

POOR PEOPLE ARE PROSPEROUS.

So Said Mr. D. R. Ker, of the Conservative Association, at Last Evening's Meeting.

Attempt by the Tories to Use the British Pacific Railway as an Election Cry.

Mr. Bodwell, Solicitor for the Company, Pricks Prior's Pretty Little Bubble.

Subsidy Could Not be Voted Until Dominion Charter Had Been Passed.

Mr. Templeman and Dr. Milne Explain Their Views on the Questions of the Day.

Mr. Somers, a Resident of Cedar Hill, Gives Reasons Why a Change is Needed.

A Manufacturer and Farmer Whom National Policy Has Not Benefited.

There was a rousing opposition meeting at the Cedar Hill school house last evening. The school room was filled to overflowing, and the speeches of the opposition candidates, Mr. Templeman and Dr. Milne, and those of Messrs. Ker and Bodwell were well received. With their usual fairness the opposition allowed Mr. Ker, vice-president of the Liberal-Conservative Association, to make a speech. He confined himself chiefly to a subsidy which he said had been granted for a railway "running 125 miles north from Wellington," and contended that he knew more about the British Pacific scheme than any other man in Victoria. Mr. Bodwell, solicitor for the company, included Mr. Ker also caused much amusement by stating that the poor people of the country were prosperous.

Mr. Templeman dealt with the various questions that are issues in the campaign. He was followed by Dr. Milne and Messrs. Grant and Bodwell. The latter making a stirring speech. Mr. Bodwell, in reply to a speech made by Col. Prior at the board of trade, pointed out that a subsidy could not be granted to a railway until a proclamation had been issued declaring that the road is for the benefit of Canada. No such proclamation had been issued in connection with the British Pacific railway.

Mr. Somers was elected to the chair. He had, he said, always been in favor of a freer trade, believing that it would benefit the country at large. The only thing the N. P. had fostered was smuggling and a few factories owned by Americans, who do not reside in Canada. They have had a healthy competition and consequently have made good goods. The school question was a very important one. It was not brought out by the minority of Manitoba but by the Quebec hierarchy. Messrs. Prior and Earle say they will coerce Manitoba, while Messrs. Templeman and Milne say Manitoba can govern herself. As a lover of freedom he was glad to support Messrs. Templeman and Milne.

Columbia tried to make out that the government were particularly friendly to the farmers. As a matter of fact the government had let it to the United States government to say whether the farmers shall have any protection at all. The tariff law provided that as soon as the United States did away with the duty on many products of the farm, the Dominion government could do the same.

Mr. Ker (excitedly)—You are misleading the people. Mr. Templeman—That is unworthy of Mr. Ker to say that I am misleading the people. I am trying to say what I believe to be right. To show Mr. Ker that he was not misleading the meeting, Mr. Templeman read the clause in the tariff, which provided as he had stated. He was reading a clause of farm produce referred to by the clause when a gentleman in the hall said: "Machinery is not included."

Mr. Templeman—No, you bet not. Nothing but farm produce was to be admitted free as soon as the United States did the same. The speaker next referred to the statement made by Col. Prior at the Board of Trade meeting that a vote had been placed in the estimates in aid of the British Pacific railway. He believed Col. Prior was trying to mislead the electors through the Board of Trade. No man should try to get elected in Victoria on that cry because all were in favor of the scheme. If any party assisted the British Pacific it would not be the party now in power which is on the throne of the C. P. R. The C. P. R. had opposed the granting of aid to any railway, outside of themselves. He thought the scheme should receive aid from the Dominion, but did not believe the C. P. R. would allow the present party to assist it. Mr. Templeman quoted Col. Prior's speech in which he said a vote had been placed in the estimates to aid the British Pacific.

Mr. E. V. Bodwell—A vote could not be placed in the estimates for the British Pacific until a Dominion charter had been granted. It was not constitutional. Mr. Templeman—Col. Prior's speech was a piece of political claptrap. It was a shame and disgrace to make a political football of the scheme. He had received letters from Hon. Mr. Laurier in which he said he was willing to aid the scheme. He himself had always favored the scheme for every body in Victoria has the city and the province could not build the road alone, the major portion of the assistance must come from the Dominion. Although some of the promoters of the scheme were his most deadly enemies, he would do all he could to secure the building of the road.

Mr. Templeman took up the question of the large amount contributed by British Columbia to the Dominion treasury and the small amount received in return and then proceeded to make a few of those who would have been disfranchised by the bill and Mr. Sere finally admitted that 75 names would be knocked off, he said: "They have no right on the list anyhow." Continuing, Mr. Templeman said that he had two more interruptions by Mr. Tracy, who denounced the whole franchise act. In conclusion he hoped the election would be conducted in a gentlemanly manner. He was willing to take any hard knocks to be dealt fairly with by his professional opponents. (Applause.)

DR. MILNE. Dr. Milne was received with applause. He first took up the Manitoba school question upon which, he said, he held the same views as he had expressed at the recent bye-election. The Doctor went into the history of the question, and proceeding, said the provincial government found that the children were being trained in illiteracy. Mr. Tracy—Were they not half-breeds? Dr. Milne—No doubt some of them were. It was the Conservative government that made a political question of this. Manitoba had conceded almost every point, except the granting of separate schools to the Dominion commissioners, but they were determined to have the bill. Dr. Milne read the resolution introduced at the Methodist conference of Manitoba, which, he said, showed that they were willing to accord the Catholics equal rights but no special privileges.

Dr. Milne—This resolution shows that there is a grievance. Dr. Milne—What is a grievance? Mr. Ker could not answer the question. Dr. Milne—I will explain it to you. If I have a patient and put him on a certain diet he thinks he has a grievance, but I am doing it for his good. (Loud applause.) The proper system, we believe, is the same as the British Columbia schools, which are purely secular.

Mr. Milne next referred to the tariff, which, he said, was particularly hard on the iron industry. There is a duty of \$4 a ton on iron, which precludes the local iron works from manufacturing goods for the home markets. One or two furnaces in the east are nursed by bounties, but here, where all the iron is imported from Great Britain, it is hard on the industry. The policy of the Liberal party was to admit free the raw material and the manufacturers of the east seeing the benefits to be derived from this, were falling into line with the Liberals. It was said that a lower tariff would create deficits, but the Conservative government, with a high tariff, had a deficit last year of five million dollars. To-day farming implements in Canada are sold cheaper in Australia than they are here, simply because the Dominion government took place in the material when it was a good one. The manufacturers were forced to sell cheaper, and the farmer are still prospering, and the farmer reaped the benefit.

Mr. Ker—The factories were built up by protection. Mr. Templeman—They were built up by money taken out of the pockets of the farmers. (Applause.) The average protection to the farmer was 22 per cent., while the average to the manufacturer was 35, not including coal oil, upon which the duty was over 100 per cent. He thought an average tariff of 22 per cent. would work to the benefit of all. The Conservatives in British

Mr. Davies—Does the steamer call at Victoria? Mr. Foster—We will find it out in the contract. Mr. Davies—I want to find it out now. I have received a letter from a gentleman in British Columbia to-day asking me to ascertain this point. The inhabitants out there are very anxious to know whether this line of steamships is going to call at Victoria. I do not know whether the British Columbia representatives in the house can say anything about it, but I can assure them that one of their constituents seems to be greatly interested in the subject.

Mr. Prior—What is his name? Mr. Davies—I have no objection to giving the name privately to the hon. gentleman. Whether the steamer is to call at Victoria or not ought to be decided before the contract is entered into, and the information should be given to the house before we consent to vote the money.

Mr. Prior—I am much obliged to the hon. gentleman for bringing up the question of the steamers calling at Victoria. I may state that ever since I have been in Ottawa I have been badgering the government about the same matter. I have had numerous letters myself on the subject and before I started for Ottawa I had several interviews with gentlemen belonging to the Board of Trade who urged upon me the imperative necessity of pressing that subject upon the government. I believe that the whole population of Victoria desire the steamers to call there. I have done my best that they should do so, but I cannot say that I have had any very satisfactory success so far.

Mr. Ker—Application has been made. Mr. Bodwell—When, or how was it made? Mr. Ker—It seems very strange that if such application was made, it was not made through the solicitor of the company. No one would be gladder than he to hear that the subsidy had been granted by the Dominion government, but he could not see how it could have been done. It could not have been done unless a charter had been previously passed. When in Ottawa he had met the Vancouver Island representatives. They had just been interviewing the government, and were very blue because their application for aid for the N. & N. extension had been refused. The government refused that because they knew that under any circumstances they could get the slavish support of the present representatives. Such representatives did not deserve support. At the bye-election Col. Prior had gone so far as to say that he would support the bill brought down by the government, right or wrong.

Mr. Tracy—He did not say right or wrong. Mr. Bodwell—A bill must be either right or wrong. He would say for himself, as well as Messrs. Templeman and Milne, that if the Liberals brought in any bill that they thought was wrong, they would oppose it. The Conservatives had done nothing that would lead him to support them. Even as a matter of business, it was not right to support a man who had no opinion of his own, and who would support "any bill" brought in by the government. Victoria had not received justice from the Dominion government simply because of this slavish support. Mr. Bodwell referred to the grievances which Messrs. Prior and Earle had failed to have remedied. He referred to the great natural wealth of the province, and contended that it was the duty of all to see that such a policy was followed from political expediency to the benefit of the resources. The Conservative policy had been ruinous to all that we hold dear. In 1878 the Conservatives made gloomy prophecies. What has happened? The census returns show that people are leaving the country. The policy of the Conservatives had not tended to keep the surplus earnings in the country. This must be done if the country is to be prosperous. Mortgages were growing and increasing and industries, it showed that the people were not paying their way. Protection here amounts to prohibition. Certain goods cannot be brought in, but the same price has to be paid for goods manufactured here. Therefore a tax has to be placed on goods that have to come into the country. The Liberal tariff would protect those industries that required it and so distribute the burden as to bear equally on the people. At present the taxes are not equitably adjusted. They bear heavily on the man of small means, and let off lightly the man of large means. A policy that made a privileged class and introduced that element into politics was sure to be a disastrous one. It was this that caused the corruption in the Conservative ranks. He and many others could remember the time when the Pacific scandal caused an uproar from one end of the Dominion to the other, and the Conservatives were swept from power. The people had become callous and now took little notice of far worse scandals. He credited all the corruption to the incorrect and unstatesmanlike policy of protection. (Loud applause.)

MR. KER. Mr. D. R. Ker, vice-president of the Conservative association requested to be allowed to make a few remarks. "The promoters of the meeting having invited discussion, Mr. Ker was allowed to take the platform. Mr. Ker first referred to Mr. Francis Boucher's wild card schemes and then took up the Liberal policy, which he said "will ruin the country and take away your bread and butter." (Laughter.) He was in favor of no secretarial schools, but stuck up for the constitution. Laurier's policy was free trade, said Mr. Ker. He quoted a few extracts from Mr. Laurier's speech, but the audience was not satisfied with this and made him read the whole speech, in which the tariff for revenue policy is enunciated. He contended that it would be ruinous to take the duty off raw material. The poor depend on the savings banks have increased, showing that "the poor people are prosperous." Mr. Ker also referred to the depression all over the world and the bank failures of a few years ago, particularly in the United States. A Voice—What was the condition of free trade Great Britain at this time? Mr. Ker was proceeding to speak of the depression in the United States, when somebody in the rear of the hall asked him what he knew about the silver question. Mr. Ker did not know anything about the silver question, but contended that those who differed with him were all wrong. The Australian steamers, he said, were building up a big trade between Canada and Australia.

In regard to the British Pacific railway Mr. Ker said he knew more about the scheme than any other man in Victoria. A Voice—Do you know more about it than Mr. Bodwell, the company's solicitor? Mr. Ker said he did if Mr. Bodwell did not know that a subsidy had been granted. He produced a letter which he said he had received from Mr. Rithet, which was marked private and confidential, and he therefore could not read it. Mr. Templeman—That is a similar trick to Col. Prior's. If you have any information, give us all or none of it. Mr. Ker—A subsidy of \$3,500 a mile for 125 miles of railway from Wellington north was placed on the estimates. Mr. Bodwell—When was it placed on the estimates? Mr. Ker—Before it was known that Laurier would not allow the estimates to pass. J. F. Bodwell—What month? Mr. Ker—I do not know. Mr. Bodwell—I thought you were the only man in the city who knew anything about the scheme. Why were the estimates not passed? Mr. Ker—Mr. Laurier would not allow it. Mr. Bodwell—They could have been passed early in the session when the Conservatives were fighting among themselves. An elector—Will the C. P. R. company allow the government, whom they have under their thumb, to build the British Pacific? Mr. Ker did not answer this, but concluded by expressing confidence in the success of Messrs. Earle and Prior. Mr. Templeman—Would the promoters be satisfied with a simple subsidy of \$3200 per mile? Mr. Ker—They might get more. Dr. Milne—Is that subsidy for the British Pacific? Mr. Ker—It is for a railway running from Wellington north. Dr. Milne—I had a conversation with Mr. Rithet, and he told me he would not consider a subsidy of \$3200 per mile, he would not consider less than \$8000 per mile. Mr. Ker—It is satisfactory to Mr. Rithet. Mr. Templeman after replying shortly to Mr. Ker, pointed out that the opposition were anxious for discussion, as shown by their willingness to allow Mr. Ker to speak. They did object, however, to Mr. Ker making inaccurate statements. The meeting came to an end at midnight, a vote of thanks having been tendered the chairman.

JULES SIMON DEAD.

End of a Statesman Who Has Figured Prominently in Affairs of France.

Paris, June 8.—Jules Simon, the distinguished French statesman, former premier, who has been dangerously ill for some time past, died this morning.

MYSTERY OF MISS WORELL.

San Francisco, June 8.—The remains of Miss Mayne Worell, the young English woman, who died suddenly at the Palace hotel on Saturday, are still at the undertaking parlors awaiting some word or order from the family or relatives in England concerning their disposition. At present nothing is known of the woman aside from her name and address. The mystery surrounding the young woman and the object which prompted her to make the trip around the world unattended by any friend or chaperone have not been explained by any of her acquaintances among the passengers of the steamer, and the autopsy has added more mystery to the case, as the post mortem examination upsets the theory that she died from heart disease. It is shown conclusively that death was not caused by any organic disease. The stomach will be removed and submitted to chemical examination, to which the result of determining whether death resulted from poisoning.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

Mr. C. F. Jones was arrested and placed in custody this morning under a warrant issued by Magistrate Macrae in the suit of Cochran vs. Jones in the small debts court.

The order for committal was made some time ago on account of the evidence failing to give satisfactory evidence in his examination as a judgment debtor. This afternoon at three o'clock an application was made to Mr. Justice Drake for defendant's discharge. His Lordship, without giving an opinion either way, said he felt bound by the decision of Sir Henry Gessie given some time ago holding that the provincial government had no power to appoint judges of the small debts court, and he accordingly made an order discharging the defendant from custody. H. D. Hencken, Q. C., and J. P. Walls appeared for the defendant.

THE CEDAR HILL MEETING.

To the Editor:—In your issue of the 6th inst. there appeared the following item, viz: "One candid Conservative, Mr. Sere, at last evening's meeting, admitted that 75 voters would have been disfranchised by Col. Prior's gerrymander bill." I wish to deny having made any such admission. When Mr. Templeman stated that the bill would disfranchise a portion of the electors, I interrupted him by denying that it would have any such effect, and I still hold the same opinion. What I did say was that the names of about 75 voters appeared on the list for Vancouver district as well as on that for Victoria district, that if the bill did remove their names from the list for Victoria district, as contended by Mr. Templeman, they would still not have been disfranchised, as they would have voted in Vancouver district, to which they really belong. Their names only appear on the list for Victoria district owing to the mistake on the part of the revising barrister. F. SERE. Victoria, June 8.

ROYAL Baking Powder

has been awarded highest honors at every world's fair where exhibited.

RACE. ... (Byrn) 1; J. ... (a), (own ... Black Bear ... (Ward) ... lengths between ... (Millington) ... (Limey Long ... 53, 51 1-2, 2 ... (second heat ... won by ... (three ... (Morris) 1; J. ... (own ... (Messina) ... (hard finish ... (pony hand ... (Molly) ... (Don K. ... (Satan) ... (Bos ... (Deavoy ... (good race ... (second an ... (Dunsuir, Mr. ... (Kirk and M ... (A.E. Irving ... (Westminster ... (third ... (Saturday, New ... (first games ... (pull themselves ... (next four ... (Lewis, .21 ... (6 min ... (Cullin, .11 ... (Finlaison, .16 ... (Cullin, .15 ... (Cullin, .12 ... (Won Lost ... 2 2 0 100 ... 2 1 1 50 ... 2 0 0 ... (regatta for the ... (Yacht club, the ... (and Santania ... (at 10:30 this ... (thrust wind. The ... (long. ... (and Niagara ... (order named, in ... (raters under the ... (the faintest breath ... (but the M ... (to the west and ... (of the Santania ... (was further ... (were obliged to ... (drifting them ... (the smaller yachts ... (Saint had a lone ... (but the Penitent ... (Fifty minutes ... (the line and ... (of the Niagara, ... (contests, started ... (the 20-raters. ... (Penitent and the ... (discussing the ... (Committee of the ... (Racing Associa- ... (Niagara for wa- ... (the seats in her ... (ere connected by ... (n have any doubt ... (the tanks could ... (ballast, he would ... (& Co., received ... (this money have ... (arrival there of a ... (hooners with the ... (nirra 740, Allie ... (477, Aurora 320. ... (also received a ... (I. G. Cox report ... (akade of the ... (ng to the firm ... (skins. These ... (siderably smaller ... (ches obtained on ... (time last year. ... (scrofula has no ... (This demon ... (not satisfied with ... (with the ... (of rheumatism ... (rills cure. ... (ago I became a ... (and rheumatism. ... (out on my thighs. ... (and an operation ... (and rheumatism in ... (shape. I lost ap- ... (I was a perfect ... (to grow worse and ... (tor's treatment to ... (Soon appetite ... (commenced to heal. ... (out and I threw ... (now stout and ... (whereas four ... (I gladly respec- ... (Illinois. UNSA ... (d's ... (arilla ... (at all drugs, ... (d & Co., Lowell, Mass. ... (liver, its, easy, 25c.