

Q. Everything quiet after that?

A. Everything was quiet. There was not a dogbark or a cock crow.

Q. Were you in the Legislature in 1892?

A. I was a member by appointment as a minister.

Q. Will you be kind enough to tell me how many parties were represented in that Legislature and by what names they were designated?

A. Three parties and some independents, National Reform, Reform, and Liberal.

Q. How many members had each of these?

A. Nine National Reform; 14 Reform; 21 Liberals, and 4 Independents.

Q. Who were the 4 Independents?

A. R. R. Hind, J. Marsden, W. H. Cornwell, and A. Drier.

Q. How do those four gentlemen stand on the subject of annexation?

A. At the present moment?

Q. Yes.

A. Marsden is an annexation man. Hind is not, Cornwell is not, and Drier is not. I am sure of those two. I am not sure of Hind.

Q. Twenty-five was a majority of the Legislature?

A. Yes.

Q. Did any one of these parties have that number?

A. No.

Q. How did it happen that so many cabinets were nominated and voted out on want of confidence in 1892?

A. In the beginning of the session there was no possibility for uniting the parties to vote out a ministry. The first cabinet held until September. In September W. A. Whiting, attorney-general, resigned, and Paul Neumann was appointed in his place. E. C. Macfarlane, with several others of the National Reform party, sided with the Reform party, and got also a few of the natives to side with them, and voted out the first cabinet.

Q. Why did Macfarlane make this move?

A. He objected to Neumann, a party member, going into the cabinet without the consent of the party.

Q. What party did Neumann belong to?

A. The National Reform. The Neumann cabinet did not meet the approval of the Reform party.

Q. Who were at the head of the new cabinet?

A. Sam Parker, Neumann, Macfarlane, and a man by the name of Gulick. It did not meet the approval of the Reform party, and, in consequence, after a week or two they were voted out.

Q. By what parties in the Legislature?

A. Then it was a conglomeration, party lines completely gone. Macfarlane burst the party lines. They were voted out after a fortnight. The Reform party laid down the principle that the Queen should appoint a cabinet from the members of the party that voted out a cabinet. The Reform party never voted out any cabinet because they could not on account of lack of numbers. Then the new cabinet was appointed. They lasted about half an hour or twenty minutes. They were voted out again. A new cabinet was appointed which satisfied the Reform party.

Q. Was that the Wilcox cabinet?

A. Yes. When I returned from San Francisco—I was gone about two months—they were voted out. They got just 25 votes to vote them out.

Q. What party voted them out?