

Mr. E. S. Carter Came Down Hard on Graft Newspapers

Opposition Organizer and Candidate for Kings Delivers Fighting Speech at St. John Meeting--Deals Effectively With Banquet Falsehood and the Gould Holdup--The St. Standard Directors Lined up.

Mr. E. S. Carter, Opposition organizer, and one of the candidates for Kings, was a speaker at a rousing political gathering at St. John on Wednesday evening. His admirable address, during the course of which he paid his respects to the graft newspapers, is thus reported by the Telegraph:

Mr. E. S. Carter, when called on to speak, congratulated the Opposition on the interest shown, adding that he had found the same interest in every section of the province. He congratulated the association on the selection as president of one of the foremost men of the province, one who is known from one end of the province to the other, and who is as highly respected as he is well known.

Conservatives as Well.

In his work of organization he had won the approval of the government, but he had found that he had the support of Conservatives as well as Liberals. Shortly before the meeting he had been approached by one of the most prominent Conservatives of the city, who had informed him that he intended to support the Opposition in the next campaign. This was an experience he had had in every part of the province. Good citizens of all shades of politics are so disgusted with the present government that they are anxious to turn it out.

"This government," he said, "has gone farther even than the governments of Manitoba and British Columbia. Every one knows what has happened to the Conservative government in Manitoba, and what the people of British Columbia are preparing to do to the Conservative government in that province."

Mr. Carter drew attention to the advertisement which is appearing in the papers calling for tenders for road work, which is signed by P. G. Mahoney, as Minister of Public Works. He strongly denounced the course of the government in retaining in this important office a man who has been rejected in his own county, and entrusting the expenditure of thousands of dollars of public money to a man who is answerable to nobody. He characterized this as one of the most flagrant of the offences which the government has committed.

Flays Disreputable Newspaper.

Referring to an article which had appeared in the Fredericton Gleaner, and which was reproduced in the Times last evening, Mr. Carter said:

"From time to time the Fredericton Gleaner has printed a malicious lie and slander about my connection with the banquet given by Opposition friends to Messrs. Carvell and Dugal after the report of the Dugal commission had been made public. Ordinarily speaking, it is not necessary to deny any charge against a political opponent that appears in the Fredericton Gleaner. Relying upon the packed jury system in connection with the administration of justice under this government, the government press, and particularly the Gleaner and Standard, can slander and blackmail political opponents without much fear of punishment. There will come a day when such journalism must cease. The Gleaner forced A. R. Gould to pay it \$1,000, according to sworn evidence given in this city, and it is a common thing in Fredericton for citizens—merchants of the capital—who do not owe the Gleaner a cent, to be drawn on for

various amounts for the 'accommodation' of Mr. Crockett's paper, and they dare not even protest against such a liberty for fear that they would be attacked in the newspaper in some underhand way.

"When the Opposition had a banquet in Fredericton I was attacked at once as the organizer of the party and the insinuation made that I had profited by the affair. Such a false and nonsensical charge was easily disproved, because the chairman of the banquet committee, W. E. Foster, saw the accounts and knows that but for some donations we would have been short for our payments in connection with the banquet and the conference which followed the next day.

"I would not even take notice of this matter at this time, but I am no longer merely opposition organizer. I am a candidate of the Opposition party and as such I owe it to my friends and my colleagues upon the ticket to brand the statement as false and as slanderous as any that has ever appeared in the Fredericton Gleaner—and, God knows, that is saying more than any man can express in words."

Referring to the insinuation that he had attempted to collect money from the delegates at the Sunbury opposition convention, Mr. Carter related what had happened. He had told of the action of the treasurer in another county organization in suggesting that he be given some funds to handle for county expenses, and the speaker had suggested that the electors of Sunbury should also provide a fund for their own treasurer. The charge that he had been seeking money for himself was too ridiculous to discuss.

The Standard.

Mr. Carter then turned his attention

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to the Standard, which had been devoting considerable space to him, and said that if the Standard is going to continue its slanderous remarks about him it would be only fair that he should pay some attention to the Standard. The directors of this paper are responsible for its editorial policy, and, he said, it might be well to inquire who they are. He gave the list of directors, including George B. Jones, M. P. P., Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, Thomas Bell, W. B. Tennant and Thomas Nagle.

"Mr. Jones, the president of the company," he said, "is one of the worst grafters in the province. As a member of the legislature he has violated the Independence of Parliament Act by selling goods to the province, an offence which makes him liable to a penalty of \$200 for every day he sits in the Legislature. When I exposed this he continued to sell to the province through his clerk, John P. McAuley, even when the latter was in California. I have seen checks made out to John P. McAuley for goods sold to the province and endorsed by John P. McAuley, when McAuley was 4,000 miles away. If Mr. Jones wishes to take issue with me on this I am ready at any time and place he may mention.

Lieut. Colonel Baxter.

"Next we come to Mr. Baxter, whose first notable feat was the preparation of the foreshores bill, a bill that threatened the rights of the citizens of St. John, a fact he has admitted under oath. Mr. Baxter violated his oath of office when he took \$500, the first instalment of \$2,000, from A. R. Gould, but it was too hot to hold and he returned it after he had been exposed.

"It was Mr. Baxter's law partner and an associate whom I charged before Commissioner Chandler with having extorted money from the liquor dealers. It was Mr. Baxter's law partner, Mr. Logan who, according to the sworn statement of H. M. Blair, approached the latter, then secretary of the Provincial Public Works Department, to ask his aid in disbursing the money.

Mr. Bell.

"Next we come to Mr. Bell, who has always been high in the councils of the Conservative party in St. John—a situation I never have been able to understand, as he has no vote in St. John county. Mr. Bell is the man who handled the \$100,000 which Premier Flemming received from A. R. Gould, a statement I can prove by the testimony of men who went to Mr. Bell to receive a share of the money. He is the same who, when tenders were called for the construction of the marine depot at West St. John, put up a dummy contractor for the work. The tender was in the name of F. L. Boone, but Mr. Bell, F. C. Macneil and W. B. Tennant had power of attorney from Mr. Boone, and it was they who put up the \$5,000 deposit which accompanied the tender. They got the contract and got \$300,000 for a botched job, for building the worst wharf in St. John, a wharf which is now falling to pieces and which some day will slide into the harbor.

Mr. Tennant.

"Then there is Mr. Tennant, the man who organized the Northern Dredging Company, of which Richard O'Leary, now a director of the Valley Railway, is president. I understand that Mr. Tennant sold the stock of this concern and was rewarded with a large block of the stock for himself. Mr. Tennant

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