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C. R. Hawkins Nominated by Liberals of York-Sunbury

Representative Convention Selected Him and Campaign is On—Speeches by Candidate, P. J. Hughes, Hon. D. W. Mersereau, Ernest W. Stairs and J. J. F. Winslow.

A convention not as largely attended as it would have been had farming conditions been as they usually are at this season, nominated C. Robert Hawkins, barrister-at-law, of Fredericton, as the candidate for the Liberal party in York-Sunbury, at the York County Court House Wednesday afternoon. The nomination was in line with expectations. The name was selected from a number of possibilities by a nominating committee and placed before the convention which accepted it by unanimous vote.

The constituency was well represented by those in attendance at the convention. A. H. VanWart of Fredericton, president of the York-Sunbury Liberal Executive was in the chair. H. B. Colwell was elected secretary immediately after the convention was called to order at 2.30. The chairman stated the object of the meeting and on motion of J. J. F. Winslow, K. C., seconded by Thomas O'Leary, it was decided to appoint a nominating committee. The following were selected:—R. B. Smith, ex-M. P., Ernest W. Stairs, P. J. Hughes, K. C., Frank Colburn, W. R. Fawcett, J. B. Dickson, Hon. D. W. Mersereau, Coun. Colby Stennick, Warren Manzer, Bruce Bynoe, P. S. Watson, Elias White, Dr. J. G. Owens, N. B. Day and Charles Anderson.

P. J. Hughes after the committee returned reported that several names had been considered and that of C. Robert Hawkins had been selected unanimously for presentation to the convention.

Personally he could say that the convention could make no mistake in accepting the recommendation of the committee. Mr. Hawkins was a young man who had been much before the public, a man rising rapidly in his profession and in the estimation of the public. He was a man who in days of danger to Canada and the Empire had gone over and taken his place with the boys at the front.

On the motion of E. W. Stairs seconded by Thomas O'Leary, the convention accepted the recommendation.

The nomination was followed by a speech of acceptance on the part of the nominee in which he touched on some of the issues of the campaign. Other speakers who followed were P. J. Hughes, K. C., Hon. D. W. Mersereau, Ernest W. Stairs and J. J. F. Winslow, K. C.

C. R. HAWKINS.

Accepts Nomination—Touches on Issues of Campaign—Appears Support and Aid of All.

Mr. Hawkins being called upon by President VanWart said that he would be hardly human if he did not say that he was proud of being nominated to represent the Liberal party in this campaign in the constituency of York-Sunbury. He knew the convention was not as large as it would have been except for extraordinary weather conditions which made it necessary for the farmers to get in their crops particularly potatoes. He realized that the nomination was not for the purpose of paying any particular honor to himself. In fact it was so much an honor as a call to duty. He had been pressed by friends to permit his name to go before the convention. He could say that he had held the principles of the Liberal party for years and would support that party as long as it remained true to those principles.

He would accept the nomination. It was a time when in York-Sunbury, the outlook of the Liberal party was not of the brightest. That was not true of the whole Dominion, thank heaven. But there was a brighter day coming. To the young men he would appeal particularly. Conditions in the Maritime Provinces were disadvantageous to the people and they were so because in the past representatives had forgotten the true interests of their constituents.

Tariff Issue.

Mr. Hawkins said that he would like to place before the convention some of the issues of the campaign. Later he would be able to devote more time to the matters. The one great issue was the tariff. Mr. Meighen had made it that for he has said that if returned he would increase the tariff. That was contrary to the interests of the Maritime Provinces. In fact the tariff had been a curse to the Maritimes. Any change to be made should

be downwards and not upwards. The Maritime Provinces were largely agricultural. There was little manufacturing. Ninety per cent of the manufacturing in the Dominion was carried on in a triangle the corners of which were Owen Sound, Montreal and Windsor, Ont. About everything purchased in the line of manufactured goods came from there. As an instance the Ford car could be taken. At Walkerville, Ont., Henry Ford had a factory. In it 75,000 cars had been turned out this year. The price of each car on the average was at least \$250 higher than the price in the United States. This meant that because of the tariff imposing its duty a tax of about \$12,500,000 was placed on the people of Canada for the Ford cars sold in the Dominion. Of that amount the Maritime Provinces paid \$1,250,000 on the Fords purchased in this part of the country. That went into the pockets of Ford and his stockholders not to the government. The people of the Maritimes paid that just to keep a factory at Walkerville, Ont. The same thing applied to all manufactured goods with few exceptions.

Premier King had reduced the tariff. Mr. Meighen was for higher tariff. On that issue he was opposed to Meighen, Hanson and any one else who favored tariff increase. Tariff was taxation. Meighen called it protection and on the 29th he would need protection not by tariff but from an enraged electorate.

Senate Reform.

Reform of the Senate was another issue. The Senate of Canada with a Conservative majority had blocked much legislation of the King Government. One instance was the Branch Railways Bill of great importance to New Brunswick and to York-Sunbury. The Senate was the most autocratic body in the world its members being appointed for life with no responsibility to anyone. The powers given the Senators were bound to make them Conservatives no matter what their original political beliefs. A Senator did not want a change. As he approached his dotage whether Liberal or not he began to become Conservative. Premier King had promised to reform the Senate by imposing an age-limit.

Branch Line Bill.

The Kingsclear-Vanceboro Branch of the C. N. R. was provided for by an estimate of the King Government. It would have reduced railroads to the United States fifty miles, placed Fredericton on a main line of railway and brought about the building of a new bridge across the Saint John River. It would have been of benefit to the Valley Railway enabling it to pay a dividend or at least reduce its deficit. Eventually the Dominion would have taken over the Valley Railway. The House of Commons passed the bill Liberals and Progressives supporting the Conservatives opposing. Col. Murray MacLaren of Saint John opposed it and R. B. Hanson did not have enough weight with his party to have it vote for the measure which would have done more for his constituency than any other. In the Senate the Conservative majority killed the bill. That was something the King Government wanted to do and he would pledge himself to that party until it should do something detrimental to the interests of New Brunswick or the constituency.

Railway Problem.
 Another issue was the railway problem. The Government had done much toward solution but he did not have the opportunity of discussing that or the National Debt. In the future he would.

He thanked the convention again. In the campaign he would do all he could but he could not win alone. The Opposition would have money and much of it.

Voice—"There is no doubt of that." Mr. Hawkins said that was to be expected as the manufacturers would be expected to furnish the money to bring about an increase in the tariff. However with the support of all the party he would win but what ever happened the principles of Liberalism never would go down. They must work. They could not expect money. It must be recognized that the Opposition had good organization but right would prevail. He was prepared to get out and fight and he would never quit in this election. (Applause.)

THE LIBERAL CANDIDATE IN YORK-SUNBURY

C. Robert Hawkins, Liberal candidate in York-Sunbury is senior member of the legal firm of Hawkins & Harrison, Fredericton. Son of G. N. C. Hawkins, manager of Fredericton Branch, Bank of Montreal. Native of Nova Scotia but resident in Fredericton for considerable number of years. Graduate of Dalhousie University, Halifax. Served overseas with Heavy Artillery, C. E. F. Prominent in G. W. V. A. On Provincial Command and also represented Fredericton G. W. V. A. at Ottawa on various matters. Prominent in Liberal campaigns in York-Sunbury on several occasions.

P. J. HUGHES, K. C.

Praire For Candidate—National Debt—Railway Question and Tariff.

Peter J. Hughes, K. C., was called upon. He said that they had gathered for a serious and important business and had accomplished it successfully in the selection of C. R. Hawkins as candidate. The campaign placed before the people some important problems. The King Government had taken office under severe handicap. The public debt had amounted to \$2,400,000 a huge burden of nine million people. Much of that had been unavoidable but on the other hand much had been avoidable. It had been the product of graft and extravagance under the preceding government. The National Railways had presented a problem. The Intercolonial had been a result of Confederation but Meighen had taken over also the Transcontinental and the Canadian Northern. The King Government had grappled with the question. Sir Henry Thornton one of the great railway men of the world had been appointed general manager and was saving money in the operation of the system. However he worked under handicap. The proposal to give the C. N. R. direct access to New England had been killed and other advanced legislation had been killed by the senate. For that reason Premier King had asked for a majority and also asked for a mandate concerning the Senate. Compared with that body the House of Lords was democratic.

The Opposition throughout the campaign would refer to Protection. What was there in the Maritime Provinces which was being protected? Meighen wanted a higher tariff on agricultural implements. He might ask for that in Ontario but not in the Maritimes. His friend Mr. Hawkins had well illustrated the matter with the Ford cars. Why should it cost more to buy that car in Canada than in the United States? There was no sense to it and never would be! Canadians could work just as well in Canada as in Detroit. If the tariff were lowered just as many cars would be made. The Massey-Harris Company sold its products all over the world. It competed with United States factories successfully and so proved that Canadian industry could compete in the world's markets. Tariff imposed an exorbitant tax and Meighen wanted to make it still higher.

Hon. Vincent Massey now a member of the King Government had stated that the Massey-Harris Company had increased its business under the tariff reductions of the King Government. In the West the announcement of Mr. Meighen that he intended to increase the tariff indicated plainly that he had abandoned hope of gaining anything there. He would not tell them that if he thought he would win one seat.

As Mr. Hawkins had said one election might be lost and another won. That was the spirit needed. Liberalism might be defeated in one county but would prevail elsewhere. Every one must get out and support the candidate.

ERNEST W. STAIRS

Former Progressive Candidate Supports Mr. Hawkins—Strongly Against Tariff Increase.

Ernest W. Stairs who opposed R. B. Hanson as a Progressive candidate was present. He expressed his pleasure because of being given the privilege of nominating Mr. Hawkins. He had known him for some time and also had known his father. He consid-

ered Mr. Hawkins one of the brightest and most honorable young men in the constituency. He was one of those who when the call came to defend his country, put on the khaki and went across to do his duty.

This election Mr. Stairs said he considered one of the most important in the history of the country. Some might think that he had jumped about too much politically, having been first Conservative, then Progressive, then Liberal. He had embraced the Liberal cause because it was the nearest like that which he supported before. With regard to the position of the Maritime Provinces he said that had our forefathers been able to foresee what was to happen they never would have gone into Confederation or stood for the National Policy. The market in Central Canada which had been promised never had materialized. He hoped that on the evening of the 29th to be cheering for Mr. Hawkins. A forecast of 3,000 majority for Hanson had been made. He would like to turn it into 304 for Hawkins. Let all get out and work. Sometimes the unexpected happened.

HON. D. W. MERSEREAU.

Former Minister of Agriculture Says: He Will Be in the Fight—First to Assist Dr. D. H. McAlister.

Hon. D. W. Mersereau former Minister of Agriculture for the Province said he was pleased to add his quota to the support of the candidate. He had known him and his father before him. He was as honorable a candidate as could be found anywhere. The convention was small but circumstances altered cases. The constituency had just passed through an election as many knew. He had taken part and he had promised to go to Queen's County for a day or two in this campaign. After that he would be able to assist in York-Sunbury.

He was pleased that in this campaign the Opposition would be unable to appeal to the prejudices of the people against their best interests as they had in the last. He hoped to see the day when they would not be judged by race or creed but by what they could do for their country.

Hon. Mr. Mersereau said that the issues of the campaign which he considered outstanding were Tariff, Railway Problems, Immigration and Senate Reform. As far as the tariff was concerned he could not see how there would be enough farmers in the constituency to elect Dick Hanson if situation were properly explained to them. If rural conditions improved the towns and cities would feel the benefit.

His old friend Dr. D. H. McAlister had asked him to aid him and he would for a short time.

J. J. F. WINSLOW, K. C.

Thanks Electors For Support in Provincial Election—Says Meighen Does Not Approve of Hanson as Candidate.

J. J. F. Winslow, K. C., said that it was his first opportunity to thank the electors of Fredericton-Marysville-Devon for the support given him during the Provincial Election. He regretted to have to say that the support had not been strong enough but that should be a lesson to all and cause them to turn out and support Mr. Hawkins.

The constituency faced an important question in this election for the Conservatives had nominated a man who had been charged by an honorable official with a serious offence. He was not prepared to say whether he was guilty or not but he would say that two courts had been allowed to pass without action being taken by Mr. Hanson. The latter was a man who was not vindicated and who would not allow himself to be vindicated. He could state as a fact that Mr. Hanson was not wanted as a candidate by his leader. If that were not a fact let them get a statement from Mr. Meighen to the contrary.

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