

Lardeau Eagle.

SPECIAL NUMBER.

FERGUSON, B. C., SEPTEMBER 28, 1903

TWO BIG MEETINGS

John L. Retallack Met a Cool Reception at Ferguson and Trout Lake.

Hon. R. F. Green Is Very Popular and His Friends are Confident of Success.

Retallack's Ferguson Meeting.

A public meeting was held at Ferguson Thursday by Liberal Candidate Retallack, assisted by W. A. Gallihier, M. P. The Socialist candidate, S. Shannon was present, and A. Carney of Kaslo represented Hon. R. F. Green. All of these gentlemen addressed the meeting, which was a good one and a representative one. The audience showed an inclination to be noisy while Mr. Retallack was delivering his opening address, but Mr. R. Hodge had no difficulty in maintaining order and outside of a number of interruptions and denials when the speaker would refer to his great strength in the lower part of the riding, he got a very good hearing.

The audience did not seem friendly disposed, however, toward the Liberal candidate, and his followers, if he had any, kept mum.

Mr. Shannon, on the contrary, appeared to have a number of followers scattered through the large audience and got hearty applause at times, but the great bulk of the applause was saved for Mr. Carney, who supported the candidature of Hon. R. F. Green. When Mr. Carney was called on he was unable to speak for several minutes owing to the continued cheering for Hon. Mr. Green and himself. Mr. Carney made a very good short speech in which he did his chief-ain no discredit. The meeting closed at 11 with very hearty cheers for Hon. Mr. Green and Mr. Shannon.

As stated above, if Mr. Retallack had any supporters present they were careful not to show their colors, but W. A. Gallihier certainly had a good many admirers present, and he was given a unanimous vote of thanks on the proposal of J. C. Murray.

Retallack's Meeting at Trout Lake

On Friday night, September 25th, the politicians again gathered at Trout Lake, the meeting being called by the Liberal candidate, John L. Retallack. The speakers present along with candidates Retallack and Shannon, were A. Carney of Kaslo, representing Hon. R. F. Green, and W. A. Gallihier, M. P., who spoke on behalf of Mr. Retallack. J. J. Langstaff occupied the chair, and at 8 p. m. introduced John L. Retallack, who occupied about three fourths of an hour telling the large audience what had men were Hon. Mr. Green and Mr. Shannon. The speaker dealt largely with the Socialist candidate at the outset in an endeavor to show that Mr. Shannon was not properly nominated, and that one McDonald, who represented the Whitewater Miners' Union at the Labor convention in Trout Lake really represented a union that was not in existence at the time, and that since the date of the convention said McDonald had left the country. Mr. Retallack characterized Conservatives generally as a class of men unworthy the confidence of the people, and he tried to prove (though unsuccessfully) that Premier McBride and Hon. Mr. Green were members of the "old gang at Victoria" that have robbed the country to such a large extent for the past seven or eight years. The speaker appeared to possess a very bad memory, forgetting that the province of British Columbia has been governed since it was admitted to confederation by coalition governments, which were at all times composed of all political parties; men who called themselves Liberals, Conservatives, Independents, Labor, etc. etc. It was not known in many instances what party allegiance, if they had any, that many of the members bore. It was, as Mr. Retallack very well knows, the ins and the outs, and most of the members were with the ins for a part of a session of the house and with the outs for the balance of the session. Mr. Retallack does not need to be told this for he opposed Mr. Green in 1898, running as a supporter of an avowed Conservative, Hon. J. H. Turner. Mr. Retallack was not elected, of course, and what did he do? He left the country and renounced his allegiance to the British empire—his mother country. He admitted this on the platform, giving as his excuse that he de-

sired to go into business in the United States and hold property interests. We would like to ask: Did Mr. Retallack find the laws oppressive or business chances not so good as in British Columbia, or what brought him back so soon? Surely it was not that he saw no chance to satisfy his political ambition in Uncle Sam's territory. No, hardly that, but rather he believed his presence was needed, if not desired, in the legislature of the province of British Columbia, as a law-maker, as a leader of thought, as an example to the rising generation. In his speech Friday night, Mr. Retallack went back to comparatively ancient history to find a Conservative who had anything to do with politics in B. C. and on whose integrity and record some aspersions might be cast to prove that Mr. Mc. McBride and Mr. Green were unworthy the confidence of the people. After diligent search the speaker discovered Hon. Mr. Pooley, and there is no doubt Mr. Pooley would have derived much amusement had he but heard the attempts that were made to besmear him. Following Mr. Pooley's record to the present time, the most serious complaint was that the gentleman has been a representative of the very small and unimportant riding of Esquimalt and that he practically represents Hon. Mr. Dunsuir. The speaker charged Hon. Mr. Green with proving a nonentity in the house and of having been elected by the laboring men and then proving false to the trust reposed in him.

Referring again to Mr. Shannon, the speaker said he would "discuss the Socialist candidate and his party, if it could be called a party, and especially some of the planks—if they could be called planks." He said it was foolish to claim that a war was now on between capital and labor, for there was nothing of the kind. Then the matter of confiscation without remuneration was touched upon. He said Mr. Shannon had avoided that question up to the previous night, when he said he believed in it, for from time immemorial capital had reaped the profits of the laborer's toil. So, were that property confiscated, it would only be taking back what was got unjustly. The speaker said that kind of talk would keep capital from coming in, and B. C. would be avoided by the very class of people we were most in need of. We have not enough capitalists; we have

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THE PROVINCIAL CAMPAIGN

A vigorous campaign is now in progress for the election of members to compose a legislative assembly for British Columbia. The campaign is being conducted on party lines for the first time in this province and a whole lot of fun is being got out of the contest.

Judging from indications, there appears to be no uncertainty about the Conservatives, who now hold the reins of government, being able to carry the province. A large number of the electors, including many Liberals, believe that Premier McBride and his colleagues are capable and deserving of a trial in the management of the affairs of the country.

The political situation being so widely different in this western province from that in the eastern provinces that many Liberals feel justified, and feel that they are not renouncing Dominion party allegiance by working and voting for Conservative candidates on October third and thus help to secure a capable government, having a workable majority, that the country's welfare may be advanced. It is recognized that should the majority be small the time of the house might be taken up with petty issues while the more important questions that have to do with the country's growing needs would be neglected.

The business of the Lardeau is distinctly mining. With the exception of the lumber industry which, under the conditions that now prevail, will take care of itself, the resources of the Lardeau and the whole Kaslo riding are more exclusively mining than perhaps any other part of B. C. That being the case, it would seem very shortsighted of the electors to turn down the Hon. R. F. Green, who holds the portfolio of minister of mines. We do not believe for one moment that there is any probability of the minister going down to defeat, but we would like him to feel that the great bulk of the people of the Kaslo riding stand as a solid wall of support at his back.

It appears to us that Mr. John L. Retallack exhibits a great deal of western gall in seeking election to parliament in a distinctly labor constituency upon such a record as he possesses. He admitted at Trout Lake that he was not averse to employing Chinamen when it suited his convenience to do so. Again, we noticed this week a circular that has been distributed through the riding wherein Mr. Retallack, in 1899, is proven to have renounced his allegiance to the British crown. Mr. Retallack may have since become a British subject, but surely we can find a more stable man for a law-maker and to safeguard our interests at Victoria than one who seems to but lightly value his allegiance.

As private citizens and business men the three candidates who are seeking election in this riding are above the average, but surely neither Mr. Retallack nor Mr. Shannon were ever intended for parliamentarians.

Polling Day.

By the amended Provincial Election Act it is provided that polling day in any riding shall be a public holiday, and every registered elector of the riding registered elector of the riding who is within the riding on that day and who is a workman or employee for hire shall be allowed by his employer to be free from his employment on that day for at least four consecutive hours between the opening and closing of the poll, and every employer who offends against this provision, without reasonable justification, shall be liable to a penalty of not more than one hundred dollars, to be recovered under the "Summary Convictions Act" and amending acts.

Wilson on Socialism.

Rev. Ben F. Wilson, the Socialist lecturer who is touring the province, delivered an address in Eagle hall on Sunday night last to a large audience. Rev. A. K. Sharp, who was to have held his regular service in the hall gave way to Mr. Wilson at the request of Mr. Shannon, the Socialist candidate. A much larger congregation was present than usually gather to hear the gospel of the Bible preached. Mr. Wilson proved a fluent talker and kept his listeners interested and amused by his sarcasm and original humor. We do not know how he came by the Rev. before his name, but anyway one would

judge him to be anything but a minister of the gospel. His manner and remarks would rather lead one to believe him to be a professional politician. He appears convinced that the adoption of Socialism is the only solution of the problem that faces us regarding capital and labor.

Mr. Wilson handled both the old political parties rather severely, the Conservatives especially, for some reason or other, were much ridiculed.

A little boy who sat in the audience came to our reporter and asked: "Say! Who are those bad Conservatives?" "I am one," said the reporter. "Oh! I thought they were very bad men," said the boy.

The British Columbia board of horticulture are asking the government to give a bounty on crows, as they are very destructive in the fruit districts.

CONSERVATIVE PLATFORM.

(Adopted at Revelstoke September 13th, 1902.)

1. That this convention reaffirms the policy of the party in matters of provincial roads and trails; the ownership and control of railways and the development of the agricultural resources of the province as laid down in the platform adopted in October, 1899, which is as follows:

"To actively aid in the construction of trails throughout the undeveloped portions of the province and the building of provincial trunk roads of public necessity.

"To adopt the principles of government ownership of railways in so far as the circumstances of the province will admit, and the adoption of the principle that no bonus should be granted to any railway company which does not give the government of the province control of rates over lines bonused, together with the option of purchase.

"To actively assist by state aid in the development of the agricultural resources of the province.

2. That in the meantime and until the railway policy above set forth can be accomplished, a general railway act be passed, giving freedom to construct railways under certain approved regulations, analogous to the system that has resulted in such extensive railway construction in the United States, with so much advantage to trade and commerce.

3. That to encourage the mining industry, the taxation of metalliferous mines should be on a basis of a percentage on the net profits.

4. That the government ownership of telephone systems should be brought about as a first step in the acquisition of public utilities.

5. That a portion of every coal area hereafter to be disposed of should be reserved from sale or lease, so that state owned mines may be easily accessible, if their operation becomes necessary or advisable.

6. That in the pulp land leases provision should be made for reforestation and that steps should be taken for the general preservation of forests by guarding against the wasteful destruction of timber.

7. That the legislature and government of the province should persevere in the efforts to secure the exclusion of Asiatic labor.

8. That the matter of better terms in the way of subsidy and appropriations for the province should be vigorously pressed upon the Dominion government.

9. That the silver lead industries of the province be fostered and encouraged by the imposition of increased customs duties on lead and lead products imported into Canada, and that the conservative members of the Dominion House be urged to support any motion introduced for such a purpose.

10. That as industrial disputes almost invariably result in great loss and injury both to the parties directly concerned and to the public, legislation should be passed to provide means for an amicable adjustment of such disputes between employers and employees.

11. That it is advisable to foster the manufacture of the raw products of the province within the province as far as practicable by means of taxation on the said raw products, subject to rebate of the same in whole or part when manufactured in British Columbia.

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FRIENDS OF LABOR

The Conservatives of British Columbia Have Stood True to the Interests of Workingmen.

McBride and His Followers Work For the Whole People and the Country They Live in.

The Conservative party is now and has been at all times the friend of the working men. Therefore in asking workingmen for their vote and influence in the coming election, the Conservative party have a right to substantiate these facts by bringing to the notice of organized labor some of the many acts passed by the Conservatives in the local house in favor of the wage-earner.

Section 10 of the Conservative platform reads as follows: "That as industrial disputes almost invariably result in great loss and injury to both parties directly concerned and to the public, legislation should be passed to provide means for an amicable adjustment of such disputes between employers and employees."

Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1888—Prohibits the employment of women and children, Japanese and Chinese from working underground, and provides for the general protection of men working in mines.

British Columbia Railway Act 1890—Provides compensation for cattle killed, etc., thus protecting the rancher and the stockman.

Mechanics Lien Act, 1891—Protects the workingman by giving him a lien against any property on which he has worked, thus providing security for wages earned.

Employers Liability Act, 1891—Provides for compensation to working men for injuries received in factories and on railways.

Apprentices and Minors Act, 1897—Provides for apprenticing children not under fourteen years.

Arrest and Imprisonment for Debt Act, 1897—Practically abolished imprisonment for debt.

Creditors Relief Act, 1902—Provides three months priority to working men for wages and salary, when employer's property is seized for debt.

Labor Regulation Act, 1898—Japanese and Chinese excluded from working on railways, telegraph and telephone lines, and public works.

Shops Regulation Act, 1900—Provides for a limited number of hours for

children and female employees.

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1902—Provides for injuries to workmen and compensation to workmen in case of bankruptcy to employer.

Deceived Workmen's Act, 1902—Deceptive representations to workmen declared unlawful, and damages can be collected.

The above acts are all credited to the Conservative party, and cannot be repudiated. Workmen will vote and sustain the party which in time past have demonstrated friendship to the wage-earner.

Last Night's Meeting.

John L. Retallack's meeting in Ferguson last night was well attended, though, no doubt, owing to the bad weather, not nearly so many turned out as were at the former meeting called by Hon. Mr. Green. The great attraction last night was W. A. Galliber, one member in the House of Commons. Strange as it may seem, this was the first visit of Mr. Galliber to Ferguson, or to the Lardeau, though he has been our member for three years. Mr. Galliber is excusable in part, owing to the riding of Yale-Kootenay-Cariboo being far too extensive for one member, and traveling being very expensive; yet he could find time, etc., to come all the way from Ottawa and leave his sessional duties to stamp for the Liberal candidate in the campaign that is being fought so sharply at this time.

Mr. Galliber's speech last night dealt mostly with Dominion issues, and his aim seemed to be to impress upon the electors of Ferguson that the Liberal government was responsible for the prosperity that is now enjoyed by the people of Canada, and—to stretch the imagination—should a Liberal government be elected for the Province of British Columbia, their enactments and good judgment would quickly place this province in a state of prosperity likewise. The gentleman's listeners did not, however, appear to swallow that apparently nauseating dose, though he was given a most attentive hearing. Mr. Galliber proved an interesting platform speaker, and Ferguson people were glad to have the opportunity of hearing him and making his acquaintance. Personally Mr. Galliber is a splendid fellow and his friends are legion. Our only regret is that he is not a Conservative.—Friday's edition, September 25.

Mr. Green's Meeting.

Hon. R. F. Green held a political meeting in the Old Fellow's hall at Trout Lake on Tuesday night the 15th inst., when the following speakers were present and took part in the discussion: Hon. R. F. Green, C. W. McAnn, A. Carney, John L. Retallack, John Keen,

S. Shannon, A. J. Gordon and J. O'Brien.

The meeting was a large one, many being present from Ferguson and the mines, and as far as we could judge the sentiment and applause seemed pretty equally divided between Mr. Green and Mr. Shannon, while Mr. Retallack seemed very much like a stray sheep. Mr. J. C. Murray made an excellent chairman and appeared to give satisfaction to all parties, yet his duties were light.

Mr. Green opened the meeting, and in a speech covering about one hour explained matters with which he was connected of a political nature during the past few years. He also touched lightly on local politics and spoke at some length on the platform and principles of the Liberal-Conservative party. His remarks were well received and he proved an interesting speaker.

Mr. John L. Retallack, the Liberal candidate, followed and spoke for 30 minutes. He delivered his remarks in an easy and graceful manner and showed some knowledge of politics, but we would not judge that politics is his mission on earth. He appears to possess a pretty thorough knowledge of mining and has done good to the industry in this province. In that realm he could be helpful, but in the arena of practical politics he seems as it were at sea in a frail bark.

Mr. S. Shannon was the next speaker and, taking 15 minutes, having divided his allotted time with Mr. Gordon. Mr. Shannon delivered his remarks in a deliberate and forcible manner and devoted most of his time to answering arguments introduced by the previous speakers. He left the outlining of the principles of Socialism to Mr. O'Brien who spoke later. Mr. Shannon did not appear at ease in the role of a politician, and he is wholly inexperienced. However his remarks were well received and he was loudly applauded.

Mr. Chas. McAnn of Kaslo followed, then Mr. John Keen, Mr. A. J. Gordon, Mr. A. Carney and Mr. O'Brien.

The meeting closed about midnight with cheers for Green and Shannon.

The mining laws of British Columbia in former times recognized the rule of extra-lateral rights (the same as in the United States) but in recent times the law has been changed to provide that a mining claim should embrace an area of 1,500 feet square and only gives the locator such mineral as may be within the vertical lines described by its boundaries.

Twenty-one claims, including the Oyster-Criterion, Ophir Lade, Lucky Jack and the Swede groups are being amalgamated into one mammoth mining company by the Pool-Young syndicate. Particulars will be given next week.

Two Big Meetings.

(Continued from Page 1.)

not enough capital; and if Mr. Shannon should be elected we would be much less likely to get that which is essential to our prosperity.

Mr. Shannon was then called upon. He opened by stating that he was being accorded better treatment by his opponents than at the beginning of the campaign, intending, perhaps, to convey the idea that they are becoming afraid of him. He occupied second place at recent meetings when there were but two candidates present, while when there were three he had third place. He said his importance appeared to be growing and the two old parties were uniting to defeat him. How strange that the Conservatives should also feel that a secret alliance has been formed between Socialists and Grits to defeat them. He explained his nomination to the satisfaction of the fair-minded and then told how strong he was in Kaslo and the lower part of the riding. He mentioned as an instance the Goodenough family of Kaslo (supposed to be strong Liberals) where there were three votes, and he would get two of them. So it would seem by this that the Socialist candidate is splitting the Liberal vote and that capital is gradually getting into the hands of the few, and when Socialists get the government in their own hands they will give the workmen the full product of their toil.

Mr. A. Carney, representing Hon. R. F. Green, was the next speaker. He called Mr. Retallack one of the latter-day Liberals. He had loaned Mr. Shannon one of the post cards distributed by the Liberal committee, which pointed out Mr. Green's wrongdoings in the house, and what was found on the card was the only thing Mr. Shannon had to say against Mr. Green. Therefore, since what the card stated was practically untrue, Mr. Green must have a pretty clean record. The speaker said he found at this end of the riding Mr. Retallack and Mr. Green were continually sparring and he felt that he occupied the position of umpire to settle the disputes between the two pugilists. He thought Mr. Retallack must have derived but very little comfort from the support shown him at this end of the riding. He—the speaker—thought his reception decidedly chilly.

Turning to Mr. Gallher, the speaker announced that Sir Charles H. Tupper would be in Ferguson Monday night and invited Mr. Gallher to remain over two more days and meet one who was his equal, a fellow M. P., and a trained pleader like himself.

No government, said Mr. Carney, has ever been perfect and no government ever would be. The experience of this province has been particularly unfortunate because we have not had what could be called a responsible government. We have had no less than eight premiers in eight years, but since party government has been secured we may reasonably hope for good responsible rule.

Under the old coalition system when members were elected on their own personality there could be, it seemed, no stable government, and the members were continually quarreling among themselves and calling one another grafters and thieves. Is it a wonder that men deemed it unsafe to invest capital in the country? There is an abundance of capital ready and waiting for investment in this province as soon as there is a responsible and stable government established. The lieutenant-governor wants to see the country advance and he chose Hon. Mr. McBride to form a government and he has not disapproved of any act of the premier since he called him to office. The speaker thought the lieutenant-governor surely believed Mr. McBride, Mr. Green and their associates the best material in the province. The Liberal lieutenant-governor would never have called Mr. McBride to be premier had his record not been good, so it is evident that the criticisms by the opposition candidates in this campaign are not honest.

Mr. Carney made a telling speech which was very heartily applauded from start to finish. He exploded some of the arguments of his opponents and altogether put up a good argument in support of Mr. Green.

W. A. Gallher M. P. followed and got a good hearing to a well-delivered speech on Dominion political issues. Replying to a question brought up by Mr. Shannon, he explained that the liabilities in connection with the contractor who failed on the Arrowhead branch railway (construction) would be paid by the government to those who held time checks, out of the government grant, enough having been held back by the government for that purpose.

Mr. Retallack spoke for a short time, running over the remarks of his opponents, and the meeting closed with cheers for Green and Shannon. Mr. Retallack's followers did not attempt a cheer, just the same as at Ferguson the previous night, feeling, probably, that it would be unwise to make an exhibition of their weakness.

Chas. Wilson at Nelson.

The meeting in the Nelson opera house last Monday night, called by the Conservatives, at which Hon. Chas.

Wilson was the principal speaker, proved the largest gathering of electors that has ever been seen in Nelson.

Mr. John Houston, Conservative candidate, and S. S. Taylor, the Liberal candidate, were present and also spoke.

Mr. Wilson made a wonderful speech lasting about one and a half hours, and was listened to most attentively by nearly every man in the room.

Mr. Taylor spent considerable time attempting to criticise Mr. Wilson's remarks, but he did not pick a flaw big enough for a mosquito to crawl through. The contest will be very close in Nelson.—Private Correspondence.

Green's Kaslo Meeting.

The Honorable R. F. Green held a very satisfactory meeting in Kaslo on Saturday, the 19th inst. The Liberals evidently thought they would be able either to monopolize the time of the meeting or else break it up, but they got what must have been an unpleasant surprise. Mr. S. S. Taylor was imported from Nelson, but the Kaslo people did not hear him speak. An arrangement had been entered into between Mr. Green and Mr. Retallack regarding time limit and position, but when Mr. McAnn, the chairman, asked Mr. Retallack and Mr. Taylor to the platform, Mr. Retallack rose in the audience and demanded a new arrangement and wished to address the audience. The chairman asked Mr. Retallack to take the platform and express himself, otherwise he would not be permitted to speak. Thereupon Mr. Retallack walked out of the building, followed by his supporters, who numbered 150 voters and non-voters. It is also said that fully one-third of the number were not voters. There were left in the hall 180 Kaslo voters who cheered to the echo.

The meeting then proceeded and proved a grand one.

Another Poplar Deal.

J. L. Whitney of Rosland has purchased the Home Run claim, which adjoins the famous Lucky Jack on the south, for himself and associates in Rosland and the east. The price has not been made public. It is the intention to develop and equip the Home Run at once.

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