

E. O. MacDonald Is Reconstruction Candidate

Selected at Big Convention at Opera House on Saturday Evening — Hon. H. H. Stevens Chief Speaker and Capacity Crowd Were Greatly Impressed With His Address — Dr. Frances Fish, Rev. T. H. Stevens and Candidate Also Spoke.

At the initial convention in this city of the Reconstruction Party, held in the Opera House on Saturday evening with an attendance close to one thousand, E. O. MacDonald, of this city, was announced as the candidate to contest the constituency of York-Sunbury in the approaching federal election. Mr. MacDonald had been forecasted as the candidate by The Daily Mail some time ago.

Saturday evening's big convention was set off by the first public appearance in this city of Hon. H. H. Stevens, as leader of the Reconstruction Party. After speaking here Mr. Stevens left at once for Saint John where he planned to take the boat to Digby today. He will continue his speaking tour in Truro, Yarmouth, Halifax, and will speak in Moncton on the way back.

Many On Platform

Besides Hon. Mr. Stevens and the candidate, Mr. MacDonald other speakers were Dr. Frances Fish of Newcastle, the Reconstruction candidate for Northumberland County; Rev. F. H. Stevens, son of the national leader of the party; and George W. Chapman, the chairman. On the platform besides those named were the following: R. A. McAuley, of Saint John; Paul Cross, of Saint John; Ernest Coy, county chairman; G. L. D. Bliss, county secretary; Sheriff Poirier of Gloucester county; Dr. R. W. Earle, of Perth, who is the possible candidate in Carleton-Victoria; G. E. Armstrong, of Perth; Gordon K. Daley, of Saint John; W. E. Nason, of Nasonworth; Frank Noble, of Springhill; Claude McDonald, father of the York-Sunbury candidate, also four ladies, Mrs. O. E. McDonald, Mrs. George W. Chapman, Mrs. M. I. F. Carvell, and Mrs. George Bliss.

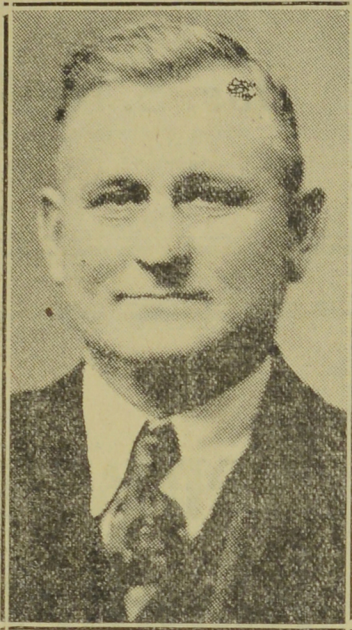
It was the first public appearance in Fredericton of Hon. H. H. Stevens since his taking the leadership of the Reconstruction Party. The interest in the Reconstruction Party of the voters of this constituency was indicated by the size of the audience representing all shades of opinion which filled the pit and the gallery and was augmented by a large number who heard from the street with the assistance of amplifiers.

The meeting was opened at 8:15 p.m. by the chairman, George W. Chapman, who in a short introductory

address, indicated the degradation of our society which permits such evils as unemployment and destitution and declared his support of Mr. Stevens.

Dr. Francis Fish, of Newcastle, Reconstruction candidate for Northumberland county was the first speaker called upon.

Miss Fish said that with living conditions in Northumberland County far from good because of the taking away of the minimum wage law, and because revenue from hydro has fallen



E. O. MacDonald
Of This City Who Was Selected As the Reconstruction Candidate for York-Sunbury at Saturday Night's Convention.

off of the people of that county were for Mr. Stevens. They, the people of Northumberland, have read the Reconstruction platform and know that because of the policy on youth Mr. Stevens is the man to improve the discouraging outlook of the rising generation.

The speaker continued with a reference to various other planks in the Reconstruction platform. The minimum wage law for the whole of Can-

ada, lower duties on farm implements and the solving of the Railroad problem by dividing Canada into three zones came in for discussion. Mr. Stevens will build canning factories in New Brunswick, Dr. Fish said and will see that war veterans get justice.

With present social conditions what they are, permitting child labour, hunger and want, poverty in the midst of plenty—the speaker charged the women to organize to help Mr. Stevens.

There are thirteen men in control of Canada, most of them on St. James Street, Montreal, and the government must take over the huge sums of capital controlled by these men: Regulation, reconstruction and reform are slogans of Mr. Stevens and Dr. Fish closed by urging her listeners to unite in sweeping him into power on October 14.

Rev. F. H. Stevens

The chairman next called upon Rev. F. H. Stevens, son of the Reconstruction Leader. Mr. Stevens spoke powerfully and effectively on behalf of his father and his party. He attacked the other parties in the field on account of the numerous election promises, which, he said, were not likely to be fulfilled. He cited as examples the radio speeches of Mr. Bennett who in January condemned present evils in government and society and promised various measures to mend the situation. The public waited while week after week passed and no effective bill was ever introduced by the government and Mr. King merely criticized on constitutional grounds. The enquiry into price spreads and mass buying by Hon. H. H. Stevens, was the only useful result of the last session, the speaker said, and declared that the man responsible for that enquiry was Canada's man of tomorrow.

He, the speaker continued, has shown that he understands Canada's problems. He has shown that he can reform them. The unemployment of youth, the low prices of farm produce and sweat shop conditions are in existence because a circle of St. James Street financiers control Canada and only one man has had courage to challenge them. He is H. H. Stevens, who is standing by you and will continue to.

It is not enough, the speaker concluded, to support one man or a party. The people of Canada must support the people by fighting the St. James Street financiers.

"Are you going to fight or take it lying down?" he asked.

Chairman Speaks

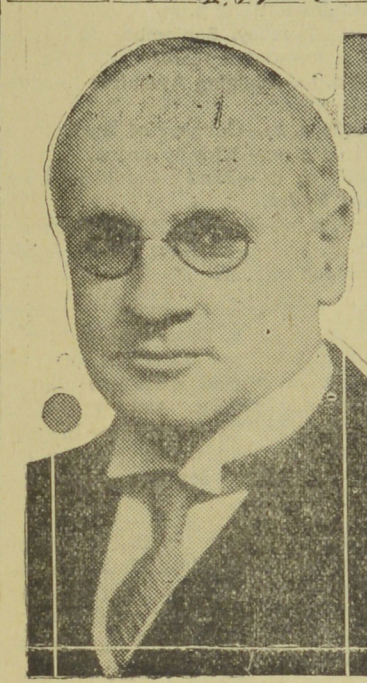
Before calling upon the next speaker the chairman, Mr. Chapman, spoke briefly about the skepticism of the Reconstruction Party felt by some people

because it is a new party. The chairman said that progress means adopting something new. If Canada is to make progress she will adopt something new and that something is the Reconstruction Party.

E. O. MacDonald

The Reconstruction candidate for York-Sunbury, E. O. MacDonald was then called upon.

Mr. MacDonald expressed the pleasure and honor he felt to be chosen candidate for Mr. Stevens, whom he designated "the biggest little man in Canada". The speaker recited an account of his own youth spent on the farm and in the woods and compared the list of the present younger generation, who can find nothing to do. In his energetic way Mr. MacDonald ridiculed the people who accept the promises of road work from a political party and support it only to be laid off after the election. When Mr. Stevens



HON. H. H. STEVENS
Leader of The Reconstruction Party, Who Delivered The Chief Address at Saturday Night's Convention.

goes into power he will build a trans-Canada highway for the encouragement of the tourist traffic. This work will give work to a large number of men.

Mr. MacDonald said that voluntary contributions would be received by his party from the public and that a detailed record of the contributors would be filed. He continued, he himself was not putting his own money into

the fund because he would expect to get more back than he put in.

The Liberals and Conservatives have been controlled by the capitalists of Canada, the speaker claimed and that Mr. Stevens was under no such control.

The Hon. H. H. Stevens made an investigation last winter of the business conditions of Canada and found that in many cases men were working in chain stores for three, six or ten dollars a week while the statistics showed that millionaires were still making millions.

After publishing the findings of that investigation Mr. Stevens was offered money to quit, Mr. MacDonald declared. He refused the money but resigned his position, which was filled by Hon. Mr. Hanson. Mr. Stevens then started his new party and is now fully organized as the public will see on October 14th.

Mr. MacDonald concluded, saying, "Do not be a traitor to your children on election day, but help to sweep Mr. Stevens to victory at Ottawa".

Hon. H. H. Stevens was called upon to address the audience at nine o'clock, this address being broadcast over CFNB and heard over a general maritime hookup.

At the conclusion of the address a hearty vote of thanks was moved on behalf of the voters of this constituency by R. J. Gereau and seconded by Frank Noble. The motion was unanimously carried.

Hon. H. H. Stevens

Hon. Mr. Stevens opened his address saying it would be his endeavor to bring to the front those citizens, who from experience know the needs of the people in Canada today. He announced that there were now 106 candidates.

"It was not my movement", said Hon. Mr. Stevens in speaking of the birth of the Reconstruction party. "I was chosen", he said by a group of citizens representative of all parts of Canada and asked to take the leadership". "They laughed at us, but nobody is laughing at us today, he asserted.

Our first duty, he believed, was in behalf of the youth of Canada. He had been watching the youth for a good many years. These, he said, are faced day by day and year by year in a large measure with a hopeless future. The position of the youth today was even worse than it was years ago. These are not unwilling to work, but they can't find work. The speaker drew the attention of his audience to the relief camps in British Columbia. He told of complaints of ill-treatment. Many rebelled led by a few communists.

Duty Of Government

The duty of government was to preserve law and order. It was the duty of government, said Mr. Stevens to find a solution to its ills. He chided Hon. Mr. Bennett who recently said he was sorry for circumstances but did nothing about it. "He has turned a deaf ear to repeated suggestions", said Mr. Stevens. The present government was clearly inadequate, hopeless and anaemic, charged Mr. Stevens.

Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King says that by expanding external markets all will be well, reported the speaker. This is Mr. King's idea of lower tariffs.

Living conditions in large cities are unfit. There are 30,000 families in Montreal. Often two and three live in a tenement conditions because of unemployment are quite frequently unsanitary. "If you will do for Canada what common health conditions demand, there will be an abundance of outlets for products in Canada."

Black Clouds Of War

Hon. Mr. Stevens referred to the black clouds of another war. The speaker referred also to a suggestion, possibly made by Prime Minister that the only solution to our economic problems in a national government. If this were free from partizanship policies it would be effective but it would be formed by the forces of St. James Street to control finance even further. He was absolutely against such a national government. Such control would strangle the economic life of Canada.

"We want no national government. We want men who face the facts and deal with them. The solution of the problem today is an increase of traffic. Goods are not being bought and sold and are not moving. This is the crux of the matter. There is a shortage or purchasing power. People are not earning a fair wage. Respecting the farmer the increase of return to them does not affect the consumer on account of the spread. Give a fair price, and give jobs", asserted the speaker.

Maritime Rights

Hon. Mr. Stevens spoke of the Maritime Rights problem. The Maritimes and the west should be given the opportunity to bring their products to central Canada. He said he was prepared to do this. He promised to bring "the Maritimers 500 miles nearer to Montreal." Let the federal authorities absorb the cost. The party leader declared he would give the same rights and privileges to the west. "If Canada is to remain united socially, politically, nationally, it must be united economically."

He criticized the economic fault of a small group of men controlling the

credit of the country. How long can we go on year after year with diminution of wealth among the earning classes and increase in the dividend class? asked the speaker. There is 500,000,000 worth of new wealth produced annually but where is it? What is wrong with the country today is an excessive rate of interest and low prices. A few men in the inner circle can get all the credit they want.

Criticized Banks

Hon. Mr. Stevens criticized the banks. They failed in their duty to provide reasonable assistance to the business of this country. Great Britain is a magnificent example to the world. Where in Canada the note circulation is limited to 15 to 20 per capita, in Great Britain it is 44 per capita.

"If the Dominion of Canada is to pattern its financial policy after Montagu Norman there will be riveted on Canada shackles more heavy than ever before," asserted the speaker. We should follow, rather the policy of Reginald McKenna, head of the Midland Bank. The only release for the strangling of credit is the enlargement of the note issue. Canada needs a cheap money policy. The speaker declared that the Bank of Canada will be nationalized.

Hon. Mr. Stevens promised that he can provide work without increasing the debt of the country one nickel. He believed it would be an impelling force to loosen the credit of the country.

Asks Support

Concluding his fine address the Reconstructionist leader urged his listeners if there were any better ways of supporting or helping Canada to support them but up to the present none of the other parties have offered any real solution to the problems. He asked the support of the electorate in the approaching election.

War and Unemployment; Their Cause and Cure

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time, obtain all the changes they desire through the ballot box.

The Economic Remedy

Then, what must we do? We must change our economic system so as to allow to each citizen absolute equality of opportunity. It is the duty of Legislatures to see that this is accomplished. The machine must be used, not to throw many out of work while others are still working long hours, but to shorten the hours so as to afford employment to as many as possible. Those necessarily idle now and then should constitute a reserve force ready to work when called upon and drawing the same pay as if they were steadily employed. "If a man will not work neither shall he eat" bears no reference to the man who is ready to work but is not needed in any industry at the moment. What use to help the machine manufacturing surplus goods when a large number have no money to buy such goods? It is consumption that necessitates more production, and when consumption ceases then must production end.

Thanks to the universal unrest that is forcing their hands all political parties are now showing more or less activity in trying to solve the questions of unemployment and wages and conditions of employment. Among the most helpful of political experiments are some that are being thought out in the English-speaking world.

Goodwill Indispensable

The true solution can be reached only by the clear and unselfish thinking of those who in reverent dependence upon the Higher Powers have the will to sink their petty self-interest in the common good not only of their own community or nation but of all mankind.

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