

the *Star*. I told him it did not make very much difference in the judgment I would form.

I was curious at that time to know why he was Conscience Keeper of the Liberal Party in the Province of Ontario. I had surmised that so far as Mr. Rowell was concerned, perhaps there had been an intimacy of relation between him and this attenuated editor that I had not suspected before. But since I have been appointed leader, although I find my friend Mr. Rowell has taken with him most of the records of the office, fortunately he left behind with Mr. Proudfoot such records as related to elections and such records as related to the details in the constituencies; and I find that he forgot to extract from the front of the book the instructions when he went to England in the summer of 1916, and looking at these instructions I find that his instructions in reference to publicity service, both so far as daily and weekly newspapers were concerned, are that articles dealing with subjects being covered in investigations that were then being carried on, to have each dispatch before sent out read by Mr. Atkinson or Mr. McKay or by someone whom they select.

The time is past when particular individuals can revise and dictate the policy of the Liberal Party. I can well understand that those who may not any longer dictate, desire to destroy those whom they cannot control; and I can well understand that the *Evening Star*, after having acquired the subscription list of the defunct *Times* has become a Hearst Journal and proposes to follow Sir William Hearst.

So far as I am concerned I shall be glad of any fair assistance. I welcome the assistance of those who desire to support the policies that we represent. But I do say this, that we are entitled to assistance; we are entitled to have connections that are honestly placed before the people recorded in a different way from that in which a certain journal has recorded the utterances and the standing of the Liberal Party.

To-day the Liberal Party proposes to do things. To-day the Liberal Party has, as I have said, an advanced policy so far as the Temperance question is concerned, and yet there has been in this Province a determined attempt to bring this liquor question into politics; and to-day it is the one hope of Sir William Hearst that he may so mix the liquor question—the question of the referendum—with the other issues, that he may be able to confuse and confound the minds of the people.

During the last session of the Legislature I insisted that there were matters related to the administration of the Ontario Temperance Act that should be the subject of an investigation.