

Encouraging Report

(Continued from Page 1)

Indeed, as far as he knew, the Liberals were doing very little and keeping exceedingly quiet. It looked as if there might be something similar to the last local election in the neighboring Maritime Provinces, similar reports were heard.

The issue taken up by the other side seemed weak indeed, and their questions and arguments did not appear to hold water. In trying to show what they had done, they seemed like men catching at straws. At every meeting they were preaching the prosperity of Canada, and used as an illustration the value of the dollar.

The government candidates had fallen back now on the fact that they were going to do certain things. They claimed they were going to develop world wide markets. A few years ago they were talking trade with our nearest neighbor. But that cry was now knocking on the head.

So far as the Conservatives were concerned they had a very definite policy, and was a specific one. On the tariff policy they were the solution of the other great problem of the lemons of Canada.

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Personally, the speaker would say, by the Dominion. If it was paid by either government somebody should find out where the money had gone.

But as candidates it was not possible to do anything so that there was no use referring to the matter.

Mr. H. F. McPhee, the next speaker, also referred to industrial conditions, the depopulation, loss of business, and closing down of factories. The opposition said they preached sunshine. If the Conservatives drew attention to the above mentioned truths the Liberals would not be pessimists and very successful as a rule, exceedingly orderly.

It is the habit, said the speaker, of a bird called the ostrich to bury its head in the sand when he is in danger, and so believe himself safe. That was the attitude of those preaching sunshine under present conditions. The speaker's idea of an optimist was one who faced danger squarely, found out what it was, and removed it.

Was it a fact that Canada was going blind, not making the progress that she should? She was a young country and had untold possibilities in her comparatively unknown resources. She should be progressing by leaps and bounds.

The three main issues facing the country were the railways, immigration, and the tariff. The basis of the railroad trouble was that there was more mileage than there was people to travel over. In finding a remedy there were three courses to follow: (1) Cutting down the mileage, which in justice its aid could not be thought of.

With industry booming there was fifty or sixty years ago a market would be provided for the solution of the other great problem of the lemons of Canada. The speaker believed that everyone, both Liberal and Conservative alike would see that industry could only be restored by the National Policy.

Mr. George DeBlois was next called upon and said that not since the introduction of the National Policy in the seventies had there been such an important election campaign in Canada. The Province arrived at the time when it was absolutely essential to send to Ottawa men who would demand justice, fair play and equal rights.

Canada's immigration policy had cost the country millions, but what had Prince Edward Island got out of it?

The curse of the country, said the speaker, was the excessive freight rates. A package valued at \$100 shipped from Toronto was charged express at nearly half its value. Freight rates were killing the export of potatoes, except at the rare time when they were demanded a good price.

The speaker quoted the opinion of the tariff given by Abraham Lincoln, who said that when goods were bought outside the country, foreigners got the money. When goods were bought within the state, the country got both the goods and the money. Mr. DeBlois said that he could not understand how any level headed business man could see otherwise. The tariff made the wheels of industry hum and provided employment for the boys and girls who would otherwise seek a living elsewhere.

As in 1923 when the speaker had also travelled the length and breadth of the island previous to the local election. It was a very different feeling from that prevailing in 1919, when he had also gone over the Province.

The Doctor said that he was proud of the Conservative candidates in the Province. They were preaching the same Conservative doctrine, making logical speeches that couldn't be answered.

According to rumor, said the Doctor, it was his special object in this campaign to make attacks on Mr. Sinclair. This was correct, and he was making the same attack on every one of the Liberal candidates, and asking them what their answer was in regard to paying the victims of Andrew Fraser Mitchell. If he was making a special attack on a member of the Dominion cabinet and one who was responsible for every act of the government why shouldn't he? In the time Mr. Sinclair represented Queen's, what had he done for the county?

MR. MCKINNON: He gave us a warehouse in Georgetown. Georgetown was the only suitable accommodation for the winter warehouse and the Hon. Mr. Sinclair had promised a frost-proof storehouse to the potato growers. On the assumption of that promise the farmers had arranged for a large shipment this winter. But the assessment for the warehouse was not granted. The potato growers said it was in the estimates, but Mr. Sinclair said it was never in them.

In the same sitting of the House Mr. Sinclair had voted \$60,000 to protect the onion industry in the West. The speaker said that he would make just a short reference to the Mitchell case. "This is what I was specially hired to do." (Laughter.)

He had asked the question because he thought either the Dominion or the Provincial government was wrong and he wished to find out which was in the fault. As he had been told he found that Mr. Sinclair was the kind of man from whom one couldn't get an answer on a public platform.

Mr. A. E. McLean had answered the question by saying that neither government was responsible. Mr. A. C. Saunders said the local government should pay it. Mr. J. J. Johnston had answered it. Of course he was a lawyer and wouldn't say yes or no, but he said Mitchell was a crook as soon as he was employed, but what could he do about it. Mr. Lea had said that the agent came from the Old Country and had gone back and robbed his friends. If he had belonged to P. E. I. the province would have been responsible. What kind of an answer was that? There had been many different lines of reasoning on the business, but the one line of reasoning was taken by Mr. W. J. Cotton, that stalwart friend of the Conservatives.

The speaker reiterated that he was not attacking Mr. Sinclair, but in a cabinet minister, the King government would not give justice if it was returned for another four years. But that was not going to happen. The ladies were not going out and registering their votes if they were not determined that the Conservatives would be elected.

Mr. P. W. Turner said that the Patriot, that paper so false to its name, had reported him as being utterly speechless. A few weeks ago the Liberal press had heralded the advent of Premier King and said that he would give a clear exposition of the Liberal policy. But the audience had not heard any unification of a Liberal policy. In one breath the Premier had complained that lack of a majority had handicapped him, and in the next he boasted that he had maintained his majority of one all through the administration. He had done it by making lavish expenditures in the West at the expense of the East. He had held the office without the power and the Progressives had held the power without the office.

After touching on Maritime rights, the national debt, Mr. Turner spoke of the Senate reform and said that in the Premier's mind the kind of reform needed by the Senate was "chloroform."

Speaking of the tariff Mr. Turner said that it cost 18 per cent of the gross production of Canada to pay the costs of government. Therefore no foreign goods should be allowed into the country, to compete with goods taxed to this amount, without having to pay a duty of at least 18 per cent.

During the last year Canada purchased from U. S. goods amounting to \$81,000,000 and sold in return \$51,000,000. The Canadian duty had been \$8,000,000 and the American, between 20 and 25 million. Before the conclusion of the meeting a short address was given by Mr. B. R. Holman. The meeting closed with three hearty cheers and a tiger for each of the candidates.

BRINGING UP FATHER— I SAID WE ARE GOING TO MOVE AND YOU ARE GOING OUT WITH ME TO LOOK FOR AN APARTMENT. I DON'T WANT TO DO EITHER BUT I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE TO. WHERE ARE WE GOING? SHUT UP—JUST FOLLOW ME!

Conservative

(Continued from page three)

on by previous administrations. But as you know Canada owned only the Intercolonial railway in years gone by. The other lines were then privately owned, and it was only the deficit on the Intercolonial that was charged up to that account. But when Canada became the owner of the other lines they became her property, and any money that was expended is a national obligation which we will have to pay."

In 1921 the net debt of Canada, as shown by the public accounts, was \$2,340,000,000. In 1924 it was \$2,417,000,000 or some \$70,000,000 greater than when the Liberals came into power. How then can they claim a surplus?

Mr. Sharp reviewed the history of the Crows Nest Pass agreement and asked why, with almost a solid representation from the Maritimes, the Liberal members were not able to secure similar concessions to which we were entitled under Confederation.

"What is the result to the Province of the high freight rates? You people know when you undertake to ship potatoes to Toronto or Ottawa and a good many of our cattle stock is going there today. But the rates are so high that we have to get much more for our potatoes than if we had the cheap rates that the Progressives have secured for their grain in the West. But our friends, to use the expression of my friend Mr. McLean, were asleep at the switch." (Applause.)

With the cheap rates secured by the Progressives, Western oats are being marketed in the Maritime ports and even right in Charlottetown in competition with oats grown on island farms.

"We are only asking that we be given the concession that has been given to the Western farmers. But King turns his eye westward. He was sure of the Maritime representation, but he had to dicker with those Western farmers, and give to them what he has denied to the East. Like a voice over the radio, some people are always listening to far stations voices, rather than the nearer ones, which they can hear more plainly. In the far stations you are very often troubled with "static." Static is electricity and while King has been listening to the far stations of the West, when he does listen in to the Maritimes he will find a lot of electricity in the air."

The Egg Question At the Emerald meeting Mr. McLean had apparently been of opinion that the American hen did not lay eggs at the same time as the Canadian hen. How are we affected by the American eggs? Mr. Sharp asked. Our profitable season is during March and April, when our producers get in the vicinity of 30 to 35 cents a dozen. Last spring and the preceding spring, a large number of American eggs came into the country and flooded our Canadian markets, and in one week, during those months, Canadian after Canadian and American and Chinese eggs came into Toronto, Montreal and as far east as Halifax, with the result that within two weeks our prices dropped to 20 and 22 cents a dozen.

Mr. McLean has argued that if we change the tariff the American people might retaliate. They might stop trading with us. Did you ever know of a Yankee to refuse trading where it was profitable for him to trade. He will protect his own people against products that his own people can produce, but articles that he cannot produce he will always be quite willing to import. Mr. McLean says that the States might put up a tariff on lobsters and smelts against us. Well, now, if the States can raise her tariff against us when she likes, without consulting the people of Canada, why cannot Canada have a tariff of her own, if it suits her, without having to consult the States? (Applause.) If the Government in Canada is afraid to do anything without consulting that Great Republic to the South, then we become her slaves, and we are NOT a free and independent people; and the quicker we get annexation to the States and they control us completely, the better for us; because under the policy laid down by Mr. McLean we will be afraid to conduct our business in our own way, without consulting them.

MR. SAUNDERS: That is the gentleman that was putting that through for a little political propaganda. We have had a surplus over what we consume of 275,000,000 bushels of wheat and we produce twenty times as much butter as we consume he continued. What are we going to do without wider markets? Mr. Saunders did not believe there was an intelligent person who could get up on any platform and give one single reason why we should advance the interests of protection. We have been "falling for it" for years now, but within four or eight years he ventured to say the word "protection" would never be heard again.

Hon. Dr. McMillan. Hon. Dr. McMillan said he had been criticised for some remarks he had made regarding the Liberal-Progressive alliance. He had been insinuated that he was speaking disparagingly of the Progressives on the Island. How could this be true? There are no Progressives on the Island. He was referring to the alliance between the King Government and the Progressives at Ottawa who came from Western Canada. "I said that these Progressives from Western Canada were a selfish lot. My words were misconstrued. It was reported in the Patriot that I said 'a petty, selfish lot,' but the real expression, taken down verbatim by a stenographer, was 'a purely selfish lot.' Why did I say that? Because they consider only their own local interests. They put those interests first, and they secure them at the expense of all the rest of Canada."

Four years ago the Progressive party looked as if it had come to stay in Canada. But, like all other class movements, it could not do this. The first sign of decay was the resignation from leadership of Hon. T. A. Crerar, who had vainly tried to unite the Progressives into a solid body with the interests of Canada at heart. What has been the result? In Winnipeg, Mr. Crerar gave out a statement containing a report of his utterance at a closed session of the Saskatchewan Convention in Regina on Aug. 6, 1925. The statement, in part, was: "I pointed out that the Progressive party in parliament had failed to make any appreciable appeal to eastern Canada, and was now in effect a local movement; that the lack of cohesion among Western Progressives and their tendency to cling to the class idea had weakened much of the support they had received in the last federal election; that in the minds of many thoughtful people the course of the present government at Ottawa in domestic affairs had been marked by inefficiency and delay; that it had largely failed to implement its platform on the tariff, and had largely failed to introduce economies in public expenditures that would lead to reduction in taxation, which was imperative; that the financial condition of the country was extremely serious, and that, as Canada could not long support a burden of public taxation such as we have at present in the face of reductions in taxation in the United States, alongside of us, I feared, this condition of affairs might have very serious consequences for Canada."

Dr. McMillan referred to the Crows Nest Pass agreement, the proposed Senate Reform, the tariff and other matters. Speaking on immigration, he touched on the Andrew Fraser Mitchell matter and the reason why this matter has necessarily come up in the present campaign. The local Government, for the past two years, have been trying to get the Dominion Government to pay those men defrauded by Mitchell. Only a few months ago he found an answer for him received. The King Government says "No." The question now is, are the people of Prince Edward Island willing to pay \$17,000 as the result of a mistake made by a Cabinet Minister in the King Government?

Prices on agricultural implements were cited by Dr. McMillan showing that these prices were actually bigger in 1924 and 1925 than in 1923 despite Liberal arguments to the contrary. Mr. Saunders had insinuated that the Egg and Poultry Association meeting at which was passed a strong resolution asking for high tariff against foreign eggs, had been dominated by Mr. D. B. McDonald. But this meeting was composed of men of both political parties and the resolution went through without a dissenting voice. Other phases of the tariff, as well as railway expenditure, were then discussed by Dr. McMillan.

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had made a "break," he said, in a great country under any kind of regard to duty on fox pellets. What a tariff, and they have prospered in spite of high protection, not because of it. If 2,000 factories, have closed in Canada under the King Government how is it that we have a favorable trade balance of over \$200,000,000? he asked. The factories that are closed must therefore have amalgamated; and the workmen have moved to some other centres in Canada. Our agricultural prices, Mr. Lea insisted, were splendid at the present time. The trouble is that we are paying a little too much for the things we buy, in comparison. Regarding the Fraser Mitchell question, Mr. Lea said if this man had been a native of this country the obligation, upon us of reimbursing the immigrants defrauded by Mitchell would have been different. But Mitchell was one of themselves; he belonged to the Old Country and all the money, except a few hundred dollars, is still over there. If anybody in England was foolish, one of their own people did it, not a member of the Island Government. A VOICE: Who appointed him? MR. LEA: It doesn't matter; he was one of their own people. MR. SHARP: What difference does that make? MR. LEA: It makes all the difference in the world. Mr. Lea in conclusion credited Mr. A. E. McLean with being largely responsible for securing the cattle inspection for the disease free area. Cheers for both the candidates were given at the close of the meeting.

—By George McManus I SAID WE ARE GOING TO MOVE AND YOU ARE GOING OUT WITH ME TO LOOK FOR AN APARTMENT. I DON'T WANT TO DO EITHER BUT I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE TO. WHERE ARE WE GOING? SHUT UP—JUST FOLLOW ME! WE WANT TO LOOK AT AN APARTMENT. YOU'LL HAVE TO GIT THE TELEPHONE GIRL TO PHONE FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT. NEVER MIND I DON'T LIKE THIS BUILDING.