

PLOT TO USE THE KINGS COUNTY PURITY LEAGUE AS A TORY TOOL

PUGSLEY AND PENDER SURE TO WIN BY IMMENSE MAJORITIES

False Charges Against Liberals in a Vain Attempt to Hide Conservative Trail of Corruption—A Nomination Day "Sensation" Said to be in the Air—Fowler Already Promising Fat Jobs to His Dupes.

Sussex, N. B., Oct. 18.—The case of George W. Fowler and his political associates in Kings and Albert counties, is becoming desperate indeed. Today the Liberal organizer, E. S. Carter, obtained proof that a deliberate plot was on foot to use the Purity League to discredit Liberal party workers and advance the interests of the Tory candidate.

The plot, as revealed, showed that a blind fellow named Benjamin Long, induced to lay false information upon which a warrant might be issued for the arrest of an innocent person and to force the attendance of respectable citizens from the lower end of the county to give evidence. This poor fellow is named Benjamin Long. He lives in Sussex and the well defined report is that he was induced to go before the police magistrate here and swear out an information against a party residing in St. John charging him with offering money to voters to refrain from voting. Long had no knowledge of this himself and could not lay the information, his friends state, until he had been coached in the office of Fowler & Jonah.

They say that this information, coming as it did after Geo. W. Fowler's trip to the parish in question, and aided in the preparation by the law office of Fowler & Jonah, and their strong supporter, J. D. McKenna, who is also a stirring member of the Purity League, proves conclusively that the plot was hatched and is being carried out in the interests of Mr. Fowler, the Tory candidate.

Those who know the movements of his prominent supporters in the past and during the present campaign, will be amazed at these proceedings. It is a well known fact that the agents of Fowler have been flooding the constituency with money and whiskey for some time.

The Liberal committee not only know this, but they have the straightest evidence in many cases where money has been offered. They know who offered it,

the amount, the dates and who received it.

They not only know who ordered the whiskey in many parishes, but also who took it to those parishes. In the case of Stadhorn it was done openly, carried on the train by a county councillor, taken from the train and placed on his team. This was done on Saturday night, October 10, and again by the same man to-night in the Sussex train and similar instances will no doubt be the basis of information in the near future.

The Liberal party leaders said tonight that they were entirely in sympathy with the acts and objects of the Purity League but they failed to understand why the offices of the Tory candidate should be used by one of its prominent Conservative members to prepare its informations.

Some of the members of the Purity League are strong Conservatives and it is a matter for regret that there is any suspicion that they are using this organization for their own purposes.

The report is current that the information laid before the magistrate was intended as a bombshell in the Liberal ranks. Fowler's party intended it as a big scare and would lay the blame of all future violations of the law upon the Liberal workers.

There is no doubt that the fears of defeat for Geo. W. Fowler caused them to take this action. All the time, however, his committee are openly making promises of office beside money to, endeavoring to persuade the people that the Liberal government will be defeated and that Geo. W. Fowler will be minister of railways. Positions without number have been promised to men who would like to work upon the government railways. The dredges of the government will be manned entirely by new crews if all of the promises of Fowler's supporters ever had a chance of being carried out.

Police magistrate Hornbrook, when seen this evening and asked if warrants had been issued, had no information to give.

LIBERAL TIDE IS RISING ALL OVER THE PROVINCE

Fredericton, N. B., Oct. 18 (Special).—A great wave of enthusiasm is sweeping over York county, which will certainly carry the Liberal candidate to victory. Brown's nomination was at first ridiculed by the Conservatives and they went around boasting of an easy victory for Crocket, but behold, a change has come over their dreams. They have begun to realize that Crocket is up against it good and hard and every cool-headed member of the party and his friends are making desperate efforts to stem the rising tide of Liberalism.

The magnificent demonstration here on Friday night in favor of Brown, was a solar plexus blow for the Tories, and they are trying to arrange a meeting for tomorrow night, as a means of reviving their drooping hopes. They are even making efforts to secure an outside member to help the situation for Crocket. The Tories in neighboring counties, who were promised Crocket's services on the platform during this campaign, were obliged to arrange a substitute.

The Liberals held a rousing meeting at Orange Hall, Miramichi, last night. The building was packed to the doors and the enthusiasm was unbounded. Mayor Gibson presided and opened the meeting with a vigorous speech in which he spoke of the great progress Canada had made under Liberal rule and pledged Mr. Brown his hearty support.

Mr. Brown followed in an able and trenchant speech of two hours, which was followed with the closest attention. He laid before the audience the splendid record of Laurier's government, and also dealt effectively with the false canvasses raised against him by the Tories. In the course of his remarks he paid an eloquent tribute to the work of Alex. Gibson, which was much appreciated by the audience.

The official nomination proceedings will take place at the court house tomorrow afternoon. The Tories have secured the Opera House for the afternoon and a joint meeting will be held if terms can be agreed upon. The proceedings promise to be lively.

was to be held, but only two electors turned up.

Mr. Turgeon will be elected by a large majority in Gloucester County.

St. George, N. B., Oct. 18 (Special).—Reports coming in from adjacent parishes indicate big majorities for Todd. A Liberal meeting at Back Bay last night was addressed by speakers from St. George, also by William Hickey and Samuel Craig, local speakers. Over two hundred attended, mostly fishermen. It was the greatest demonstration ever held in this locality. This is a large fishing centre and the fishermen want a representative at Ottawa who is in accord with the government and will look after the interests of the fishermen.

At Pennfield Thursday night a large and enthusiastic meeting was held. The malicious attempt of Tory heelers to influence voters here has disgusted many Conservatives who do not approve of the dastardly methods employed and feel it is an insult to all honest men. This parish will give Todd a big majority.

In spite of questionable methods and promises of the Tory party here, the town will give Todd a substantial majority. The Liberal headquarters are packed every night and attended by many former Conservatives who feel that the time has arrived for Charlotte to have a representative who will be in a position to give the various industries the attention required.

Belleisle, Springfield, Kings County, Oct. 17.—A very large audience, more than filling Scovill's Hall, assembled here tonight with John Muir as chairman. The speaker was E. H. McAlpine, of St. John. Great enthusiasm prevailed. The meeting closed at 10:30 with cheers for Hon. Mr. Pugsley, minister of public works, and Dr. McAlister.

Grand Manan, Oct. 17.—(Special).—The largest and most enthusiastic political meetings ever held on the Islands were finished Friday. Senator Gillmer and E. H. McAlpine addressed immense audiences. The largest majority ever given a candidate on the Islands will be given W. F. Todd. The Conservatives have practically abandoned this end of the county. The people will not forget the government efforts on behalf of the Islands.

Ottawa, Oct. 18.—The capital showed its political sentiment in no uncertain tone Saturday night when 9,000 people gathered in the arena and cheered until they were hoarse for the party candidates, Laurier and McGovern. Hon. William Patterson and Hon. Charles Murphy were also given tributes of esteem which were in themselves inspiring and full of the "swing of victory." The appearance of Mr. McGovern was the signal for a great outburst of cheers but the climax came when the great leader entered. Then the whole vast assemblage went wild and for several minutes there was a demonstration such as certainly never has been equalled in the city.

The new secretary of state distinctly justified his selection for cabinet honors and proved not only that he is a valuable addition to the debating strength of the ministry but incidentally let it be seen that although he is to sit for an outside constituency his voice will always be raised when Ottawa interests are affected.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier was much affected by the magnitude of the tribute of love and respect, manifested towards him by the citizens of Canada's capital and after having expressed his thanks therefor proceeded at once into a vigorous discussion of the issues before the people. His absolute confidence in the coming great victory for his cause inspired him to eloquent heights as he answered the slanderous and proved that one by one all their so-called scandals were dying a natural death even before the time came for the people to decide upon them.

Accepting Mr. Borden's challenge made at Montreal the previous night to point

to a single administrative act of the Laurier government which had aided the prosperity of the country, he laid emphasis upon the two great causes of that prosperity, the influx of population and the wise fiscal policy. In the former connection he showed clearly how the eastern factories had benefited by the influx of the 1,200,000 into the Canadian west. How it had meant the bringing into Canada of millions of dollars for investment and how the tide of emigration from north to south, which existed prior to 1896, had been converted into one from south to north.

As regards the fiscal policy the premier laid emphasis upon the benefits of the preferential tariff which had not only aided our commerce to a wonderful degree but had also proved a bond of union and an inspiration to the whole empire. His illustration of the Transvaal's preference as a proof of this was couched in one of his most eloquent passages.

In conclusion he appealed to the people of Canada for support because his government had raised Canada to a position among the nations, an autonomous nation within the British Empire, and asked that he be allowed to continue his work of nation-building and uniting all races and creeds as he had done since 1896.

"It is with shame and disgust that I find the issue we are to fight upon is this petty scandal cry of the Conservative leaders. I disdain to discuss these issues. My soul is turned toward greater events and questions, and it is the future of the country I lay before you. For myself, I say that I have never used my office for my personal benefit."—Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

HOW THE PLOT WAS KILLED

Here follow extracts from the declarations, made by men of prominence and well known integrity, showing the threats Mayes made in his attempt to blackmail Hon. Mr. Pugsley into buying his dredge at an exorbitant price:

Hon. C. J. Osman, says:

"He (Mayes) stated to me that he wished to sell his dredge to the Government, and would accept \$160,000, and that unless arrangements were made to purchase this dredge before twelve o'clock the next day, he would expose a great scandal in St. John, which would be a serious thing for the Liberal party and for the Minister himself, and urged me, as a friend of Dr. Pugsley's, to interview the Minister and inform him that this exposure would certainly take place if steps were not taken to satisfy him. He also intimated that if the dredge was purchased at the price fixed by him (viz., \$160,000.00), he would be willing to make a handsome donation towards the election campaign fund in St. John."

George McAvity, says:

"That in the month of September last, I met Mr. J. B. M. Baxter, and Mr. Baxter proposed to me that if the Government would buy Mr. Mayes' dredge at a price which I thought was about \$160,000, there would be a rebate for political purposes of \$20,000. I replied to Mr. Baxter that I was through with Mr. Mayes and would have no further transaction with him." And Mr. McAvity further says: "Mr. Holt stated to me that if the Government would purchase the dredge at \$153,400, Mr. Mayes would withdraw all suits, return all checks and notes and photographs thereof, and give a letter to take no further action; otherwise he would publish a statement of a damaging nature to the Government and would take the platform himself."

John E. Moore, says:

"Mr. Thomson said he had seen Mayes and that unless the dredge was purchased at \$150,000, Mr. Mayes would send to the 'Gleaner' by special messenger, a statement damaging to the Liberal party and would himself take the platform."

F. W. Holt, C. E., says:

"I called upon Mr. McAvity and stated that Mr. Mayes wanted to sell the dredge and would take one hundred and fifty-three thousand four hundred dollars and that if the purchase was made Mr. Mayes would withdraw all suits and give up all notes and cheques and notes and photographs thereof otherwise Mr. Mayes said he would make public damaging statements and take the platform himself."

Percy W. Thomson, says:

"Mayes said he would not sell for less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, or he would let matters take their course. He said the papers were all ready to serve, and unless he heard from me to the contrary within a few hours, the declaration of the suits would be forwarded by special messenger to Fredericton for filing and published in the 'Gleaner.'" Mr. Thomson also says: "When I called upon Mr. Moore I stated to him the whole effect of the story as detailed by Mr. Mayes, which was that there would be an exposure injurious to the Minister and to the party unless the dredge was bought right away. I had been informed by Mr. Mayes that a payment of two thousand dollars had been made by him to the Minister, and I understood it was after he became Minister of Public Works."

Hon. Wm. Pugsley, says: "Mr. Mayes is a blackmailer, and I am prepared to meet any charges he may make against me."

The force of these statements, the manner in which they agree, the standing of the men who make them, all point irresistibly to Mayes' guilt.

No wonder the Mayes' plot and Premier Hazen's blunder (or worse) in using it for political purposes, have wrecked the Conservative party here on the eve of election.

Outlook for Liberal Success in St. John Constituencies Was Never Better Since the Brightest Days of Mr. Blair—Both Conservative Candidates Will be Badly Beaten—Mayes Charges Have Killed All Hope.

Election talk, so far as the St. John constituencies are concerned, has come down to a question of the majorities Hon. William Pugsley and James Pender will have next Monday.

The progressive programme of the Liberal party and its candidates was good enough in itself to carry St. John city and the county in the year of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's undiminished prestige.

With the minister of public works leading the fight in New Brunswick, with the knowledge of what he has already done for the city and the province, and with the general realization that St. John's future depends upon carrying forward the great programme of public improvements, it may be said that there was no actual doubt as to the result of the contest as soon as the Liberal convention named Mr. Pender as Dr. Pugsley's running mate.

But in addition to all these things a new element was injected into the campaign by the Mayes conspiracy. Mayes was given official recognition by Premier Hazen without the slightest hesitation, and no sooner had the Conservative party thus made common cause with the guilty contractor and his confederates than the whole Mayes plot was exposed completely and Mayes was denounced as a blackmailer by Dr. Pugsley and several other witnesses, whose testimony carries conviction.

Today nobody questions but what the result of the whole Mayes business has been to immensely strengthen the Liberal cause, not only in the St. John constituencies but throughout New Brunswick.

From the first there has been a split in the Conservative forces over Mayes, and only the partisans still pretend to believe that Mr. Hazen was justified in lending his sanction to the conspiracy.

Work in the wards throughout the city and in the parishes has shown clearly that many men who are supporters of the Conservative cause will vote the Liberal ticket this time because of the plot against the minister of public works.

Beyond all this, the Liberals on this occasion have the solid support of the great independent vote in St. John whose first interest is to promote the growth and welfare of the city. The independent voters see that after Pugsley and Pender are elected the work of rebuilding the port will go steadily forward, and that prosperity will be the result. These voters see that they cannot support Daniel and MacRae without voting against the vital interests of St. John.

The Liberal candidates thus have not only the united strength of the Liberal party, which on this occasion is unanimous and enthusiastic, but they have also the independent vote and the silent support of a great number of Conservatives who draw the line at conspiracy and blackmail.

The ward meetings have never been so largely attended or the organization so complete and in such good working order since 1900, when Hon. A. G. Blair was elected by 1,000 majority. The workers are convinced that they are laboring on the winning side and on every hand are meeting with encouragement. The Liberal cause was booming everywhere before

the advent of the Mayes conspiracy and its complete exposure has added many two Liberals, one of whom is the minister of public works, back to Ottawa. Even the hide-bound Conservatives concede that there is no hope of defeating the Laurier government and the folly of leaving the city and the county in the cold shades of opposition is self-evident.

The appropriations for improvements, which, through the agency of the minister of public works, St. John has secured since he entered the cabinet, amount to no less than \$750,000. In addition to this, during the last session, the government has been committed to the policy of wharf building in the harbor of St. John, which will lead to development in port facilities beyond anything the city could accomplish by itself. As earnest of this policy, a government contract for the extension of the Clark and Adams wharf, amounting to more than a quarter of a million dollars has already been let to D. C. Clark and this wharf will provide accommodation for two more large steamers for the winter port season of 1909.

The recent announcement of Dr. Pugsley that the competition for dredging contracts below Sand Point and in Courtenay Bay has lowered the price to about thirty cents a cubic yard, as compared with previous work at ninety cents, will mean that more than twice as much dredging can be done for the same amount of money. The development of Courtenay Bay has ceased to be a long hoped for possibility and from the favorable report on the borings is now actually in sight.

Among other improvements in the city as a result of Dr. Pugsley's initiative will be the erection of a modern drill hall on the barrack square. Included in the plan is the purchase of the southern side of Sheffield street and a conversion of the property into a park. While the cost will be insignificant compared with harbor development, the removal of one of the worst plague spots in the city will be welcomed and approved by every citizen who takes a pride in the city's welfare.

A site for the erection of repair shops in connection with the marine and fisheries department has also been selected, an appropriation obtained for the purchase. By effecting repairs to the buoys and other apparatus in St. John, employment will be given to a large number of men, to the general benefit.

With the knowledge that these improvements are either actually arranged for or have been given appropriations, it is little wonder that many hundreds of citizens are sinking all claims of party and devoting their energies to the election of Dr. Pugsley and Mr. Pender. It needs but a visit to one of the meetings at which the Liberal candidates are advertised to speak to carry conviction that, in the opinion of an overwhelming majority of the electors, Pugsley, Pender, Progress and Prosperity for St. John go hand in hand.

MORE REASONS WHY CROCKET WILL BE DEFEATED BY BROWN

Fredericton, Oct. 18.—If there is one county in New Brunswick which the Conservatives felt quite sure of carrying, it was the County of York. This state of affairs lasted until Mr. Brown made his appearance on the scene and he had not been a week on his canvass, before it was evident that a great change had taken place in the attitude of the electors. An old campaigner, who has seen many elections in York County, makes the statement that Mr. Brown is the best canvasser that he ever saw. Certainly he has made marvelous progress during the past two weeks. Everywhere he has shown himself he has been well received, because the people of York recognize him as one of themselves, a farmer boy and a man who is in every way a credit to the county in which he was born.

The County of York has in times past been represented by men of character and ability, who were above the small tricks of the politician. Mr. Crocket certainly has not added to his reputation by his conduct in the House of Commons and there does not seem to be any good reason why he should be sent there again. It is quite impossible for him to do anything which would benefit the county of York. His opposition has been of that character, that he deserves no favors from the government, which will be sustained by a larger majority than before. Mr. Crocket's canvass, when he was elected in 1904, was based on what has proved to be a falsehood. He stated then that the Grand Trunk Pacific would never be built. The people now can see how grossly he deceived them or deceived himself. If he really believed what he stated on the hustings, the people of York have every reason to support the present government and they will return Mr. Brown on the 26th inst. by a handsome majority.

The County of York is the largest mileage of railways of any county in New Brunswick, the total length of its railways aggregating 175 miles. This shows that the county of York has not been neglected by the government and that this mileage will be largely added to when the Transcontinental Railway is completed. This will open up a new and fertile country and add greatly to the population of the county of York. It will bring a large part of the county on the east side of the river into communication with the great centre of population, and every farm in those counties will have its value doubled in consequence of having access to the markets of Fredericton and St. John.

These are some of the benefits which the present government has bestowed upon the County of York. Another great benefit was the purchase of the Canada Eastern, and making it a part of the Intercolonial. That line of railway is now doing excellent work for the county. The Conservatives cannot show any such achievements as those just mentioned for the benefit of York. In fact, the Conservatives opposed the policy of building the new Transcontinental Railway, the Grand Trunk Pacific, and they also opposed the acquisition of the Canada Eastern by the government. These are facts that the electors of York will not fail to remember when polling day comes around.

There are plenty of good reasons why O. S. Crocket should not be elected by the voters of York County. Mr. Crocket is what might be termed an opportunist and certainly he has no claim to be a good Conservative. He was a Liberal and a strong Liberal up to the year 1906, when he went over to the Conservatives because Mr. Blair had become minister of railways, he having himself a grievance against Mr. Blair. The fact that a man has a grievance against another who happens to be a member of the same party, does not furnish a sufficient excuse for him going over to the enemy. Liberal principles ought to remain good, even if some of the men who are on the Liberal side do not quite please us. Certainly Mr. Crocket's desertion from the Liberal party was wholly without excuse and his violent attacks on the party which was once his own, are equally inexcusable. It is certainly very remarkable that Mr. Crocket never discovered any of the wrongs of the Liberal party until Mr. Blair became a member of the Dominion cabinet. It is therefore quite clear that Mr. Crocket's principles are of a very elastic nature and that the personal question controls his politics far more than any question of principle. That being so, the electors of York, should they choose him for their representative, can never be certain that he will remain faithful to them, if his own personal interests come into collision with his alleged principles.

It is pretty well understood that when Mr. Crocket was nominated by the Conservatives in 1904, nobody believed that he would be elected. Certainly the men who nominated him did not think he had any chance, for Harry McLeod was their favorite son on that occasion. It was thought that by nominating Mr. Crocket the party would be able to get rid of him, but the result turned out quite different from what they expected. Mr. McLeod instead of being a member for Ottawa was to be content with receiving a nomination for the local house and of being appointed solicitor-general, an office which has so small a salary attached to it that any lawyer who has any practice, must suffer a dead loss by receiving it.

(Continued on page 7.)

"Please turn on the tap."—Hon. George E. Foster.