

THE DAILY EXAMINER

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THE PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.

By the light of the fact that the government have not brought on an election in East Prince at the same time as they have brought on the election in West Prince, it is easy to apprehend their plan of campaign. It is to concentrate the influence of Mr. John Yeo upon each riding separately, backing him up by promises and boodle as he proceeds, and then to give Mr. Yeo the seat in the Senate. This plan of campaign is under all the circumstances, and at this particular time of the year, when a number of the voters are getting in their spring supplies, as likely to be effective as any government plan of campaign can be. Indeed it may be described as ingenious. It is proposed to conquer in rotation and take the reward of victory at the last. The idea is worthy of the Grand Minister, Sir Wilfrid Laurier's right hand man, who manipulates the constituencies of Quebec. If Mr. John Yeo conceived it himself it shows that he has a talent for generalship. Yet, there are some points at which it is weak. Assuming that a majority of the electors of Prince County are free and independent men who love their country, and assuming that there are among the leading Liberals of the County those who are not to be led by the nose by Sir Louis Davies and Mr. John Yeo, the plan of campaign, ingenious as it is, may not be a means of winning successive victories. Its beginning and ending is self-interest. Not the interest of the country at large, or the County in particular, or the influential men in the County,—but the interests of Sir Louis Davies and Mr. John Yeo. The scheme was hatched at Ottawa. Mr. Yeo is to hold West Prince and keep East Prince for Sir Louis; and Sir Louis is to hold and keep the vacant seat in the Senate for Mr. John Yeo. This is the essence of the plan. Other Liberal gentlemen in Prince County are to be ignored. What signify their twenty or thirty years of steadfast and not ineffective service to the Liberal party? They are to be cast aside like an old shoe in order that Sir Louis Davies may maintain his personal influence in the Cabinet and that Mr. John Yeo may have a easy and comfortable seat provided for him during the remaining winters of his life. The interests of the country do not demand that Mr. John Yeo should at this juncture abandon his duty to his constituents in East Prince. There is no reason, from the public point of view, why Mr. Yeo, should not serve out in the House of Commons the remainder of the term for which he was elected, and then again appeal to the electors for their votes. To say that there are not other Liberal gentlemen residing in Prince County—men who have served the Liberal party long and faithfully—who are qualified to take a seat in the Senate is to say that which is untrue. To say that Mr. John H. Bell or any other Liberal in Prince County is able to render Prince County and the country at large better service in the House of Commons than Mr. John Yeo is to say that which is untrue. No interest in the country demands that Mr. John Yeo should now leave the House of Commons and go to the Senate. There is no necessity, whatever, for the change announced from Ottawa and well understood to be agreed upon. Indeed the change is directly contrary to the interests of the country and at variance with Liberal principles and protestations. It involves the cost and turmoil of an additional and unnecessary election. But this is nothing in comparison with the public evil and scandal of members of the House of Commons using their public positions to promote their private ends and personal ambitions. This evil and scandal, which became prevalent in the latter days of the late administration, has been continued in double force even in the early days of the present administration; and no one knows where it will end or what it may lead to in the near future if the people do not condemn it at the polls. We believe that the people at large will condemn it. We believe that the people of West Prince in particular will condemn it. We believe that the people of East Prince will condemn it. The influential Liberals in both ridings ought, at all events, to resent the choice of Mr. John Yeo to be a Senator over their heads, contrary to the principles of the party and against the interests of the country. Sir Louis Davies and Mr. John Yeo must be taught that Prince County is not like a pocket borough, to be manipulated by them from their vantage ground on Parliament Hill at Ottawa and that they cannot, however ingenious, make a plan of campaign in their own interests and be assured of success.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER.

His Able and Vigorous Speech on Yukon Bill. (Montreal Star.)

Never did Sir Charles Tupper's designation as the "War Horse of Cumberland" seem more appropriate than in her closing hours of the debate on the Yukon Railway Bill. After the orators of the House had had their say; after the subject had been worn threadbare; after all Yukon talk became stale, flat and unprofitable, up rose the sturdy leader of the Opposition after midnight of Thursday and fairly electrified his followers and astonished the members of the Government by the vigor of his utterances, the force of his arguments and the keen and incisive way in which he made rejoinder to his interrupters. Messrs. Blair, Laurier and Sifton came off, each of them, a good second best in the game of repartee. Mr. Blair sailed so near the wind in his effort to head off Sir Charles that Mr. Speaker had to call him to order. Sir Louis Davies was reduced to silence, unusual and deep, by the quotation of his contradictory utterances concerning Canada's gold field when in Great Britain last season.

THE VIGOR OF THE SPEECH.

For three hours Sir Charles held the close attention of the House. Despite his age and despite the hour, the leader of the Conservatives showed no trace of weariness. To quote Mr. Bergeron, M. P.: "He was in great form, just like I have seen him twenty years ago; and we all felt proud of him."

"The uppermost thought in my mind," said one interested spectator in the gallery to the writer, "was that the Baronet at that moment"—referring to the passage in Sir Charles' speech, where he declared that he regarded Sir Wilfrid Laurier's position utterly insignificant as compared with his own, as leader of the great Conservative party—"was seized of a spirit that buoyed him up through the hours and incidents following. The memory of past achievements and the present opportunity of convicting the Liberals of following what the speaker regarded as a policy that had always hindered the progress of Canada, seemed to inspire and urge Sir Charles Tupper to this latest great effort."

Taking that view of the speech, some sentences in it are worth repeating, if only for their vigor, while altogether Sir Charles' utterance must be regarded as the most withering broadside poured into the Government benches this session.

MR. SIFTON ATTEMPTED TO.

"Sir, it would be as degrading to the party as it would be to myself, if I were capable of doing such a thing," said Sir Charles, as he recalled a previous insinuation to Hon. Mr. Sifton, that the Opposition leader had withdrawn his first expressed approval of the Yukon Railway, because he wished to continue to lead the party—"the great party that has made Canada what it is today; that has lifted Canada from the deplorable position in which it had sunk during the administration of hon. gentlemen opposite."

"Yet, under these circumstances," said the Opposition leader scornfully, "I am to be lectured on the subject of leadership of this party."

When Sir Charles came to Mr. Blair's connection with the Yukon bill, he was evidently elated, and not without good reason, at the effectual manner in which he had polished off Mr. Sifton; and it was just as evident that Mr. Blair was glad to take refuge in interrupting his opponent, in order to break the flow of vigorous English used in the arraignment of the Minister of Railways and Canals.

MR. BLAIR'S TACTICS.

Hazard records eight straight interruptions on the part of Hon. Mr. Blair before the Speaker was compelled to exercise his authority, as he has frequently done before this session, to point out that the courtesies of parliamentary debate were being violated by the ex-Premier of New Brunswick. His advice on this occasion was tendered to Mr Blair in these words: "We would get along faster if there were fewer interruptions."

To the author of this interposition Sir Charles made a stately bow, just like one he had made a few minutes before, when Speaker Edgar reminded him that his characterization of Mr. Sifton's conduct required to be qualified. Sir Charles had stated that he considered this conduct dishonorable, in view of Mr. Sifton's first stand on the school question and his final

compromise of principle in accepting a Cabinet position in the Laurier Government.

"I bow, Sir, with the most perfect deference to you on any question of that kind," was Sir Charles' preface to a withdrawal of the statement about Mr. Sifton, which, however, he declared, he was perfectly competent to justify; and in response to the Speaker's rebuke of Mr. Blair, he said: "I cannot help saying you have given a very valuable suggestion to my hon. friends opposite." The prompt and courteous withdrawal and the quizzical and humorous imputation of the Speaker's partiality for his erstwhile political friends and associates, were given in the perfect taste which Sir Charles knows how to exercise so well, and both stood out as distinct incidents of the final talk that preceded the division on the much debated Yukon Railway resolution.

LAURIER'S SARCASTIC WELL MET.

The Premier broke silence but once during the speech of Sir Charles Tupper. Then he invited reprisals in saying "hear, hear," very suavely, when Sir Charles mentioned free fish going to the markets of the United States. The chance for a retort was quickly seized upon by the speaker, and the Opposition leader marshaled before the Premier, the members of the House, and the spectators in the galleries an array of facts in connection with this piscatorial business to prove that "our most valuable, priceless fisheries" were so regarded by the Premier that "he had the extreme folly to talk of questions he did not understand and to pledge himself in advance to barter away our fisheries for a mess of pottage."

Meanwhile Mr. Blair, despite the Speaker's admonition, persisted in keeping up a running fire of questions all through the first part of Sir Charles' speech, until the baronet took up matters in which Sir Louis H. Davies figured, and thereby reopened his fire upon the Minister of Railways and Canals.

SIR LOUIS' TURN THEN CAME.

By July 12, said Sir Charles, much excitement existed in England over the Klondike fads. Mr. Davies, however, advised people in Great Britain to steer clear of Klondike, of liars who had holes in the ground."

Sir Louis shook his head in denial. Up went the glasses to Sir Charles' nose and up came his notes from his desk. He selected a clipping from an English newspaper.

Sir Louis' remarks at a banquet at Teabigh, Wales, were treated of now.

"As a member of the Canadian Government," the Minister of Marine and Fisheries then had stated, he would give an emphatic "no" to those who questioned him about Klondike as to the advisability of emigration and investment. Sir Charles read that in Sir Louis' own phraseology, and looked at the Prince Edward Islander interrogatively.

Sir Louis had now ceased his headshaking, nor was there anything to be said.

Again, as an anti-climax, Sir Charles read a letter from Sir Louis to Col. Domville, M. P., of date not far removed from that of the Wales speech, lending his aid and countenance to the Klondike scheme, which the successor of Hon. G. E. Foster in Kings County had put upon or was about to put upon the market in the old country.

The supporters of Sir Charles enjoyed this immensely, and when Sir Charles himself had finished with Sir Louis he smiled after the manner of a man who has done a good deed and done it well.

Sir Charles has a fashion of slightly smacking his lips when he talks in the House or on the hustings. It is not a disagreeable accompaniment to his well-rounded periods, but when he finished with Sir Louis his smack was more pronounced than usual.

CLEAR FIELD FOR DEBATE.

Having by this time stifled interruption and having paved the way for a clear argument on the Yukon deal, Sir Charles went into that matter effectively and put himself on record against the action of the Laurier Government in their methods of conducting the negotiations prior to the contract, in respect to the magnitude of the land grant, and also in respect to the construction of the line without first having assured themselves of its utility in view of the threatened trouble with the American authorities over the transshipment of goods at Fort Wrangel.

On the whole Sir Charles' speech is admittedly the greatest effort of his life.

Never in the palmy days of Conservative Government, when Sir Charles was Sir John Macdonald's lieutenant, did he deliver himself so clearly, so logically and so forcibly.

Conservatives were delighted. The Liberals said Sir Charles was, by his vigor, amazing, not only to his friends, but to his enemies even more so.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—Lame—the Patriot's excuse for the insulting telegram.

—Liberal stock in trade—unfulfilled pre-election promises.

—News—that the Patriot's telegrams are drawn from the same source as those of the Halifax Herald!

—Too Thin—The idea that some Tory published in the Patriot a telegram insulting French Canadians of this Province.

—Tell it to the Marinee—that the insulting explanatory telegram published in the Patriot did not express the sentiments of Sir Louis Davies.

—The Minister of Finance gives notice that it is expedient to provide that the Governor-in-Council may for the school fund of Manitoba pay over from time to time at the request of the Manitoba Government, sums not exceeding a hundred thousand dollars in any one year, and not exceeding on the whole three hundred thousand dollars, to be expended on Manitoba on public schools.

—The London advertiser says that if the Dominion Government, at the threat of the United States Senate, gave up its all-Canadian route to the Yukon, it would deserve the execration of every Canadian. The sentiment is all right, but the application, as the Montreal Gazette remarks, is wrong. The Dominion Government's is not an all-Canadian route, and that is what makes the United States Senate threat troublesome.

The Montreal Star's London cable says: "At the request of Sir Charles Dilke and other members, a meeting of the parliamentary colonial party has been convened for Tuesday to consider the action of the government in bringing pressure upon Canada for the withdrawal of the Canadian proposal to reduce the postage from that colony from 2 1-2d to 1 1-2d per letter."

—Montreal Gazette: The newest Liberal charge against the Conservative Opposition at Ottawa is that it is not eager enough to join in and help to pass Mr. Fortin's insolvency bill into law. It seems a little curious that the great Laurier-Tarte combination should need Conservative assistance to do anything. It is certainly not found necessary when Yukon and other deals are being engineered, and it surely should not be necessary when "the strongest business Government Canada ever saw" tackles a little thing like an insolvency bill. Perhaps, when Mr. Fortin's bill is printed, and time is given to study and under-stand it, the Conservatives will be found giving their evidently needed assistance. Meantime it may be remarked that Sir Wilfrid Laurier does not seem to know whether the bill is desirable or not.

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To WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

In connection with my visit to Canada as Pianist to Madame Albani, I have had occasion to observe various makes of pianos, and have been much impressed with the advances which are being made in the art of piano construction in this young and flourishing country. One of the most recent instruments to arrest my attention—and I might say one of the best—is the well known "Bell" Piano. Its tone is admirable throughout, and the touch firm and responsive—just what we musicians like—in fact, an excellent piano in every respect. The new Orchestral Attachment (which I understand can be obtained on "Bell" pianos only) is also an excellent feature, and one which will doubtless excite interest with all classes. I do not hesitate to say that I consider the "Bell" piano a good, honest instrument, and so recommend it to any intending purchaser.

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