

THE TUPPER MEETING.

For a man of seventy-six Sir Charles Tupper displays wonderful vitality, both physically and mentally. Many men in the prime of life would consider the task of speaking to a large audience for an hour and a half a feat worthy of their best powers. More especially if they had to weave a plausible argument with exploded political sophistries and furnish explanations and excuses for a policy that Canada has seen fit to abandon, and seem quite likely never to permit herself to relapse into again. The physical feat was admirable—a man old enough to be the grandfather of most of his hearers talking to a crowded audience in a large theatre for about an hour and a half, and sitting down apparently unexhausted at the close of his address. The mental feat was superb, even if it failed to convince. Respecting the matters upon which Sir Charles spoke there can be little to say; nothing new was to be expected and nothing new was advanced. The tolerant tone which Sir Charles saw fit to adopt in referring to Sir Wilfrid Laurier was creditable and wise. All the arguments advanced by Sir Charles against the policy and the remarks regarding the personality of Sir Wilfrid have been heard and read ad nauseam. They are the arguments of a defeated politician who can decry upon the horizon of the future not even a scintilla of hope that the theories which he champions shall ever again prove acceptable to the Canadian people. Can it be anything but gall and wormwood to him and his party to witness the tremendous impetus to Canadian life in all departments that the Liberal government has given since it took the reins of power? Previous to that auspicious event Canada was absolutely stagnant; commerce was restricted and hampered by a vexatious policy that every day more clearly proved itself inimical to the best interests of the country; agriculture, immigration, industry languished and drooped under that baneful policy of protection. Look at Canada to-day. Never in the history of the country was there such an awakening of energy or such a desire for expansion and development of her resources. The whole country has been revived, by what means it is not difficult to tell. Our relations with Great Britain were never upon so satisfactory a footing; our prospects for a better understanding with the American people never so hopeful. In brief, a government is now in power that represents in the best possible manner the true spirit of Canada; things are done now, not proposed, shuffled with a while and then dropped. An energetic, enterprising, go-ahead government has succeeded a government of politicians, who were politicians and nothing more. We believe in judging by results; the results of the recent change in government are already visible, and he will be hardly indeed who attempts to describe them as anything but thoroughly satisfactory. Everybody knows what resulted from the late government's policy; could anything be in more glaring contrast than the results of that policy and the results already achieved by the Liberal government? Sir Charles is still the genial egotist he ever was. His address vividly recalled to our recollection the amusing anecdote about Ballantyne, the celebrated Edinburgh printer, Walter Scott's friend. Asked why he had refused to publish a book which he well-known and very clever politician had written, Ballantyne brusquely replied: "There wasna capital 'E' enuch in 'a' the shop to pit you birk in print."

The speech of Sir Charles Tupper must have come as a great disappointment to his supporters. The cold reception of some of his points and the general lukewarmness of the meeting proved that Sir Charles has had his day, and that the audience was remarkably infected with Liberalism. Many attended, not because they were admirers of the man or his cause, but because they wished to see and hear the Conservative chief, who led his followers, only a few months ago, upon so disastrous a campaign. The audience, although courteous, were conscious that the speaker was a spent force in practical politics; in the words of his gifted son, a "back number."

Sir Charles endeavored to magnify the question of preferential trade, and, incidentally, himself. He also sought to belittle Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who with clear foresight saw what this question involved. Sir Charles skillfully sought to connect the Duke of Devonshire with the question, and insinuated that the duke was ready to adopt his (Sir Charles's) views upon it. The disguise is altogether too thin. The fact is the Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Chamberlain and other prominent politicians are ready to do what able men in all the colonies are willing to do; namely, to bring about a closer union between all parts of the empire. These are questions of international importance and treaties upon commercial affairs in which the colonies are all more or less interested. An agreement that binds the colonies to do certain things in trade ought to be directly agreed to by the parties immediately interested. This is what the Duke of Devonshire pointed out and the Liberal premier heartily agreed to. But Sir Charles got to explaining that his idea of preferential trade is to induce Great Britain to abandon her free trade policy, to tax herself heavily upon the food and raw materials for the benefit of Canada and other colonies and generally to forsake the policy which has placed her at the

head of the manufacturing nations of the world and made her the arbiter of financial operations. Sir Wilfrid sees that the great desideratum is to be found in adopting Great Britain's methods. Preferential trade upon the basis of a high protective tariff is a delusion; Great Britain will never consent to it. Preferential trade upon the basis of free trade is the practical goal of enlightened statesmanship. The disappointment of Sir Charles with the reciprocal proposals of the Liberals was very apparent. He would have been too glad to be able to declare that the proposals had failed and that the British people were indifferent. The undisguised enthusiasm of the mother country and the persistent and laudatory of the Canadian premier complimented him. What Sir Charles and his party had declared they were in favor of, but never attempted to execute, Sir Wilfrid and his colleagues have done to the satisfaction of Canada and Great Britain. It must be a sore trial to Sir Charles.

It is a wonder to many that the Conservative leader entirely ignored the Manitoba school question. Upon that question he had staked the fate of his government; and although Liberals believe the question is a solved problem, yet Sir Charles would not have been blamed had he resuscitated it for the delectation of his Victoria admirers. Perhaps he thought it unwise to "call spirits from the vasty deep."

OFFICIAL INSOLENCE.

We believe that very few Victorians would read the curt, semi-official announcement which appeared in the Colonist this morning, to the effect that Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney would hold an informal reception in his room at the new legislative buildings to-day, the same to be understood as an informal opening of the building, would fail to feel as we did, the utmost astonishment at such an outrageous and unwarranted proceeding. Could arrogant presumption go further? We hold that Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney in doing this thing is acting in an insolent and preposterous manner. It is unfair and discourteous to the people of British Columbia. It was at least his duty to give reasonable warning of his intention to take such action; instead of which he does it by stealth, coming, literally, like a thief in the night when no man is prepared. Moreover, it is a gross insult to the people dwelling in the Mainland cities and towns; they have had no warning, not the slightest intimation that the chief official of the province was about to arrogate to himself a function quite unprecedented and most undignified. The people of Victoria have no better right to that notice in the Colonist this morning (and to them alone could it be of any use as an invitation) than the people of the remotest hamlet in the province. The Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia has surely forgotten what is due to the people of this province; he must have lost sight of the fact that by behaving in this extraordinary manner he is prostituting his high office and bringing ridicule upon the province. He should have remembered that the opening, formal or informal, of a parliament building erected by the whole people of a province is not a thing to be carried out in the unconventional, rough-and-ready style that would be expected at the opening of a new saloon, or the laying of the foundation stone of a "Rossland" hotel. That, however, is almost exactly what happened in the Lieutenant-Governor's room at the new parliament buildings to-day. There could not be present, of course, representatives from Vancouver, New Westminster, Nanaimo, Kamloops, Donald, Golden or any other city in the province—only Victorians were at the eleventh hour. It is a downright scandal and a disgrace that the chief official of the province should commit so gross a breach of good manners and such a flagrant act of injustice to the other sections of the province on the eve of his demitting office. Of course we are perfectly well aware of the chief motive for today's proceeding; it was the desire on his honor's part to perpetuate his name in imperishable brass as the governor of British Columbia during whose regime the parliament buildings were erected. We cannot congratulate his honor upon the nobility or high-mindedness of that motive; we think it indelibly mean and petty and most regrettable. Nor can we congratulate the Colonist upon the taste, or want of

It, that laud to include the remark, after the announcement of the Lieutenant-Governor's extraordinary intention, that "this may be regarded as the informal opening of this splendid structure for the purpose for which it is intended." For what purpose then, may we ask the Colonist, was that "splendid structure" intended, if we may take this "informal opening" as an omen of what is coming? From the omen we are bound to read the most unpleasant eventualities—a long course of hot-and-cold politics, chicanery, the springing of unjust legislation upon an unsuspecting people, (just as this "informal opening" was sprung upon Victorians), and all the dark and sinuous courses of the political charlatan, the insatiable spoilsman and the land-grabber. That is simply the logical sequence of the Colonist's remark. If we are to judge the future by the so-called "informal opening," which the Colonist invites the unthinking to accept as an omen. But a stroke of gaucherie more or less makes little difference in the Colonist; so, let us hope that this shameful piece of insolence perpetrated at the legislative buildings to-day may be taken as the superstitious take their dreams, reading them contrarywise, and that the future may belie the inauspicious occasion which we unequivocally condemn today.

"BRITISH COLUMBIA THE GREAT."

The Montreal Star refers appreciatively under the above heading to an article that appeared in Harper's Weekly, from which the following excerpt is taken: "With not a thousandth part of its resources developed, its fisheries only in their infancy, the mines, forests, and soil only scratched in places, its population of 120,000 confined to the coast and one river valley, the revenue returns rank British Columbia as third among the provinces of the Dominion. British Columbia is emphatically the province of the future, the country of destiny, and the most valuable possession of the British crown on this continent."

The Weekly also speaks of British Columbia as "the Key of the Pacific" and mentions the fact, not generally known, that the coast line of this province is a succession of magnificent bays and harbors, whereas south of the Sound the United States has only "one good harbor on a coast line of one thousand miles. Our position as a maritime province, facing as we do the Japanese Orient, is not the least of our great advantages, and rich and fertile as our natural wealth undoubtedly is our commanding position on the Pacific will ultimately prove to be the most powerful factor in making us the first province in the Dominion."

THAT INFORMAL OPENING.

The Colonist's attempt this morning to gloze over and explain away the Lieutenant-Governor's unjustifiable act of yesterday is the feeblest thing in apologetics we have encountered for some time. Sancho Panza resigning the governorship of the Island of Barataria could not have given a more ludicrous exhibition of bad taste than Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney's attempt in his room at the new parliament buildings yesterday. It was more than infra dig; it was unseemly and ridiculous. The only inference that can be drawn from this remarkable aberration of his Honor is that, conscious of having done nothing during his whole term of office worthy of remembrance among the people of British Columbia, and frightened at the chilly prospect of inevitable oblivion that awaited him the moment he laid down the vice-regal authority, he clutched at the only chance remaining to him of passing on to posterity his distinguished name and titles. The Colonist, with a naïvete all its own, cruelly ignores the fact of which nobody in this province is more fully aware than itself, that the brass mural tablet to be placed in the legislative buildings was sent back to Chicago more than a month ago to have the inscription altered to suit the very occasion which we have condemned. The tablet has been altered to read that the buildings were opened on October 28th by Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney, which is simply a falsehood handsomely inscribed in brass. There was no necessity for the Governor moving into an unfinished building or holding a burlesque reception in a room in which the plaster is hardly dry yet. The Colonist says "it was only courteous on the part of the Governor's advisers to invite him to occupy the room during the brief time he will hold office." We think it was just a pitiable exhibition of weak vanity, bad taste and impertinence; and that His Honor would have retained at least the respect of the people had he quietly gone out of office, utterly unmindful of the cheap perpetuation he has sacrificed that respect to acquire. Cato once remarked: "I would rather have people ask 'why' no monument is erected to me than why there is."

The Archbishop of Canterbury, in asking whether he might not be called a working man, told a working man's meeting in London recently that from early childhood he has felt most sympathy with men who work with their bodies rather than their brains. His father was a working man—a soldier who at his death was governor of a colony; his father died when the future archbishop was thirteen, and the son has had to make his living since he was seventeen. He has known what it is to do without a fire because he could not afford it, and to wear patched clothes and boots. He

learned to plough and to thresh as well as any man. Quantum sufficit, your grace, the high and honorable title you aspire to no working man can dispute after that record.

A young man undertook to count the number of times Sir Charles Tupper used the words "I" and "my" in his speech last night. He counted 651 and then gave up in despair.

The Colonist blames the Times for being rude in denouncing Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney's recent undignified conduct. We feel honored to have our rudeness pointed out by so good an authority as the Colonist, but we beg to remark that when public officials err so egregiously as the governor did on Thursday the Times will always be found rude enough to protest against the outrage.

An old gentleman who was here during the Cariboo boom assures us that it is going on forty years since the newspapers of the world talked so much about British Columbia. Then, as now, the name of the province was on everybody's lips and the same intense interest was taken in this part of Canada. After the Cariboo excitement waned only desultory references to the province appeared; so quick are the public to forget even a good thing.

Something must be rotten in the state of things back east when tons of currants, peaches and plums of the first quality have been allowed to rot on the branches because it would not pay to pick them. Grapes are selling in Toronto at one cent a pound, basket free; all season in the St. Catharines district peaches have sold at five cents a basket if one would only gather them; other fruits have been equally low. Lack of packing and transportation facilities caused this sad waste.

One learns with amazement that the authorities of Princeton University have established for the use of the students, within college bounds, a bar at which alcoholic stimulants are to be served. We think people of all denominations, and of no denomination, will applaud the action in New York, in emphatically protesting against so dangerous an innovation. The general comment upon the extraordinary behavior of the Princeton senatus will be, we fancy, "a queer kind of university faculty."

As a direct result of the recent German army manoeuvres there are still in hospital nearly a thousand of the soldiers who took part in the movements. The work was so hard that a number of the younger soldiers deliberately committed suicide under shocking circumstances, one youth stepping to the front of his company and blowing his brains out at the Colonel's feet. Many soldiers have died owing to diseases contracted during the manoeuvres; others died of sheer exhaustion in the field, and hundreds have been so disabled that they have had to be discharged as unfit for further military service. Kaiser Wilhelm now asks the German people for a huge grant of money to make a record-breaking military display with a quarter of a million men in Alsace-Lorraine for the special benefit of France.

Premier Peters, whose determination to make his home in British Columbia has attracted considerable attention, says the Toronto Globe, is a native of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. He is a son of Hon. J. H. Peters, who married the eldest daughter of the late Sir Samuel Cunard. Young Peters was educated at King's College, Windsor, N. S., and was called to the English bar in 1876, and to the bars of Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia in the same year. He was first elected to the



The young married couple who are crowned with good health are really a king and queen. They are possessed of an armor that enables them to withstand all the hardships and misfortunes of life. Accidents aside, they will live long, happy lives of mutual helpfulness, and they will be blessed with amiable, healthy children. They will sit together in the twilight of old age and look back without regret over a mutually happy, helpful, useful, successful companionship. There are thousands of young couples every day who start wedded life with but one drawback—one or the other, or both, suffer from ill-health. There can be no true wedded happiness that is overshadowed by the black cloud of physical suffering. The man who contemplates matrimony, and realizes that through overwork or worry or neglect, he is suffering from ill health, should take the proper steps to remedy it before he assumes the responsibilities of a husband. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is the best of all medicines for men who have neglected their health. It makes the appetite keen, the digestion perfect, the liver active and the blood pure and rich with life-giving elements. It is the great blood-maker and flesh-builder. It invigorates and gives vitality, strength and vigor. No woman should wed while she suffers from weakness and disease in a womanly way. These are the most disastrous of disorders from which a woman can suffer. They break down her general health. They unfit her for wifehood and motherhood. They make her a weak, aching, and suffering invalid. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cures all weakness and disease of the delicate female system, and it is the only valid remedy for all such ailments. It is a life-giving, health-giving, and mother-making medicine. Both men and women are sold at all good medicine stores.

legislature of his province in 1890, and in the following year became premier and attorney-general. He was appointed leading counsel for the Canadian government in the arbitration of the losses sustained by sealers seized by United States revenue cutters. Mr. Peters during his brief stay in the Pacific province became so enamored of it that he has thrown up his official position and is casting in his lot in a law partnership with Sir Herbert Tupper, who also abandons the Atlantic Coast in favor of the Pacific. Such a mingling of the sturdy Canadianism of the east and west cannot but be beneficial all round.

IN EAST KOOTENAY

A. W. McVittie Tells of Rich and Promising Properties—Mines on Wild Horse Creek

Crow's Nest Coal Will Be Mined and Shipped at Prices Fixed By Law.

(From the Spokane Spokesman-Review.)

A. W. McVittie, of Fort Steele, is in the city, expecting to remain here during the winter, establishing a bureau of information, not for the benefit of Fort Steele as a town, but for the good of the entire district. He is brim full of enthusiasm as to the future of the Fort Steele country and confidently expects to see it boom in better shape than ever during the coming season.

"The Horse creek camp will be the life of Fort Steele," said he yesterday. "There are some great properties in course of development up there. Of course, everybody has heard of the great Coronado group that was located this summer and they will be developed under bond this winter. The report was circulated some time ago that the North Star Company had bought an interest in the group. The statement was not exactly correct. It was parties connected with the North Star mine who were negotiating for the interest in the properties. I think everything is about settled now and there will be at least \$10,000 spent in developing the properties this winter. That story about the claims being jumped did not amount to anything."

"The hydraulic mines on Wild Horse are doing well. The Invicta, Nip and Tuck and China Grounds are paying \$10 per man. Two companies are sinking and drifting on the old channels. There is a wonderful opportunity for dredging operations near the mouth of the stream. I believe, if all that is reported of the success attained with the dredges in other places be true, that there could be no better place than on Wild Horse creek to install one or more of the machines."

"A Victoria company is pushing development vigorously on Sir Miles creek. The latter was sold this week for \$10,000. Active development work is also going forward on the Mackay property, about thirteen miles from Fort Steele. They have an enormous lead of low grade gold ore."

"A deal is on for a group of ten claims on Tracy creek, which is only about fifteen miles from Fort Steele, and is one of the most promising camps in the province. Several companies are engaged in development work there."

"On Lost creek and Horse Shoe gulch are many fine properties. The Dibble group, hence the list, with about 1,500 feet of lamination and drifting, showing exceedingly rich ore. Several others in the vicinity show the same surface richness, but have not yet been developed. One lead in Horse Shoe gulch, only about nine miles from Fort Steele, shows over forty-five inches width of highly mineralized quartz with iron and copper pyrites and gray copper, going eight per cent, in copper and several dollars in gold."

"On Bull river, eighteen miles from Fort Steele, and about six miles from Wardner, there are several fine gold properties, one ledge being continuous for over two miles, which shows a solid ore chert of twenty inches, assaying high in copper and gold."

"On both Bull river and Elk river there are large deposits of hematite, which, with the proximity of the finest coking coal in the world, should make this part of Fort Steele district the home of multitudes of people. The Crow's Nest Coal Company is already putting its property in shape for production, so that by the time the Crow's Nest Pass railway is running to Kootenay lake, coal and coke will be ready for shipping. The coal lands owned by this company are of enormous extent, and as the seams aggregate over 100 feet of first quality coal, lying above water level, one bed being thirty feet in thickness, the available quantity is unlimited, and the marketing of it will have a beneficial effect on the mining industry in both East and West Kootenay. The Canadian government has bound the railway and coal companies with ironclad contracts to certain charges, both for coal at the pits and freight rate on the same, so that, even though the coal business be a monopoly, it cannot become an oppressive one."

NOBLE FIVE MINE CLOSED.

Bank Is Said to Have Refused to Honor Checks.

Sandon, B. C., Oct. 29.—The Noble Five mine, tramway and concentrator has closed down, throwing 75 or 80 men out of employment. The report comes from a source that is considered thoroughly reliable that on October 20 the Sandon branch of the Bank of British North America refused to honor any more checks of the company, and served a summons on the local manager which resulted in the immediate suspension of the work.

The men have been promised that pay checks already issued will be cashed by the company on November 1. It is said that the debt to the bank is \$25,000, and the company is endeavoring to negotiate a loan of \$150,000.

The mine has the best equipped tramway in the Slokan, erected at a cost of \$50,000, and the concentrator plant cost \$25,000.

ASHCROFT MEETING

Declaration in Favor of the Old Line via Quesnel for a Wire to Dawson.

Hon. Mr. Sifton Invited to Stop at Ashcroft to Discuss Public Matters.

At a meeting of the citizens of Ashcroft, held in the court house on Monday, the 25th day of October, called for the purpose indicated below, the Hon. G. E. Conroy was elected chairman and Daniel O'Hara secretary, and a discussion of the various subjects of interest to those assembled and to the business men of the community in general, it was moved and carried that a committee of five be appointed by the chairman to draught a resolution bearing on the subject under discussion and present the same to the meeting. The chairman appointed as such committee, Dr. F. S. Reynolds, editor of the British Columbia Mining Journal; Col. Joshua Wright, manager of Ashcroft Mining and Milling Co., of Omineca; J. D. Prentice, manager of the Western Canadian Ranching Co.; Jas. Haddock, manager of F. W. Foster's store, Ashcroft, and Henry Harvey, of Harvey, Bailey & Co. The committee after due deliberation made the following report: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: Your committee beg to present to you a set of resolutions for your consideration and action.

Resolved, by the people of Ashcroft and vicinity that being familiar with all the circumstances in connection with the opening up of telegraphic communication with the gold fields of the Northwest, and other important sections, we are of the firm conviction that the most feasible route is to build such line from Quesnel via the old telegraph trail to Telegraph creek, on the Stickeen, and via Teslin to Dawson City, thereby taking advantage of the large sums of money expended in seeking a more practical route by the company known as the Overland or Collins' line in the early '90's.

Resolved, that this meeting endorse the proposed improvement of the Fraser river and other streams so that obstructions to free navigation may be removed during low water, within the next few months, so that prospectors, miners, traders and transportation companies may be put under such conditions that they can take goods up these great natural waterways to the interior of British Columbia at such a reduction in cost that large means will not be required to prospect and mine in these sections as is now necessary.

Resolved, that the Honorable Clifford Sifton be invited to stop off at Ashcroft on his return from the northern country, to discuss with us these matters of importance, and that Hewitt Bostock, M. P., be respectfully requested to try to make such arrangements that he will be able to attend this meeting. It is further resolved that the Hon. Mr. Sifton, and to be present in Ashcroft at this meeting if such meeting can be arranged the Hon. Mr. Sifton, M. P., be respectfully requested to take such action in regard to improving the overland trail from Quesnel to Telegraph creek, bridging such streams or establishing ferries as are found necessary, removing fallen timber, etc., and that the Hon. Mr. Sifton, M. P., be respectfully requested to take such action as seems to him best to bring about the above results.

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DAWSON LOCKERS HEAVY WITH GOLD

Great Sacks of the Precious Now Await Transportation to the Mills.

Enormity of the Output of the dike Mines Will Amaze the World.

(Joaquin Miller in S. F. Examiner)

Dawson, Sept. 13.—Dawson is ed under; three inches last night more this morning and more. Great strings of gold are being taken from the great river on their way to Great. Men stand on the bank keep a man in a boat busy piling fallen birds.

Some say the winter is here for this; but some men say the snow will melt and there will be a fall of Indian summer. We shall see. Birds by the dozen, with their wings clipped and their feet tucked and tried to get on good terms with dogs where they were having tidings of dried fish. And the little fish sparrow, too, nobody seems to know he came from, or when. You know he is here, hoping about you as in the streets of San Francisco. Only he doesn't have so much to Dawson is beautiful this all the prospective nine months of winter; but some men say the snow will melt and there will be a fall of Indian summer. We shall see. Birds by the dozen, with their wings clipped and their feet tucked and tried to get on good terms with dogs where they were having tidings of dried fish. And the little fish sparrow, too, nobody seems to know he came from, or when. You know he is here, hoping about you as in the streets of San Francisco. 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