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OUR FARMERS, WANT SANITARIUMS.

Agricultural Population Decreasing
in Ontario.

Speeches Made at Banquet at
Toronto Fair.

Toronto, Sept. 9.—At the directors' luncheon, which was attended by a representative gathering of agriculturists, the chair was occupied by Vice-President Kent.

Hon. J. S. Duff called attention to the agricultural exhibits from New Liskeard and Englehart, and predicted that the time was not distant when Northern Ontario would have as many prosperous farmers as any other part of the Province. He also spoke highly of the fruit exhibits.

President Greelman, of the Agricultural College, Guelph, referring to the work of that institution, said it was attended by boys from 22 different countries. He expected that when the session opened they would have the largest attendance in the history of the college. Congratulating the directors on the success of the exhibition, he said such an exposition was beneficial in bringing fruit growers and farmers from all parts of the country into closer touch. In Ontario, for example, fruit-growers had still something to learn about packing, and perhaps the growers from British Columbia could teach them something in that regard. Similarly the Ontario farmer attending the exhibition might learn something about potatoes from the farmers from New Brunswick.

Mr. E. C. Drury, of the Dominion Grange, said that, while a good deal had been done for agriculture in Ontario, he was disposed to be a little pessimistic. The conditions in agricultural Ontario were not what they should be. Perhaps the farmer was partly to blame, but in the line of general farming they were not prospering as they should be. The majority of farmers were not making a sufficient dividend on the capital invested, and most of them were going back instead of ahead, while a great deal of farm land was being depleted. Weeds, too, were increasing, while the number of men to cope with these difficulties was decreasing. It might surprise many to know that instead of advancing, the agricultural population of Ontario was decreasing at the rate of 8,500 every year. That was due to the increased use of machinery, because machinery demanded more men rather than less.

The reason was simply that the farmers of Ontario were not able to hold their own in competition with other industries. "In the interests of every body, city and country people alike, in the interests of patriotism, let us give the farmers a square deal." One thing that told against them in Ontario was that the great newspapers were not in touch with the farmer, and showed great ignorance of the conditions. "We protect other industries by a tariff. I am not going to say anything about that. We bonus our iron and steel industries. The farmer bears the brunt of it, and he is not bearing it very well. He is not heard from as much as he ought to be."

President Black, of the Manitoba Agricultural College, looked to the exhibition to foster the spirit of interprovincialism. In the west they received a lot of the fruit grown in Ontario, and he regretted to say that the packing was not a credit to the province. British Columbia sent fruit that was in very much better condition. He pleaded for a greater exchange between the provinces in travel.

Senator Edwards took issue with the views of Mr. Drury. "My opinion is that Ontario agriculturally stands first of all the provinces and of all the States of the Union. I cannot subscribe to the statement that the people of the cities do not take an interest in agriculture."

Delegation Waited on Premier
Whitney Yesterday.

Toronto, Sept. 9.—A large delegation from the Municipal Association for the Betterment of Consumptives met Premier Whitney in the Cabinet chamber yesterday afternoon, and asked that the government build, equip, and maintain two or more sanitariums for the care of indigent and other consumptives in the Province. "All the other provinces in the Dominion except Ontario and Prince Edward Island are doing something in this matter," said Dr. Lockhart, of Hespeler, chairman of the delegation, in advancing arguments in favor of the petition. "We have asylums for the blind, the infirm, and the insane, but the indigent consumptives are left to die in a shed. We want you to take hold of this matter, and if you do not deem what we suggest to be the best plan, to do what you deem to be the best."

The Premier, in reply, admitted that there was no room for argument as to the danger arising from the disease, and the need of some improvement in the method of treating it. The question had already been considered by the government, and he continued: "It would not be well for you or the people of this country to run away with the idea that all we have to say is 'Look at this terrible disease and immediately spend money without considering the finances of the Province.' The financial side of the matter is the first consideration."

CHARGE MURDER.

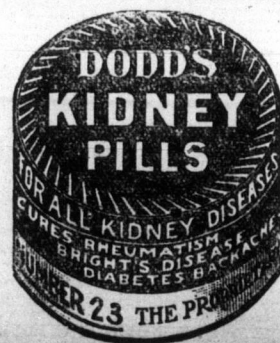
A. H. Harris, of Qu'Appelle, Sask.,
Succumbs to Injuries.

Qu'Appelle, Sask., Sept. 8.—A. H. Harris, who was found last week on his farm dangerously wounded, died yesterday. The preliminary examination of H. M. Roper, who is under arrest charged with injuring Harris, will be held here on Friday.

It is thought by the police that Roper, after dragging his victim's body into the bluff, went to the house, put on his best clothes, packed a valise belonging to Harris, and took his employer's bank book, showing a substantial deposit at the Union Bank, Qu'Appelle. He then drove to town in the luggy, and it is alleged forged and cashed a cheque for \$800. He left the house and buggy at a livery stable, said goodbye to a number of friends, and took the train east.

Roper informed his friends that he was going to Montreal, and it is believed he bought a ticket for that city, but he left the train at Winnipeg, where he was arrested.

The Bruce expedition has arrived at Tromsø, and reports all well. The members survived Prince Charles Foreland, and made important geological and other investigations.

ONTARIO LIBERALS
MEET NEXT JUNE.

Hon. Mr. Murphy Attacks Globe—Addresses
by Prominent Politicians—Officers Elected.

Toronto, Sept. 9.—An explanation of the reasons for issuing a charter to the Metropolitan Racing Association and an account of the proceedings in connection with the matter were the features of an address delivered by Hon. Charles Murphy, Secretary of State, yesterday at the annual meeting of the General Reform Association of Ontario, held in the Temple building.

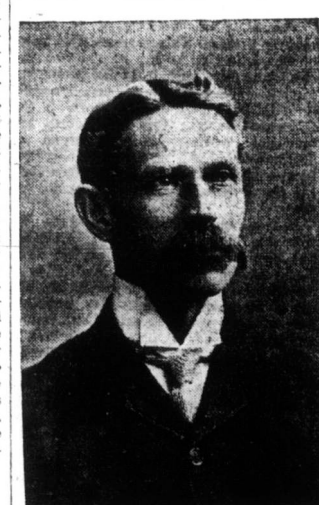
The meeting unanimously decided to call a convention of the Provincial Liberals during June of next year, at which it is intended to formulate a platform for the party.

AN EARLY SETTLER.

Hon. George P. Graham, the first speaker after the formal proceedings had concluded, humorously remarked that, so far as the Dominion Cabinet was concerned, he was one of the early settlers of the Cabinet. With regard to the Liberal party in Ontario it was just as live an entity as ever. Although no better fight could have been fought than that in the last election, he was sure that the fight was coming, and in the next campaign a better showing would be made, especially as the enemy was growing more vulnerable every year. The future, he predicted, so far as the Liberal party was concerned, would not be one of retrogression, but aggression. "We hope," he said, "during the approaching session of the Dominion Parliament to have a programme to place before the people of Canada with reference to Imperial questions which will be popular not only with the people of this Province and of the Dominion, but with the entire Empire. (Cheers.) The Government is aggressive. It does not make much fuss, but when it sees a thing to do it does it, and that's the kind of Government which will be popular with the people."

HON. CHARLES MURPHY'S SPEECH.
Hon. Mr. Murphy, who was introduced by the President as "the man who will become one of the best leaders of the Liberal party has ever given to the Dominion," then addressed the gathering.

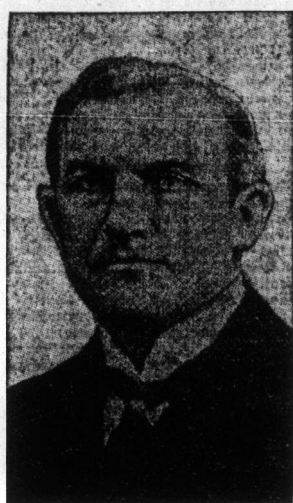
With regard to the question of the press, he expressed the opinion that the Liberal press did not give the same support to its party as did that of the Opposition to the Conservative party. Liberal newspapers admitted that, and the only explanation he could get was the claim of independence. "I have never heard," he proceeded, "any member of the Liberal party ask for support from any but the independent press, and I would not like to be supported by any but independent papers, but that is not an explanation why the press supporting the Liberal party cannot support the party proper newspaper support." He instanced the occasion of the Hodgins inquiry in connection with the allegation made against the National Transcontinental Commission and the organized work of misrepresentation carried on in the Conservative press. Without any idea of giving offence, he contended that that campaign was not adequately



MR. JAMES CHISHOLM, K.C.,
Member on the Executive of the Ontario Reform Association.

met by the Liberal press. Even after the charges had collapsed, the campaign of misrepresentation was continued, falsehoods published, and in consequence of their not being met by a feeling grew up that those statements were, to a certain extent, true. The Liberal papers were apathetic in meeting the malicious falsehoods which were day by day published by the Conservative press, and the simple truth only filtered through.

THE RACING CHARTER.
"That brings me," he said, "to a recent discussion that has arisen, touching the department of which I am the head, with reference to the issue of a charter in the ordinary course of business by the department which is charged with the administration of the Companies Act. As I understand the situation I haven't had time to read the editorials—the Globe compared that a mistake had been made and called on me as the Minister at the head of the department, and next on the Premier himself, to alter this blunder. Now, if the Globe had taken the trouble to walk up to my office they would have found that that was the proper thing for a great newspaper to do. The Globe had patting Sir James Whitney on the back and said that many of his policies were deserving a great deal of the Province. A Provincial election came on, and a short time before the election the Globe discovered that there was such a man as Hon. A. G. MacKay, he added, 'and a Liberal party in this Province, and it turned a corner, but its readers could not do so rapidly. (A voice, 'Non-sense!') Even last year it ran a cam-



HON. CHARLES MURPHY.

paign against the Lieutenant-Governor of this Province in regard to some legislation, and, when certain charges were made against Hon. Dr. Pugsley, the next morning the Globe retired Dr. Pugsley, and was good enough to say that no doubt he would succeed in his profession. When Dr. Pugsley put it all over his account the Globe tried to find a soft spot to fall on."

It was true that he was only a beginner in politics, but, said the Secretary of State, he had not reached that stage of political Christianity where he would turn his cheek to the smiter. The result of these things being published was hurtful to the Government and the party, and they could be avoided by inquiry.

UNFAIR CRITICISM.

"This issue of a charter to the Metropolitan Racing Association," he continued, "was attacked when the Globe had not even taken the trouble to make the slightest inquiry as to how it came to be issued. The criticism he contended, was unfair, and the result was that a gentleman high in the Liberal party had called at his office and said, 'If it had been George P. Graham and Mackenzie King it wouldn't have happened.'—I don't say I believe that, because I don't—but it's because you and Mulvey (the Deputy Minister of State) are Roman Catholics."

A voice—"Rotten."
Mr. Murphy—Exactly. I know that. There is not a scintilla of truth in it. The difficulty was, however, that such stories obtained credence. "What were the facts?" proceeded the Secretary of State. "The administration of the companies act is a part of the work of the Secretary of State. His business is: when five individuals come to the provisions of the act and apply for the incorporation of a company whose objects are legal to grant that charter, and that is all he has to do. The morality of the question does not come into the matter. Any step as to the morality of the matter is for those having the administration of the law, and is Provincial."

WENT TO THE PREMIER.

"We went over it carefully, and I was told something with regard to a little gathering of the sporting world in Toronto, of which I had no knowledge then, and even now have very little. I was advised that if this charter was granted an attack would be made. If I did not do what the law clearly says it is our business to do, what answer could I give to these men for refusing the charter? They might have got a mandamus against the department. We discussed it and took what I think was the proper course, and what the Globe afterwards suggested should have been done: consulted the Prime Minister. I took it to him and he listened very patiently, and asked, 'What is the law?' I said, 'This is the law—the Deputy Minister is an authority on the company law and the father of the Ontario act.' The Premier said, 'You have no right to refuse it,' and when I told him we had not, he said, 'Well, issue it, then.' I took it to the Department of Justice and they said, 'Issue it.'"

DEFERRED ISSUING CHARTER.
Proceeding, Mr. Murphy said that recognizing that some discussion would be raised he deferred the issue of the charter until it returned from the west. He then again consulted Sir Wilfrid, and it was decided that it would be wrong to refuse the charter. The Globe had made its attack and afterwards took the position that if the law were as he had stated it should be altered. Several reverend gentlemen, whose business it was to look after the morality of the province, had written to him on the subject, but when he had pointed out the facts to them, and that the question of morality was a matter for provincial administration, they had accepted the situation.

"With any attempt to put down race-track gambling I am thoroughly in sympathy," continued Mr. Murphy. "If the matter of putting down the evil were brought up in the House there would be no warmer supporter of the bill than Murphy. But that charter has no more to do with betting than the man in the moon has to do with your Toronto viaduct."

"The Globe's action puts public men at a great disadvantage, because, despite all these mistakes that the Globe has made, the Globe is a great paper." Mr. Murphy again complained that the Globe had not taken the trouble to inform itself in the matter before launching its campaign, and that it was similarly at fault in other instances. He also urged that sufficient attention was not given by the Liberal press generally showing what work the Government was doing, and suggested that the "big man, not a mere reporter," should be appointed, at a salary of \$4,000 or \$5,000, who would be in touch with the Government and who would be a means of sending out to the press news of real importance as to the work going on.

DEFENDED THE PRESS.

Mr. J. A. Ewan thought that Mr.

Murphy's address could not be allowed to pass without some reply on behalf of the press. As Mr. Murphy had spoken frankly, selecting the right place to take the matter up, he also would approach the question with equal frankness. Dealing with the complaint that the slander campaign of the Conservative press had not been properly met in regard to the Hodgins charges, he said that on the Globe it had been found a good plan to wait and hear the evidence before shouting. The Conservative press adopted the other course. They had roared corruption from January to December, and with what result the last election showed. He considered that good work had been done by the Liberal press in disproving charges against the Liberal administration, and he thought that on this point Mr. Murphy must be in the same position as he was with regard to the racing charter: that he had not read the editorials. The result of the policy followed was that not a word had been heard from the Opposition with regard to those Hodgins charges for months.

"Coming to the question of the charter of the Metropolitan Racing Association," said Mr. Ewan, "everybody in this room knows that the Globe attacked the charter of the Dufferin Park Driving Club. It called upon the Provincial Government to cancel the charter of what was nothing but a gambling association admittedly. The Provincial Government acted on that advice. The Globe as a fair public newspaper praised them for following the course it had urged."

What followed was that by the issuance of a Dominion charter to the same group of persons this very gambling association was enabled to establish similar places to the Dufferin Park from one end of the Dominion to the other. With the position the Globe had taken up it could not be silent.

The speaker took pains to say that the press did not merit criticism. It welcomed it, especially when uttered in the frank, open, manly way that Mr. Murphy had employed, but in the last analysis the Globe must be conducted as seemed best in the public interest by those who were charged with that task. It was a wholesome thing for a party to have a press that is honest enough and bold enough to challenge it when in its judgment a wrong course was being pursued.

Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Minister of Labor, was given a very hearty reception. He cordially thanked the Liberal members of the House of Commons, who had so generously welcomed him to the Cabinet. He would never forget the unvarying kindness of all of them. He was also glad to acknowledge the help rendered him by the Liberal press.

In concluding the debate Mr. Mowat expressed some surprise that there should be any criticism of the Liberal press, because he believed that the universal feeling on the close of the general election had been that the Liberal press had put up a magnificent campaign.

A REPRESENTATIVE GATHERING.
It was truly a representative gathering of Ontario Liberals which attended the meeting. Mr. H. M. Mowat, K. C., president of the association, occupied the chair, and among other prominent Liberals present were: Hon. G. P. Graham, Minister of Railways and Canals; Hon. Charles Murphy, Secretary of State; Hon. A. G. MacKay, leader of the Ontario Opposition; Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Minister of Labor; Senator Hon. James McMillan, Senator Hon. R. Jaffray, Dr. T. F. McMahon, G. S. Lindsey, K. C., Hon. R. F. Sutherland, M. P.; W. O. Sealey, M. P., Hamilton; R. A. Thompson, ex-M. P. P. H. H. Dewar, K. C., John A. Ewan, W. H. Wardrope, K. C., Hamilton; J. Macdonald, Mowat, Kingston; E. W. Nesbitt, M. P., N. W. Rowell, K. C., T. C. Robbette, K. C.

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT.
In his opening address the President briefly reviewed the work of the past year. He said, in part, that the Dominion elections campaign had been one of malediction by the Conservative party, but it failed to accomplish anything by that malediction.

The appointment of the two new Cabinet Ministers, Hon. Charles Murphy, as Secretary of State, and Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, as Minister of Labor, has been ungrudgingly approved by our press and our people.

The Liberal Opposition in the Legislature showed fighting strength and capacity for hard work. But I would be greatly assisted in an aggressive force if it had a mandate from the party. It is clear that the association is not doing what the party expects of it until it assembles a convention which will express the present views and aims which the party representatives will be expected to strive to accomplish in legislation.

FAVORS CONVENTION.

Hon. A. G. MacKay briefly supported the President's suggestion for a convention.

"I am pleased, indeed, to hear Mr. Mowat's suggestion," said Mr. MacKay. "For the calling of a convention. I made it my business last year to write to over one hundred leading Liberals of Ontario touching this very question of a convention for the purpose of calling a convention which should be called that summer. But, gentlemen, every leader and every man in the Liberal party should feel that he has a share in the making of the party's platform. I very cordially support the President's suggestion for the calling of a convention which shall be free to act not only in the formulating of a platform, but in choosing a leader to carry out that platform."

Mr. MacKay was loudly cheered on rising, and his remarks evoked a great deal of enthusiasm.

PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

J. W. Curry, K. C., moved that a convention should be held at the earliest possible date.

Mr. Geo. Mills considered that the convention should be at the call of Hon. A. G. MacKay, the Liberal leader in Ontario.

Mr. J. F. Beam thought a party without a policy clean-cut was like a ship without a compass. He argued as to the importance of organization, but it was not of primary importance. They wanted a goal to aim at. Three years before the Dominion campaign a convention was held and the platform formed which had brought prosperity to the country. Speaking as a farmer, he had no complaint to make with regard to the Dominion Government, which had removed many of the farmers' grievances. With regard to the Provincial Government, however, his class was not represented as the main industry of the country should be. The Legislature was dominated by townsmen and the promises of equal taxation, the fair taxation of railways, had not been carried out. That one plank would carry the Liberal party into power.

Hon. A. G. MacKay suggested that the amendment that the convention

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should be at his call should be withdrawn. There would be perfect unanimity between the party and the executive of the association as to the date of the convention, and, indeed, he had previously pointed out to the President that personally he looked to the executive of the association to carry the matter out.

SHOULD STATE POSITION.

Mr. J. W. Curry, K. C., considered that a platform formed with the object of rewarding the interests of the country, and not merely to catch votes, could not be a nuisance. There were many things which should be discussed. He agreed with the Minister of Labor that capital and labor should be kept in friendly relation.

Mr. Hugh Guthrie, M. P., South Wellington, considered that June would be a convenient month for the agricultural community.

Considerable discussion followed and finally it was decided that the convention should be held in June, the fixing of the date being left to the Executive of the association.

It was moved that all the old officers be re-elected, but to this they strenuously objected, pointing out that they had now held office for five years. They urged that new blood be introduced and the President, Mr. H. M. Mowat, K. C., insisted that each officer be nominated separately, with the result that the officers elected were: Mr. H. M. Mowat, President; Mr. W. S. Calvert, Mr. N. A. Belcourt, and Mr. Michael James, Vice-Presidents; Mr. P. C. Larkin, Treasurer and Mr. Hugh Blain, Auditor.

The new Executive Committee consists of the above officers and Messrs. C. M. Bowman, M. P. P., James Chis-

holm, K. C., Lt.-Col. Thompson, Thomas A. Lowe, M. P., and Hugh Guthrie, M. P.

CFARGED WITH SHOOTING.

London, Ont., Sept. 8.—Isaiah Nicholas, a Muncie reserve Indian, was remanded to jail by Squire Chittick, charged with shooting Cornelius Logan, another Indian, with intent to do grievous bodily harm. It is alleged that when Logan was passing the house Nicholas fired at him three times with a revolver, but Logan was not hit.

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