

Opposed to Mr. Martin

Executive of Provincial Liberal Association Definitely Decide Against the Premier.

Important and Representative Meeting—Mr. Martin Heard.

Mr. J. M. Kellie Vigorously Replies to Criticisms of His Statements.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

Unanimous opposition to party lines was the dominant note at the special meeting of the executive of the British Columbia Provincial Liberal Association held last night.

There were present: Messrs. W. Templeman, president, in the chair; E. P. Davis, Vancouver; E. V. Bodwell and Col. Gregory, Victoria; James Evans, Duncan; John Sluggitt, Saanich; D. O'Hara, Ashcroft. The secretary had before him letters and telegrams from the following gentlemen who were unable to be present: Messrs. George Kennedy, New Westminster; Dr. McKeechie and Ralph Smith, Nanaimo; A. S. Vedder, Chilliwack; J. W. Senkler, Vancouver. Those gentlemen expressed in their letters and telegrams views which were similar to those held by the members present, and which were subsequently embodied in the resolutions adopted by the meeting.

The short notice prevented delegates from the interior reaching the coast in time, and the unfortunate delay in the steamer Islander's running gave Lower Mainland representatives no chance to be present. A careful review of the situation given yesterday afternoon to a Times reporter by one of the delegates who attended last night's meeting showed that Hon. Mr. Martin could not count upon the support of the executive. It was therefore no surprise to those at all conversant with the trend of feeling to learn that the meeting had gone against the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Martin received permission to address the meeting. He spoke with his customary vigor and at some length, but failed to change the opinions of the members regarding his tenure of the premiership. After Hon. Mr. Martin's speech the meeting adopted unanimously the following:

Resolutions:

- 1. Resolved that the executive is emphatically of the opinion that to conduct the coming provincial election on party lines would be injurious to the best interests of the province.
2. Resolved, that in answer to the request of the Rossland Liberal Association to call a provincial Liberal convention the president be authorized to wire that in view of the decision of the executive against conducting the coming provincial election on party lines, and having regard to the peculiar circumstances attending the existing condition of affairs, it is not expedient to call a provincial convention of the Liberal party at the present time.
3. Resolved unanimously, that we, the members of the executive of the Provincial Liberal Association, present, declare ourselves opposed to the premiership of the Hon. Joseph Martin.

Hon. Mr. Martin's Attitude.

The Premier was seen by a Times reporter this morning, but had no opportunity to express for publication except that no person had been asked to accept any of the vacant positions in the cabinet with the sole exception of Mr. J. C. Brown, of New Westminster. Hon. Mr. Martin was apparently as cheerful and unbothered as ever he was in his life, and laughingly referred to the meeting last evening as something which gave him very little, if any, worry. He is, he reiterates, going to take his measures with deliberation, and he is perfectly confident of the future. Hon. Mr. Martin said that the interview which he had granted to the Colonist last evening regarding the letter and statements of Mr. J. Kellie in last night's Times, was correctly published, save that the Alexandra mine is in South, not North, Nanaimo—his error in speaking to the interviewer. The following is:

Mr. Martin's Reply to Mr. Kellie's Statement.

"Mr. Kellie charges that I violated the agreement which he publishes, by not voting for the second reading of the redistribution bill. I contend that there is absolutely no foundation for this charge. I would ask anyone to point out to me where the agreement states that I was to vote for the second reading of the bill. What I agreed to do was to vote for the bill right through, at every stage, upon one condition, and that was that the proposed changes in the Nanaimo district were to be dropped. The only way they could be dropped after the bill had been printed and introduced was to strike them out in committee. The regular custom often pursued in the House, when a member objects to a clause in a bill was for him to vote for the second reading of the bill on the condition that the objectionable clause would be struck out in committee. I was prepared to do that in regard to the redistribution bill. It would have been perfectly legal and absurd for me to vote for the second reading of the bill afterwards to vote against the motion on the third reading of the bill or on the third reading of the bill. If I had supported the bill at all I would have been bound under the agreement to support it right through. The only condition under these circumstances, on which I could vote for

the second reading was upon an announcement from Mr. Semlin, who was in charge of the bill, that he would strike out the proposed Nanaimo changes. When Mr. Semlin had concluded his speech on the second reading I asked him: 'What about the Nanaimo clauses?' He informed me that they were all right. Time and again while the debate was proceeding I went to Mr. Kellie and asked him if he was going to be able to obtain the government's promise to strike out the Nanaimo clauses in committee. He said he hoped so. At length he said he could not get the government to strike them out, but believed that if I modified the conditions and accepted a partial change by which the Alexandra mine was left in North Nanaimo he could get the government's consent. For some days I agreed to the proposal and gave my agreement in writing. He was still unable even after that to assure me that the change as modified would be made. So much interested was I in getting the government's consent so that I could vote for the bill at every stage that I went to Mr. Wells and explained the situation to him and urged him to use his influence with the government. He promised to do so, and later informed me that while Mr. Ralph Smith was agreeable to meet me in the matter, Dr. McKeechie was not, and the Doctor informed him that unless the bill went through intact so far as Nanaimo was concerned, it would have to be dropped. Under these circumstances I considered then, and still consider, that under the agreement it was my right to refuse to support the bill, and I acted upon that. I am quite willing that any fair-minded man should read the agreement and, considering it, come to a decision as to whether my conduct was right."

Mr. Kellie's Rejoinder.

To the Editor: The explanation of Hon. Joseph Martin, which appeared in the morning paper, in reply to my letter yesterday, is not only unsatisfactory, but is also thoroughly inconsistent, and indicates the calibre of this unscrupulous politician. On the 13th day of February last Hon. Joseph Martin introduced the following resolution in the Legislature: 'Whereas the government has an extremely narrow majority (if any), and is at any time liable to be defeated, and the result of such defeat may mean a general election; and whereas the party which the present government purports to represent took strong ground when in opposition against the present unfair distribution of seats; therefore, he resolved, that in the opinion of this House, a measure giving a fair and equitable redistribution of seats should be brought down by the government before any other business is attempted, and the failure of the government to do so is much against the public interest.'

Either he meant what he said or he did not. Either the motion was intended to make political capital at the impending election, or he was in favor of a redistribution bill to appeal to the voters. To make the position clear, he I will quote his remarks in speaking to the above motion from the Colonial report of the debates: 'In fact, he continued, he had stated that he was prepared to vote for practically any measure of redistribution that the government might present to the House. He at that time meant that he did not intend his support to be in any way illusory. He was quite willing to subordinate his views as to what was fair to the views of the majority. His object in that respect was thoroughly bona fide and he did not propose to escape from it.'

Here is a distinct pledge given to support practically any measure of redistribution that the government might present to the House. Referring again to Mr. Martin's explanation given in the Colonial of this morning, I beg to say that neither myself or Mr. Kidd (I refer to Mr. Kidd for corroboration of my statement) was aware that Mr. Martin would vote against the second reading of the redistribution bill until his hand was put to the measure. I may also say that I did not inform Mr. Martin that I could not secure the change in the Nanaimo seats. The agreement was entered into with Mr. Martin, myself and Mr. Kidd, and not with the government. Had Mr. Martin explained (as he proposed to do) on the second reading that he would introduce an amendment in committee to make the change suggested in the Nanaimo seats, and if the change was not made, that he would then vote to kill the bill, his course would have been honorable and no pledge would have been violated. Having taken the opposite course the odium of breaking the contract must remain with him.

When the agreement was entered into the proposition was to see the bill into committee after which if the bill was not amended to exclude the Alexandra mine in South Nanaimo, then the agreement (second one) was to be declared off. Considering Mr. Martin's motion and his subsequent remarks on the motion, there was only one honorable course for him to pursue, and that was to support any measure of redistribution that was an improvement on the present one. Any man who enters into an agreement with other parties cannot consistently break a contract without the consent of all parties. In conclusion, I will leave the matter with Mr. Martin, his conscience (if he has one) and the country. Yours truly, J. M. KELLIE.

Mr. Semlin's Intentions.

The Vancouver Daily Province of yesterday publishes the following statement by Mr. Semlin: 'I will not decide what course to take in the forthcoming struggle until matters become more settled. I am going home at once and will consult my constituents. If I am asked to stand for my district in the forthcoming election and feel it my duty to do so I certainly shall. I understand, however, that there is a candidate already in the field in Yale and another hesitating. There is little new in the political situation in Victoria, except that there is practically no such thing as party lines there, and it is my earnest wish that party lines do not prevail in Vancouver. As for the rest of the province I believe that the next election will not be fought out on party lines, and I believe throughout the province that there is a disposition to nominate good men who will make excellent legislators, and who will govern the country well, irrespective of party politics or any class or section in the province. I am glad to see

that Mr. Brown of New Westminster has declined to accept a portfolio at the hands of Mr. Martin, and I hope the people of Vancouver and New Westminster will be wise and cautious in choosing the men who will represent them in the next legislature.'

Had Drops Out.

Mr. W. E. Robertson, member of the late legislature for Cowichan, is not likely to represent that or any other constituency. It is alleged efforts are being made on his behalf for appointment to the vacant Indian agentship for Cowichan.

Mr. J. C. Brown Is Firm.

According to the Vancouver Province the so-called 'Deadman's Island Liberals' on Tuesday sent a delegation to New Westminster to urge Mr. J. C. Brown to enter the Martin cabinet. Mr. Brown politely but firmly declined to consider the matter, and that there might not be any mistake made as to his motives for his refusing, he stated that he had been summoned to Victoria by the Lieutenant-Governor if he would accept a place in the Martin cabinet. On his refusing to do so, the Lieutenant-Governor had asked him if he called upon him (Mr. Brown) to form a cabinet, would he accept Joseph Martin as attorney-general. He had replied that he would not. Mr. Brown further stated that he would not be associated with Mr. Martin in provincial politics in any way, and that his motives for refusing to do so were not owing to advances he had received from Ottawa bidding him to cast in his lot with Mr. Martin in politics, as some persons unfriendly to him had said.

Vancouver's Opinions.

The following paragraphs are from the Colonial's dispatches from its Vancouver correspondent this morning: A joint meeting of the executives of the senior and junior Liberal-Conservative associations of Vancouver has de-

clared for party unity. Sir Hilbert Tupper said to-day that he was still of the opinion that Liberals and Conservatives should form not a coalition but a combination against Martin, and whichever party predominated at the end of the election, the party predominating might rule. J. H. Senkler said, that though a Liberal and in spite of the fact that the Conservatives had challenged the Liberals to a contest, he would feel it his duty to vote for a Conservative rather than for Mr. Martin for premier. James McQueen said he had believed in party politics in provincial matters all his life, but he was afraid Mr. Martin's personality prevented party lines being adopted in the coming campaign.

Mr. Deane at Kamloops.

At a crowded meeting on Monday evening in Kamloops, Mr. F. J. Deane, M. P. for North Yale, delivered an interesting speech on the political situation. He wished to avoid contentious subjects, but they all knew Hon. Mr. Martin had not a single follower in the House, and that however they might differ on other subjects they were united in not wanting Mr. Martin for premier. The Lieut.-Governor's action in calling such a man was very strange. Mr. Deane then sketched the eventual history of the past two years, and declared the situation was one that called for thoughtful and deliberate action on the part of all who were interested in the province. He wanted to see the country managed on business lines. The action of the Deadman's Island wing of the Liberal party in Vancouver in dedicating for Martin as leader would, Mr. Deane said, be repudiated by all Liberals of the province. He ventured to say Mr. Martin would not be the choice of a representative convention of Liberals. Mr. Deane commended Sir Hilbert Tupper for condemning party lines and said the Conservatives of the province would not stand any dictation from Mr. Charles Wilson in this matter. He thought the prime duty of the House was to rid the province of the Martin-McInnes combination. The Lieutenant-Governor had forced Martin on the people, and if they stood together there would be no difficulty in disposing of him. Mr. Deane invited criticism of his own course in the House, and of the remarks he had just made, but there was none and the meeting terminated with votes of thanks to him and the chairman.

The Macdonnell Interview.

Hon. Mr. Martin was seen this forenoon with reference to the interview with Mr. D. G. Macdonnell of Vancouver in which that gentleman was made to say that while he was with Mr. Martin personally he was not with him politically. 'With regard to that,' said the Premier, 'I will say that I have just received a telegram from Mr. Macdonnell stating that the interview was incorrect, and that what he did say to the reporter was just the opposite of what appeared in the paper. I felt quite sure,' continued Mr. Martin, 'that this must have been the case, as Mr. Macdonnell came from Vancouver on the boat with me on Sunday and we had a long discussion on the situation. I understood from him that he quite supported my position. In addition, he was present at the meeting in Vancouver and voted for the resolution endorsing me.'

'I hope that this campaign will be conducted as far as possible on a fair basis. I am satisfied that every attempt to misrepresent the position will only recoil upon its perpetrator.' Mr. Martin's Electoral Address. Hon. Mr. Martin will to-morrow issue his electoral address to the people of the province, particularly the residents of Vancouver City constituency. Hon. Mr. Martin will probably address the meeting of Vancouver Liberals in that city to-morrow evening.

CANADA'S EXPORT TRADE.

(Associated Press.) Toronto, March 8.—The Globe's London correspondent cables the following trade returns for February, which show the changes in Canadian imports: Increase—Cattle, \$3,000; wheat, \$12,000; oats, \$13,000; peas, \$70; bacon, \$10,000; hams, \$7,000; cheese, \$28,000; eggs, \$4,000; fish, \$48,000; timber, \$2,000; lumber, \$5,000; horses, \$1,000; Dressed—Sheep, \$1,000; flour, \$18,000; corn, \$12,000; butter, \$5,000; pulp, \$5,000. Exports from England to Canada show good increases. In tin plates and unwrought steel they were particularly large.

They make one feel as though life was worth living. One of Carter's Little Liver Pills after eating; it will relieve dyspepsia, aid digestion, give tone and vigor.

Provincial Gazette

Another Important Order-in-Council Regarding Certificates of Improvement.

List of Appointments—Applications for Railway Charters in the North.

The official Gazette, which issues to-night, will contain the following announcements: Geo. Albert Knox, of Greenwood, contractor, has assigned. The creditors meet on March 15th at 4 p.m.

Municipal courts of revision will be held for Kent at Agassiz on April 5th, and at Haney on April 14th. The Phoenix General Hospital has been incorporated with Jay P. Grave, Stanley A. Easton, W. R. Williams, C. G. Buck, and W. J. Porter as provisional trustees and directors.

Hon. J. Stuart Yates, Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, gives notice that Round Island, situated between Low Peninsula and Stubbs Island, Clayoquot district, is reserved for government purposes until further notice. The Provincial Secretary announces courts of assize as follows: Victoria and New Westminster, April 10th; Vancouver and Nanaimo, April 17th; Kamloops and Clinton, April 24th; Vernon, April 30th; Revelstoke, May 2nd, and Nelson, May 8th.

Robertson & Robertson give notice of their intention to apply for two acts of incorporation at the next sitting of the legislature. One is for a railway from a point on the northern boundary of the province to the point of intersection of the Dalton trail, thence south to Kluckwan in Cassiar, or to a point on the boundary line near Lynn Canal. The other road projected is a tramway or narrow gauge railway from Takam near the mouth of the Atlin river and along its north bank to Atlin Lake.

The following companies are incorporated: The Feder Co., of Vancouver, capital \$25,000; Galea Creek Mining Co., of Ladang, of Rossland, capital \$150,000; Summit Water, Light & Power Co., of Grand Forks, capital \$75,000; Golden Placer & Quartz Mining Co., of Golden, capital \$1,500,000; Lost Horse Copper Mines, of Vancouver, capital \$150,000; Spar Shingle Mill Co., of Vancouver, capital \$25,000.

Court of revision of the assessment roll of Lulu Island Slough Dyking District will be held at English school house on April 14th. Courts will also be held for Coquitlam at Westminister on April 7th at 10 a.m.; for Surrey at Surrey Centre, on April 22nd at 10 a.m.; and the remainder on May 7th, viz., Victoria city and Esquimalt at Victoria; for New Westminster, Richmond, Dewdney and Delta at New Westminster; for Slokan at Kaslo; for Nelson at Nelson; for Nanaimo, North Nanaimo, and South Nanaimo at Nanaimo; for Southeast Kootenay at Stoney for Comox at Cumberland; for Cowichan at Duncan; for East Yale at Vernon; and for Chilliwack at Chilliwack.

The following order-in-council is published: Whereas considerable doubt has arisen regarding the operation of sections 24 and 25, chap. 135, R.S., 1897, and section 7 of the Mineral Act Amendment Act, 1899, regarding the issuance of certificates of improvement; and on the recommendation of the Minister of Mines His Honor, by and with the advice of his executive council and under the provisions of section 143 of the Mineral Act, has been pleased to order: That the said commissioners be and are hereby instructed not to issue a certificate of improvements for any mineral claim until the books of the mining recorder of the division in which such claim is situated show that the free miner has done and recorded the work or made payments of money, or both, to the extent of the amount mentioned in section 7 of the Mineral Act Amendment Act, 1899, and has duly recorded such work or payment.

His Honor the Lieut.-Governor has been pleased to make the following appointments: John Grassick, of Port Steele, to be a justice of the peace for the counties of Victoria, Nanaimo, Vancouver, Westminster, Yale, Cariboo and Kootenay; John C. McIntosh, of Victoria, to be a notary public for the province.

Thos. Hunter, of Quesnelle Forks, to be a clerk in the office of the mining recorder at Quesnelle Forks, vice H. A. Stephenson, resigned. Gerald H. de G. Cross, of Nanaimo, to be private secretary to the Premier.

THE TUMP.

SALE OF RACE HORSES. (Associated Press.) London, March 8.—At the sale to-day of the late Duke of Westminster's string of race horses at Kingsclere, England, Flying Fox, winner in 1890 of the Derby, the Two Thousand Guineas, the Bellipse Stakes, and the Doncaster St. Leger, was purchased by Edmond Blanc for 37,500 guineas (about \$196,000). Blanc is the son of the founder of Monte Carlo, and of the brother-in-law of Roland Bonaparte. His competitor in the bidding for Flying Fox was a man named Gilpen, who was bidding for an American, probably Wm. O. Whitford. Other good prices were 2,000 guineas for Good Luck and 5,000 guineas for Goblet, 4,800 guineas for Manchuria, and 7,900 guineas for Calveley.

ONE GASP FROM DEATH.

And Yet Not Beyond the Power of Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart to Save and Cure You—This Is Not Fiction, But Fact. The constant terror and distress of those in the throes of heart disease, only the sufferer can know, and what a boon, so magical a relief and cure as Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart has proved itself to be. In many cases recorded the patient seemed to have passed from the grave, and this ed but a gasp from the grave, and this wonderful liquid specific has tied over the crisis, given relief in 30 minutes, and after taking a bottle or two perfect health has been restored and all the distressing symptoms and sufferings seem but as a dream. It cures hearts weakened by grief.

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To Our Patrons

LAST YEAR we had such a demand for our Seeds that we were SOLD OUT before the season was fairly open, and therefore we start THIS YEAR with a FRESH, CLEAN and NEW CROP.

Everything warranted to be such and true to name. We keep the CHOICEST and OLDBEST stock of goods on the Coast. Wholesale price list now ready; write for it. Thank you for your kind patronage in the past and hoping to be favored with YOUR BIG ORDERS in the future, we are, yours very truly,

The Brackman-Ker Milling Co., Ltd., Victoria, B. C.

Sporting News.

HANDBALL. INTERNATIONAL MATCH AT THE J. B. A. A. All lovers of true sport will accept the invitation of the J. B. A. A. to witness the international hand ball match to be played in their gymnasium on Saturday next at 8 p.m.

The contestants are the J. B. A. A. and the Seattle Athletic Club, and this will be the first hand ball match the former have played. The boys will be represented by Mr. Greeley, who for four years captained the Brooklyn Y. M. C. A. hand ball team, and Mr. J. C. Thompson, the well known Winnipeg hockey player.

It is understood that the Seattle men are experts, and the boys will have hard work to beat them; but the latter have proved their mettle before on the battlefield at home, and with the true support that they hope their friends will give them it is certain they will give a good account of themselves.

All members are invited to attend and bring their friends.

WRESTLING.

PRELIMINARY CONTESTS AT SAN FRANCISCO. (Associated Press.) San Francisco, March 8.—The second night of the athletic tournament at the Olympic Club was devoted to preliminary contests in wrestling. The style was catch-as-catch-can. The bouts were of 6 minutes' duration.

Lightweight—135 pounds—C. E. Wilson, Olympic, won from H. Haustner, 22; 20; B. S. Nixon, Rochester, got the decision over J. W. Rhodes, Reliance Club, Oakland. Welterweight—145 pounds—O. W. Davis, Olympic, won from C. S. Pray, Olympic, in 6:48; Max Wiley, Rochester, won from R. S. Nixon, Reliance, in 4:24; J. B. Spire, Olympic, won from Gus Koetz in 2:35.

Middleweights—183 pounds—Max Wiley, Rochester, got the decision over Wm. Noehlig, Olympic. Heavyweight—Chris. Pierson, Reliance, got the decision over Geo. Nildbrunn, Olympic.

HOCKEY.

SHAMROCK'S VICTORIOUS. The Shamrock hockey team of Montreal are coming out this season with flying colors, and they appear to experience no great difficulty in proving their right to the possession of the Shamrock cup. Their victory was gained over the Crescents of Halifax, yesterday, when the score was 11 to nil. On Monday they defeated the same team with a score of 10 to 2. The Crescents were the challengers, but they were clearly outclassed, and with the greatest facility.

SKATING. BROKE THE RECORD. According to information from Pittsburgh, John Nelson, champion ice skater of the world, last evening lowered the indoor record for the mile recently made by Bappte, by skating the distance in 2:54 on the Butte Garden official mile ice track. Bappte's time was 3:25.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

THE NEXT MATCH. The next match between the Columbias of this city, and the Nanaimo Thistles will be played in the Caledonia grounds on March 24th, and should the latter prove victorious they will be the possessors of the championship cup. If, however, the Columbias win, a third and decisive match will have to be played.

LAWN TENNIS.

ANNUAL MEETING TO-NIGHT. The annual meeting of the Victoria Lawn Tennis Club will be held at the Drard this evening at 8:30 o'clock, when the election of officers will take place and other business in connection with this popular branch of sport will come up for consideration.

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