

# THE MAN FOR THE PEOPLE

**Joseph Russell, Candidate for Class B in East Toronto, Addresses the Electors**

**Explains His Views and Says on What Grounds and Why He is Seeking Election to the Legislature.**

Fellow-Electors of East Toronto:

In appearing before you to solicit your suffrage as candidate for membership of the provincial legislature, it appears to me that there are several points on which I should endeavor to make myself clear and about which you are entitled to some explanation.

In the first place, I have been charged with being a self-made nominee; in the second, with presumption, and, in the third, with inexperience.

## WHY I AM A CANDIDATE.

As regards the first allegation, I desire to say positively that the nomination was none of my seeking. A number of gentlemen representing the East Toronto Conservative Association, and who probably felt they had as much at stake as any other citizens of Toronto, and as much regard for the welfare of the province and for clean politics, approached me, long before the so-called party convention, with a request that I would allow my name to go before the people. Reluctantly I consented, altho I foresaw that both candidature and representation meant considerable interference with my business interests. However, holding, as I do, that not only is the position one to be proud of, but also that it is the duty of every citizen when opportunity offers to place himself at the disposal of the community, if the community thinks it can be served by him, I finally consented to run.

## MY ASSUMPTION AND PRESUMPTION.

In doing so, as a large taxpayer, as a native of this good city, and of this division, I do not feel that anybody has been given cause to feel aggrieved. Neither do I feel that I am presumptuous, usurping anybody's rights or privileges, or attempting to foist myself upon the constituency. If the people do not want me at the present time, thru their votes they will say so on Monday next. If, on the other hand, they honor me with their confidence, so far as lies within my power I will give them no cause for complaint. In all ways, and in every respect, will I endeavor to show that I recognize the great responsibility that rests upon me as a representative, first, of the whole people, and next of, I trust, great sections of both parties, for, while a lifelong Liberal-Conservative, I yet venture to hope that many Liberals, believing in my integrity and honesty of purpose, will favor me with their support.

## A BATTLE FOR A PRINCIPLE.

In the assumption of the foregoing attitude, it does not appear to me that I am called upon to answer the charge of presumption, further than to say that I do not consider my candidature so much in a personal light as I do that it is a battle for a principle. That principle is the right of every free-born Canadian to solicit the suffrage and goodwill of his fellow-countrymen when he is prepared to promise earnestly and sincerely that he will do his best to prove himself worthy of them.

## VERDANT YOUTH AND VERDANT AGE.

As to my inexperience, it is true I have not yet sat in the seats of the mighty. It is true also that I have not hitherto figured very strongly in ward conventions. It is true that I have never before sought political preferment for myself or positions for my friends. It is true that I and sundry of my family have hitherto been content to fight in the ranks. It is true that until now my means and my desires have alone been with my political friends. And, above all, it is true that I am still a young man. It is further true that I am honest enough to believe and bold enough to think that verdancy in youth is better than verdancy in age.

## MY OPPORTUNITIES.

Inexperience as I may be now, I hope and trust am warranted in believing that I have years before me in which to learn and to gather wisdom. At all events, without any bumptiousness or conceit, I feel justified in saying that I have not only the willingness to take to heart any lessons that may come my way, but also a certain measure of understanding thru which to profit by them.

So much for my primary position as a candidate; now for the principle on which I take my stand.

## A SQUARE DEAL FOR THE PEOPLE.

First and foremost, my trust is entirely in the people. They alone in matters of government should be the final arbiters, and in every matter affecting the fundamental principles of government should be consulted.

In this connection, and in common, I doubt not, with my friends, the other candidates, I have been asked if I am opposed to the three-fifths clause in license legislation, and if I favor the abolition of the bar.

A temperate man all my life, and I suppose what is termed a temperance man, seeing that I do not indulge in intoxicants, I yet am a firm believer in personal liberty. At the same time, my faith is entirely in majority rule. And that statement of my position appears to me to answer both questions, for if the people decide that bars shall go, go they must, and, in that case, with my help they will.

## CHEAP POWER.

Of the efforts of the Whitney government to give cheap power, I am in hearty support. At the same time, not having been called upon so far to go deeply into the question, I feel at liberty to say that there may be room for argument in certain details and even for difference of opinion. On the whole, however, I am thoroly in accordance with the views of that broad-minded, energetic man of affairs, the Hon. Adam Beck.

Now I come, perhaps, to the sturdiest oak-plank of all in my political faith.

## PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF PUBLIC UTILITIES.

There are no faltering footsteps here. Time was when a company furnished the water for citizens of this great city to wash in and to drink. Our fathers can tell us of the difficulties they experienced then: of the general insanitariness and of the fact that whiskey in certain localities was almost as cheap as water and quite as wholesome. To-day what do we find?—water abundant and baths in almost every house. It is true that in purity there is still considerable room for improvement, but at that the water conveniences of to-day are a hundredfold better under public ownership than they ever were in private hands, or were ever likely to be made. What has been accomplished and what is being accomplished in the case of water, I believe can be done in pretty well every other public commodity.

## NATIONALIZE TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

Not only, in my view, should the city own its own gas works, its own electric power, its own street railroad, but we should go further afield and

nationalize the railways, the telegraphs and the telephones. An immense amount of money would certainly be needed in the first instance, but in the long run, I am convinced that each and every service would pay. And why not, if the corporations that control them now divide handsome dividends and the chiefs of those corporations become multi-millionaires? It has been said that public ownership would check private enterprise and invention. But why?

## PROFITABLE EXAMPLES.

Has ownership of her navy by Britain prevented its progress or checked the invention of protective shields and death-dealing weapons? Hasn't it rather fostered and encouraged both? Again, has government ownership of the telegraphs in Britain checked their use or impeded their progress or spread? He would be a bold man who would essay to argue that it had. Further, has the ownership of the railways in any country—in Australia, for instance—interfered with their betterment? Again, he would be a bold man who would venture to say that it had. Once more, is the good City of Glasgow, with all its Scotch hard-headedness, prepared to surrender its public utilities to private control once again? I venture to answer, a thousand times no! How many cities or towns that have once given public ownership a fair trial have gone back on their records? There may be some instances, for public mismanagement is possible as well as private, but they are very few and far between. Therefore, first and last I favor both municipal and national ownership.

## THE PRACTICE OF ECONOMY.

Economical administration we all favor—at least in theory—and I shall, I trust, be pardoned for saying that a business man is the best able to make that theory a fact. Whether I can claim to be a business man, my friends and associates best know.

## CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

Fair play for all—yes for all, Grits and Tories alike. And that brings me to the question of civil service reform. I do not believe in the patronage system. It demoralizes the public service and degrades those who profit by it. It leads to heartburnings, to the destruction of friends, and, worst of all, to the neglect and inefficient performance of duty. I would have all appointments made—civil, provincial and federal—by competitive examination and by promotion by a non-partisan board. I would, moreover, have young men instructed at school or college in the public service they think of following.

## LAW REFORM A NECESSITY.

When lawyers agree that the law needs reform and that at present it bears too hard upon the poor man, it is not difficult to believe that they are right. There is one thing I certainly believe in, namely, the finality of arbitration. As the situation is, a railway company can agree to arbitration, then refuse to accept the award, and appeal the case to the supreme court or privy council. Under such a law as that what remedy has the poor man got whose land or homestead is sequestered? He is entirely and practically irrevocably at the mercy of the company. There are also innumerable inequalities which need to be dealt with.

## THINGS TO BE ABOLISHED.

Abolition of machine rule! Yes, let's have party nominations or caucus selections made in the open and not on the mere suggestion of a lot of graft-hunting partisans. In this connection, I would warn Conservatives of the pit that sundry heeled and time-servers are digging for them.

One other evil that should be ruthlessly abolished is lobbying. There was a great gathering of the clans in the last weeks of the provincial session recently closed. It should be made a felony for interested friends and employees of great corporations to endeavor to bring pressure to bear upon legislators.

## THAT AWFUL WEEK.

There has been much talk about "that awful week," meaning the last week of the last provincial session, where, following the pernicious example of their predecessors, the Whitney government rushed thru various weighty and important legislation. There should not only be a recognized, but a written rule, that no new legislation and no important grant of money could be made without two or three weeks' notice, and in no circumstances could be introduced in the last week of a session.

## FOREST REJUVENATION.

Reforestation is an important subject and one to which too much attention can hardly be given. The government will have my heartiest and persistent support in all efforts they make for the renewal of our depleted forests.

# RALLY FOR RUSSELL

## FINAL MEETING

**ODDFELLOWS' HALL, To-Morrow (Friday) Evening**

AT 8 O'CLOCK

**Speakers of Prominence and the Candidate Will Address the Electors of East Toronto.**

VOTE FOR

**JOSEPH RUSSELL**

THE MAN FOR A SQUARE DEAL

**Electors of East Toronto MARK YOUR BALLOTS:**

RUSSELL, JOSEPH  
BRICK MANUFACTURER

X

# A Square Deal for the People!

**MAJORITY RULE  
CHEAP POWER  
Public Ownership of Public Utilities  
ECONOMICAL ADMINISTRATION  
FAIR PLAY FOR ALL  
EQUALITY AND REFORM OF THE LAW**

Abolition of Machine Rule, Husbanding of Provincial Resources, Civil Service Reform, Avoidance of Rush Legislation, Suppression of Ward Heelers, Abolition of the Lobby, Freedom of Opinion, Reforestation, Especial Care of Our Mines, Development of Live Stock Industry, Encouragement of Agriculture, Improved Educational Methods, Safeguarding the Ballot, Preservation of Fish and Game, Encouragement of the Young Man, and

**Especial Watchfulness Over the Interests of Toronto, and East Toronto in Particular,**

Constitute the Main Planks in the Platform of

**JOSEPH RUSSELL**

Who solicits the Vote and Influence of Every Elector in the Eastern Division of Toronto as Candidate in Class B, and as an Independent, but General Supporter of the Whitney Government.

**Workingmen! Liberals! Conservatives!**

Vote for the Man Who Will Work for You and for Canada, the Province and the City, First, Last and All the Time.

ests and for the reasonable preservation of such as remain intact.

## AS TO THE MINING LAWS.

While of opinion that there is little fault to be found with the existing mining acts, I would yet enforce upon the government the necessity of the greatest possible care in dealing out justice, in the recognition of claims and in the disposal of the public domain. Hon. Frank Cochrane is undoubtedly a wise and clever man in his day, but it is up to him not alone to be strict and impartial, but, as far as humanly lies, to be above suspicion.

## ENCOURAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Nothing that can rationally be done for the development of live stock, for the advancement of our creameries and dairies, and for the encouragement of agriculture generally will, if elected, lack for support from me. On the contrary, I promise to give both agricultural and industrial enterprises my special attention. Lover of a good horse myself, I shall naturally do what I can to help forward the improvement of all types of horses, heavy or light.

## CAUSE OF EDUCATION.

I am prepared to do everything in my power to further the cause of education, and I can assure the present minister that if he stays in office and I am returned he will not lack for support from me in any worthy reform that he may undertake.

## SACREDNESS OF THE BALLOT.

The sacredness and secrecy of the ballot cannot be too rigidly guarded, and, therefore, I regard with the greatest satisfaction the action taken by the Whitney government in doing away with the numbered ballot. At the same time I view with alarm the attempt of Mr. Aylesworth and the Laurier government to impose the system on Manitoba.

## GAME AND FISH PROTECTION.

All steps taken that appear to me to have right and logic with them for the preservation of fish and game will have my cordial support. At the same time, I am especially desirous to safeguard public rights and privileges. Exclusive legislation is oftentimes bad legislation.

## NEGLECT OF THE CITY'S INTERESTS.

The rights of our city. Here we come, indeed, to a vital and important point. At present I am sorry to say Toronto is largely at the mercy of men whose interests are not her interests and who are largely ignorant of local circumstances. How this is to be remedied without a special charter, I do not know, but I am certainly of opinion that the recommendations of the city council are entitled to more than the cursory attention and, frequently, summary dismissal that they receive at the hands of the legislators. In this connection, I would ask the late city members, Messrs. Foy, McNaught, Pyne and Crawford, if they exercised that watchfulness over city affairs that their constituents had a right to expect of them. There are many people of opinion that they did not on more than one occasion—altho undoubtedly great praise is due Mr. McNaught for his course on the street railway clause, restoring to Toronto the right of control over her streets.

## IF I'M ELECTED.

For my own part, I promise, if you, the good electors of East Toronto, favor me with your confidence and election, that I will make a special study of our requirements and give them all the attention of which I am capable. With best wishes to you all and complete confidence in your wisdom, I beg to sign myself,

Yours obediently and respectfully,

JOSEPH RUSSELL.

With a Single Eye to the Public Good, Who Has No Axe to Grind, and Who Will Never Be an Office Seeker.

**Vote Early Yourself and Then Work Among Your Friends**

**IF YOU HAVE A VEHICLE**

Place it at the Disposal of

**JOSEPH RUSSELL**

and Report at

**COMMITTEE ROOMS:**

Ward 1—701 Queen Street East (Tel. M. 2520)

Ward 2—271 Queen Street East (Tel. M. 2494)

**DON'T FORGET**

**Monday Next**

JUNE 8

**Is Election Day**

And Don't Omit to Be on the Job

Early and Late

for

**JOSEPH RUSSELL**

Who Presents You With His Compliments and Earnest Wishes for Success.

**God Save the King**