing of this bill."

Rights of the People Interfered With.

Before resuming his seat, Mr. Rising said he did not often take an interest in affairs of this kind, but he was interested in this matter and he felt that the rights of the people had been interfered with.

Rev. Dr. Campbell.

In response to an invitation from some one in the audience, Rev. Dr. G. M. Campbell arose and made an eloquent address, in the course of which he said that he believed that the resolution just read was the proper method to pursue as it fastened the responsibility and would have a tendency to bring the men who supported the royal commission idea out in the open with their views. He believed that when the time came for the people to elect a commission, good men would be found. The leaven had been working for some time. He was then surrounded by men of the highest intelligence and he felt that these were the type of men who would be elected and there were men in the board of trade and active in the life of the city—men all around him, who were perfectly capable to draw up a charter when the time came.

He thought the men in the legislature could read the signs of the times, and he felt that the men in the government would allow the city to work out its own constitution and adopt the whole responsibility for it. He was in favor of the resolution and was ready to give all his support to a movement that would make St. John a better city and a more beautiful city. (Applause).

The motion was then put and carried unanimously by a standing vote, several aldermen who were in the audience voting with the rest.

The chairman at this point announced that there would be a public meeting in the Socialists' hall, Mill street, Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock, to which all were invited, and especially the voters in Dufferin ward.

Labor Men for Commission.

Walter W. Allingham, president of the Trades & Labor Council, was the next speaker, and he was given a splendid reception. He said he wished to register his protest against the action of the aldermen in asking for the appointment of a royal commission. Speaking of the elective commission plan of civic government, he said it must be a good scheme or it would not have been adopted by more than 140 cities in the United States and Canada.

He criticized the action of the aldermen for their delay in dealing with the transfer of the west side lots to the C. P. R. and said the matter had been going along for years, and added: "God knows how long it will go on under present conditions." The laboring men, he said, were sitting up and taking notice now, and there was no doubt that they would vote, to a man, for commission, as under that plan they would have only five men to watch instead of seventeen. The present system was wrong, radically wrong, he said, and if commission had been a benefit in other places why should it not be a benefit in St. John. In closing, he said he hoped all would vote for commission.

By this time the large assembly room was filled to overflowing, and a large number stood in the corridor while as many as possible were seated in the reception room to the right, being able to hear the speakers from this position. The enthusiasm was very evident and the proceedings took on a more lively tone as the meeting progressed.

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