

# M'INNES AND MARTIN FOUGHT VERBAL DUEL

## Was Unexpected Climax of the Most Spectacular Drama in City's Political History--Martin Accepts All the Challenges.

### POLITICAL ISSUES BY CANDIDATE COWAN

## Conservative Candidate Given Good Hearing at Great Labor Meeting in Opera House-- Crowd Applauded Him.

The climax in the most spectacular political drama in the history of Vancouver followed, with histrionic fitness, at its close with William Wallace Burns McInnes preceding the fall of the curtain. Then up went his arm and out went his cuffs to his fingertips.

"The hand of fate," he intoned with added gestures, "has made me last. But I will be holy writ for it that the first shall be last, and the last shall be first."

That tone, not being wholly reverent, the great audience renewed a license which Chairman Harry Cowan had two hours before summarily cancelled, and a riot of laughter and hoots and cheers and jeers followed.

It was apparent that an end was coming to the normal calm that had attended the hearing of Martin and Kingsley and Cowan, a calm frequently threatened but never broken, save at the outset when cowbells, triangles and bazone broke in a riot of discord from the upper gallery. It was instantly silenced by the chairman threatening expulsion of the man who dared to repeat it.

Then McInnes stepped over to the footlights, turned dramatically to Martin, the climax came and the calm was broken.

It was a verbal battle such as has not before been witnessed in the political arena by Vancouver's history. Facing Martin, McInnes in thundering tones began--

"There are broader issues than the Kelly graft, the McMillan graft, or let me add, the Martin graft. The truth is that Martin is malicious against every one who has turned him down."

(Another riot of cheers and jeers.)

When Martin is condemning the Kelly graft remember that he or his accredited agents went to the same Mr. Kelly for his support to Martin's nomination in the Bosses by-election. Now deny it if you can."

Martin was up in an instant, but was unable to be heard. The gladiators faced each other over the table. The uproar continued. When Chairman Harry Cowan had quelled it and demanded that Martin be given the right to reply, he obeyed.

Mr. Martin--There is no truth whatever in that statement.

He added that his friends, led by Stuart Henderson, M. L. A., had saved Macdonald and interviewed the World newspaper in vain for their support. Then they endeavored to ascertain if the Liberals of Vancouver would support him.

"I understand that some one went to Kelly, but I am not responsible if Bob Kelly owns the Liberal party of Vancouver." (A riot of cheers.)

McInnes--I can remind Mr. Martin, patted as he is under this castigation,

that he rushed into an interview with

The Province and there admitted it.

Mr. Martin--I did not.

Mr. McInnes--And now he hedges.

But it is true. He sent his men to see

the Kelly he denounces.

Mr. Martin--I did not. It is false.

When a storm of hisses ended McInnes

with uplifted hands was intoning--

"Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad. But I hope he

will not attack me as did that C. P. R.

pollieman." (Another wave of

laughter and cheers and dissent.)

"Your out! sit down! sit down!"

then came from the gallery.

Mr. McInnes--You can't make me

sit down. I was brought up in the Nan-

wan school of politics, which has no

such words in its vocabulary.

(Showered hisses and jeers and

hoots and hoots and laughter.)

It will not do for Mr. Martin to

deny that interview in this fit of pas-

sion, now that he was the pitfall into

which he has landed."

Personality Number Two.

Before the Conservatives, Liberals,

Independents and Socialists could re-

turn to the meeting's opening normal

calm McInnes holding up a document,

at once rushed to the denial of the

judgeship for a price.

"Now, this is another of Mr. Martin's

false charges for here I have an

affidavit--"

For two whole minutes he could get

no further. Then he was heard to

say that upon his urging, The Province

had named Mr. Macdonell, Mr.

Mr. Senkler and Mr. Duncan as

four Liberals who could throw some

light upon that matter.

"Now there is nothing more serious

than that the administration of justice

is interfered with by political

bosses and I will now show you how

false that charge is--"

Here he read the affidavit signed by

all four named in the article, and

severally denied that any such

offer had been made to them, or to

any others within their knowledge.

"That charge is silenced now once

and for all," concluded Mr. McInnes.

Mr. Martin--It won't silence me, not

one bit. (Laughter.)

Mr. McInnes (when he could be

heard)--No one expects you to be sil-

enced. But do you dare deny this

statement under oath?

Mr. Martin--That is not the charge

made.

Mr. McInnes--I ask you, do you

deny it?

Mr. Martin--These gentlemen have

denied something that was never

charged.

Mr. McInnes (waving the affidavit

at the head of his opponent)--What,

what?

Mr. Martin's reply, which was diffi-

cult to follow in the uproar, was to

the effect that the offer of the judge-

ship came first. The money proposi-

tion followed at a much later date.

Mr. McInnes (still waving the affi-

idavit)--He is hedging and he knows

it. He stated from this very plat-

form that everything from cheese to

judgeships had its price in the Kelly

warehouse. Now where does he get

off at?

"Ottawa!" shouted a Martinite from

the gallery to the greatest outburst

of laughter of the night, followed by

a renewed and a renewed uproar.

And here the climax ended. With-

in ten minutes the meeting closed

without a cheer for any one.

In the Beginning.

Chairman Harry Cowan had said

that one of the chief objects which

had induced the Trades and Labor

council to extend the invitation to all

four candidates was to give them an

opportunity to explain their reasons

why they were entitled to the votes

of the working men. He appealed for

a fair hearing for all.

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