

POLITICS IS THE GREAT AMERICAN PASTIME

Comparison With the Good Old Days When Politics Really Interested People in Belleville, Particularly Foster and Samson Wards—Americans Enjoy Jokes About Prohibition.

Editor Ontario.

Some time ago one of England's prominent journalists was a visitor to California. He was in Los Angeles about six weeks during which time he was entertained by the various clubs and shown everything of interest. Sir Gilbert Parker is having the same experience at this time. When the Englishman was leaving he was approached by a local newspaper man and asked the following question: "What, outside of our wonderful climate, impressed you the most while in California?" The climate you can see is always to the front. You can never get away from it. That is first, last and always. The reporter in his wildest flights of imagination never dreamed that his question would bring forth the answer that it did, but when he came up for air he wrote a column about it.

"What impressed me most while in California was the way the audiences of the various theatres I visited laughed at the jokes on prohibition," assumed the man from over home.

"You Americans have a wonderful sense of humor. I can't imagine an Englishman laughing if you took his beer away from him. He would not only want to fight, he would fight. It's extraordinary. I can't for the life of me understand it, it's so serious, don't you know?"

Here is a sample of one of the jokes that never failed to make a hit. Young lady of the sketch: "I want you to understand my father is rich. He owns 14 quarts." Young man in the Oak Hall suit: "I hope it lasts longer than Wilson's 14 pints."

Prohibition had very little to do with the results of the recent election but the 14 points had all to do with it. That was the reason of the overthrow of the Wilson government. Our American cousins are bad losers! They want to be ahead in everything. They used to say of the late lamented Teddy Roosevelt that when at the wedding he wanted to be the best man and at a funeral he wanted to be the corpse.

When President Wilson broke all traditions and went to Paris with his famous 14 points in his grip he was a great man. The Americans thought he was the biggest man on earth and they expected he was going to make a league of nations with the U.S.A. brand all over it. When it began to filter through their happy heads that all was not well in Paris, they couldn't believe it. No one could put it over their president. He had a college education, and Lloyd George used to work in a coal

mine. Yet it appeared that one by one the fourteen points was dropped. Some were lost in Paris, some in Buckingham Palace. The Americans began to wonder if the bad boys in Europe would leave the ship so the President could get home again. Finally they didn't care if he ever came back. When election day came around they worked for Harding like the boys in Samson ward used to work for the late Harry Corby.

Politics comes natural to one who has lived in the city by the Quinte. There was a popular headline that The Intelligencer carried for years: "Another Grit Lie Natted." West Hastings has always been a citadel like the Grif could seldom get over the top. In America they are not so steadfast. If they think it's time for a change they do so and in that they show good sense.

Years ago we had the Marble Hall Club that flourished for a while and then gracefully passed away a victim of too much humor. In that short time a William Jennings Bryan sprang up—the boy orator from Bleecker ward. "Banty" Bennett. His speech on the high cost of the "arch" lights will be found a classic in the back files of The Ontario of 1899. My old friend, "Yankee" Currier, was one of the active members of it and took a great deal of interest in municipal reform. On election day he could not be found. He had no vote. The writer is in the same boat today. It's as natural to take an interest in politics as it is for Harry Day to shoot ducks. Whether you have a vote or not makes no difference for in the recent avalanche one vote would have made no difference.

In reading The Ontario I see that great improvements are being made in the public works department. The tearing up of new pavements is an expensive operation only for big cities like Toronto and Montreal should be discouraged in Belleville. I read an interesting letter of W. C. Mikel and his idea of public meetings is a good one but no one will pay any attention to him when he is serious. He was branded a humorist in his early days with Darius Greene and his flying machine. He will never get over it. Too much economy is also a bad policy. The man who pays big taxes doesn't pay any—the tenant does. You never see any letters signed rent payers and, believe me, Mr. Editor, they are the boys who persevere. If you had to pay rent in Los Angeles you would not feel sorry for the landlord, you would want to shoot him.

Cordially yours,
W. S. MacDermid.

HON. LEWIS WALLBRIDGE

One-time Leader of the Bar at Belleville.

The lamented death of Mr. F. S. Wallbridge has naturally caused the thoughts of the older residents of Belleville, to turn to his uncle, Hon. Lewis Wallbridge, whom he closely resembled in feature and in personal and professional characteristics if not in person.

Sixty years ago Lewis Wallbridge, was the most prominent citizen of Belleville. As member of the Legislative Assembly, for South Hastings, which constituency embraced the townships of Sidney, Thurlow and Tyendinaga, the town of Belleville, and the village of Trenton, and as leader of the bar in Hastings county, he was widely popular and deservedly so.

Mr. Wallbridge's career as a legislator began in the late fifties, when, as the Conservative candidate, he was elected for South Hastings, defeating Mr. B. F. Davy, who ran in the Liberal interest.

Having differed from his party leaders on the representation by population. Mr. Wallbridge was in 1861 the Liberal candidate and, after a very sharp contest, he defeated Mr. James Brown, a Baldwin Reformer, who was one of the most popular citizens of Belleville. Two years later he was appointed Solicitor General in the Sandfield MacDonald administration and subsequently became speaker of the House being the last holder of that office prior to Confederation, in 1867,

when he retired. In 1878 he re-entered the political arena as the Conservative candidate for the House of Commons in West Hastings, the constituency comprising Belleville, Sidney and Trenton. On this occasion he met his old opponent, James Brown, whom he as a Liberal had defeated in 1861, but who was now the Liberal candidate. After having been elected in 1867 and 1872 in the Conservative interest, and in 1874 as an Independent. The party affiliations of these gentlemen had thus been reversed during the seventeen years that had elapsed since they first met in the political arena. After this he was appointed Chief Justice of Manitoba, and died at Winnipeg, after a few years' efficient service.

Hon. Lewis Wallbridge, like many other eminent men had a hobby, and his hobby was bees. Of these interesting and industrious insects he had many hives of several kinds in his spacious garden at the corner of Front and Dundas Streets, and which he thoroughly understood, for they seemed to understand him, as he spoke to them as if they were children and handled them in handfuls when they swarmed.

Mr. Wallbridge's return to the Conservative party was owing to the acceptance in the British America Act of the principle of representation by population which had led to his having cast in his lot with the Lib-

erals in previous years. Personally Mr. Wallbridge was a most lovable man. Those who lived nearest to him speak of him now as "a good neighbor," and many of our older citizens, political friends and opponents alike still reverence his memory.

Miscellaneous Shower Given to Mr. and Mrs. Rosevear

On Monday evening Nov. the 22nd a very happy time was spent at the home of Mr. Blake Biddell, South Cannifton, when some sixty people assembled and gave a miscellaneous shower in honour of Mrs. George Rosevear, a war bride, lately arrived from England, and to honour Mr. Rosevear as a patriotic soldier of the King.

The Rev. J. S. McMillen, called the happy company to order about nine o'clock, when all engaged in singing "When the Roll is Called up Yonder, I'll Be There." After prayer was offered, and other numbers were sung, the following complimentary address was read, and presented to Mr. and Mrs. Rosevear, and was acknowledged in fitting terms.

The entire audience then sang "Blest be the Tie that Binds" after which numerous congratulatory addresses were delivered, a dainty repast was served, and the gathering broke up about eleven o'clock leaving their good wishes and many useful and valuable gifts behind to cheer and materially assist Mr. and Mrs. Rosevear in setting up house-keeping amongst us.

Cannifton, Nov. 22 1920.
Mr. and Mrs. Rosevear

Dear Friends,—
We, a number of your neighbors, and friends, of Cannifton and Corbyville community, hearing of the arrival of Mrs. Rosevear, as a war bride from England, and knowing that you had settled your minds to remain, and live amongst us, have felt it our hearty desire, and Christian duty to call upon you tonight, to express our sincere interest in you, and our prayers, and well wishes, for your future happiness and prosperity.

Having been married far from us, in the old home land of England and under war conditions rendered it impossible at this time, as residents of Mr. Rosevear's old community to meet and present our tokens of esteem and wish you both a prosperous sail upon the sea of matrimony, which we all wish in doing tonight.

Dear Mrs. Rosevear we are not ungrateful at this time of the long voyage you have taken from your old home and friends, far over the seas to join your soldier husband in Canada, the land of your adoption, and set up your new home in our midst. We extend to you the glad hand of welcome, and assure you, that we are happy in receiving into the circle of our friendship and association, hoping that our future days may be made pleasant and profitable by our mutual faith and fellowship.

We cannot forget on this occasion the fact that Mr. Rosevear volunteered for service at the front, on the outbreak of hostilities, and, as a patriotic soldier took his place amid the shot and shell of battle, and endured all the hardships of the conflict that we might live in peace and safety at home, enjoying British institutions and freedom.

We ask you both to accept these numerous personal gifts, not for their intrinsic value, but because of the love that prompted these pres-

ents. If we have succeeded in cheering your hearts and to any degree assisted you in the task of setting up house amongst us we shall be happy.

Signed in behalf of Cannifton Community.

Ed. J. Shorey,
J. S. McMillen,
Mrs. A. Loucke,
Mrs. Ed. J. Shorey.

Address and Presentation

At W.M.S. Meeting.

On Thursday afternoon, Nov. 18, the Massassa Women's Missionary Society held their regular monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. D. W. Vallean, about twenty-five ladies being present. After an interesting program the president of the society, Mrs. A. Hillman, expressed regret that one of the members, Miss Ella Anderson, was soon to leave our neighborhood and Mrs. Davidson read the following address:

Dear Friend,—It is with feelings of deepest regret we have come to realize that you will soon be leaving our neighborhood.

The faithful service you have rendered both in church work and in Sunday school will not soon be forgotten. Words fail to convey to you how sorry we are that Providence has so designed that a separation is about to take place between you and us.

The breaking up of your home is indeed a sad loss in the church, and although you may be absent from us in body, we trust your sympathy and interest will sometimes revert to your friends in your old home church. As a token of the regard in which you are held, we ask you to accept this wrist watch as a loving remembrance from your friends of Massassa. We wish you every happiness in your future home. Wherever your lot may be cast, may God's blessing be with you. Signed on behalf of your Massassa friends,

Mrs. D. R. Davidson,
Mrs. D. W. Vallean,
Mrs. G. F. Lent,
Mrs. A. Hillman.

Mrs. Vallean made the presentation. Miss Anderson was taken entirely by surprise and with much feeling thanked the ladies of the church for their thoughtfulness in her behalf. Miss Anderson will be a teacher in the Sunday school and president of the W.M.S. for several years. Much regret is felt that she is to leave the neighborhood.

A delicious lunch, was served at the close of the meeting by the ladies of the neighborhood and a social hour spent.

SHOT HUGE MOOSE

A huge bull moose weighing close to 1,500 pounds and bearing a magnificent spread of antlers, was one of the sights Wednesday morning at the Brockville union station, where the animal was being held pending transfer to the Canadian National station. The moose was consigned to A. Bruce, Elgin, and sleigh, loaded with two cords of firewood, shot in the neighborhood of Wood, stuck on the tracks and all efforts to move it failed. The farmer brought down by the same party, or accordingly unhitched the horses. The moose is the only one so far and in charge of Engineer W. Pars was the object of much interest among station frequenters. It took village, very readily moved the sleigh combined efforts of four expressmen to move the carcass which took up an entire express truck.

W.M.S. Observed Tues. as Day of Prayer

The Women's Missionary Societies of Bridge Street Church, Tabernacle, Holloway Street, Bayside and Aikens, on Tuesday Nov. 23rd, observed a day of prayer in Holloway Street, Methodist Church. Miss Ida A. Martin, President of the auxiliary in that church presided in her usual capable manner. Miss Hawley, of Bridge Street auxiliary explained that the Board of Management had asked this year the fourteenth birthday of our Women's Missionary Society for 40,000 new members, twenty percent increase in funds, and for 20 new missionaries. This can only be accomplished by concerted, enthusiastic, co-operative endeavor on the part of the members. The first hour of the service was under the leadership of Mrs. Sharp, of the Tabernacle, with "The Home Base" as theme. Mrs. Booth, of Holloway Street auxiliary, described a trip across the continent calling at our various Domestic Missions, followed by a round table conference. After lunch and the social hour the subject "Our Missionaries" was presented by Miss Jones, followed by earnest prayer by Mr. Bailey for our workers in Home and Foreign Fields.

The next hour was taken by Mrs. John, and Mrs. Mutton, of Bayside, with "Japan" as theme. This field has asked for seven new workers this year. The needs of China were brought forward by Miss Hawley, of Bridge Street. Thirty-nine new workers are asked for in China, including doctors, nurses, dentists and pharmacists; besides pastoral, educational and special workers. A strong appeal for the organization of more Circles was urged by Miss Morden, there being only two at present in the district. At intervals during the day, fervent prayers were offered beseeching for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the church at home; that God would inspire, comfort and strengthen the missionaries in the Orient, and on the Home Fields; that the great student body in our Universities may realize the opportunity and accept as a privilege the work of missions; that the students abroad may realize God's presence always in circumstances not always encouraging and that the native workers may be abundantly blessed in their labors; that this year our district may have a volunteer for the great work of laboring on mission fields. Several young ladies from Albert College added much to the success of the afternoon session and their earnest petitions were an inspiration to all present.

Those privileged to attend this Special Day of Intercessory Prayer felt such a spiritual uplift that it was decided to set aside such a day each year.

SLEIGH STUCK ON TRACK.
A few days ago a farmer residing near Coteau Junction underlook to cross the Grand Trunk tracks at the first farm crossing inside the yard limit board at the west end of pending transfer to the Canadian National station. The moose was consigned to A. Bruce, Elgin, and sleigh, loaded with two cords of firewood, stuck on the tracks and all efforts to move it failed. The farmer brought down by the same party, or accordingly unhitched the horses. The moose is the only one so far and in charge of Engineer W. Pars was the object of much interest among station frequenters. It took village, very readily moved the sleigh combined efforts of four expressmen to move the carcass which took up an entire express truck.

SINCLAIR'S

3 Day SILK SALE

Wednesday Thursday and Friday

\$3.00 Striped Silks

on SALE at \$1.85 yd.

In this lot of Silks consists of about 500 yards of a fine quality Striped Silk. It is 33-39 inches wide and is shown in about twelve Striped Patterns on white ground.

It is a most suitable material for Ladies' Blouses, Men's Shirts or Pyjamas, and when made up will give excellent wearing service. Blouses require 2 yards, Shirts about 3 yards and Pyjamas about 6 yards, according to size. Come in and let us tell you about getting it made up Christmas Gifts. Regular \$3.00 quality for \$1.85 Yd.

See These Silks in Our Window.

Buy Your Christmas HOSIERY Now!

Silk Hosiery is always a most acceptable gift, and this Sale of Silk Hose will enable early buyers to secure a supply for Christmas giving, at a great saving. Included in this lot are all our \$2.75 and \$3.00 Silk Hose in Holeproof, Venus, Queen Quality, Circle Bar, Mercury and Radium Brands, in Lace-Striped and Plain in Black, White and a full range of colors. Regularly \$2.75 and \$3.00 pair and all perfect quality. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, on Sale at

\$2.00 pr.

SINCLAIR'S



LIBERAL LEADER TOURING WESTERN CANADA.

Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, and his party are now coming east after an extended tour along the coast and western provinces and is at present in Winnipeg. The group shows the Liberal Leader and the speakers of his party, from left to right, William Duff, M. P., W. C. Kennedy, M. P., Hon. Mr. King, M. P., and Hon. Dr. Beland, M. P.



LOWING per sq. yd.

“ “ “ “ “ “

ishing, 1-4 ating paper

mas present

LLS F. D. No. 3 n39-2-4-7-9-11&w

Days Before

the time rocks are noose your

all thing

Clothes mended for their worth in nship and t as well extremely design and

w a com- range of s and rcoats

emely re- prices.

son

avest for the time of 848. At present there thing, but it is not at last very long. Many yet have some fine

R. LAW.

assmore of the De- highways was in the and today in the in- observance of the ct. He and the po- men before the police ping on a charge of e law. One was a king in an old car on new one, allowed the ke the markers off put them on the new er pleaded not guilty d guilty and fined and costs. The pur- ar was fined \$10 and r with markers not department or its new car.

RELEASED.

Chinamen recently dy near Ogdensburg illegally entering the ve been released on ptee, Eddie Becker, eged to have taken the border, is still unable to procure deported.