

Save Ontario By Defeating Drury Government

A SUMMARY OF THE DRURY RECORD.

In 52 years the public debt of the Province of Ontario reached \$97,000,000. During the Drury regime it jumped to \$240,000,000. Think of it, in three years it increased by \$143,000,000. In 1919 the U. F. O. platform declared that "Whereas the public debt has increased at an alarming rate," the pledge was given that "all unnecessary expenditures that were not absolutely essential will be cut out." We have given the above examples to show how this pledge was carried out and the hard fact is that in 3 years the debt increased from \$97,000,000 to \$240,000,000. Do the people want another four years of the debt raising government. If you don't, vote for Dr. H. A. Clark and Lt.-Col. A. W. Gray.

Millions From Sale of Liquor

Drury-Raney Administration Collects Huge Profits From Government Dispensaries.

Hon. W. E. Raney poses as the only man who can safely be trusted to administer the O.T.A. A determined effort is being made to becloud the big issues in the forthcoming election by making it appear that if the present administration is defeated the O.T.A. is in danger.

The O. T. A. is not an issue in the present election. But the real hypocrisy and humbug of the Drury-Raney prohibition prattle is made manifest by a perusal of the profits made from the Government dispensaries under the present administration.

The Ontario Government is very much in the liquor business at the present time, and a large part of Hon. Peter Smith's so-called surplus of current revenue over current expendi-

tures is furnished by the millions made out of the sale of liquor.

The following figures speak for themselves, they are taken from the Journals of the House where they were placed by Mr. Raney in answer to questions. These figures are therefore official:

Received for liquor sold during 1920, 1921 and 1922 to the Ontario public \$9,863,728.84
Paid out for this liquor when stocking dispensaries 7,326,949.13

Gross Profit on Raney's liquor business \$2,536,779.71

Less cost of enforcement of O. T. A., for the same period, including amounts paid pro-

vincial police 1,181,714.54

Leaving a net profit from its own liquor business, after paying from liquor earnings for all liquor law enforcement \$1,355,065.17

What Figures Mean.

What do the above figures mean? They mean simply this: That after deducting all expenses for enforcing the Ontario Temperance Act, and after paying for its liquor, the Raney-Drury Government has still a surplus of over a million and a third dollars, out of the direct earnings of its liquor business.

Presumably the liquor sold at the Government dispensaries is entirely for medicinal use. If so, it should be sold at cost. But so much money is needed to finance the present crew of spendthrifts that it is necessary to take a rake-off from the sale of liquor amounting to two and a half million dollars.

OUT OF TOUCH WITH THE ELECTORS.

The perfect love borne by Morrison, Hicks, et al, for the Drury Government is most beautifully and tenderly expressed in the lines "As soon as they cease to work"—i.e., stop circularizing—the U. F. O. will fall back into the old party lines, for it will no longer be in touch with the electors." The U.F.O. Government in fact, is blind and helpless. Its members simply do not count.

The Hon. Mr. Drury lives in a world remote from human passion. The Hon. and philanthropic (with urban taxes) Mr. Doherty is not vocal; the Hon. Mr. Nolle is denied the use of understandable English; the Hon. Mr. Biggs has no vision of hard-metalled roads stretching to infinity; the Hon. Peter Smith would miss his way to a bank; and the Hon. Mr. Raney is so intensely moral and progressive that he must be kept in cold storage lest something of his fine bloom should be brushed off by rude contact with the "idols of the market and the street."

DRIVING AWAY CAPITAL.

The Hon G. H. Ferguson has done wisely in calling attention to the manner in which the Provincial Government has been driving away capital from Ontario. He contrasts this Province and Quebec. He points out that the former has a debt of \$243,000,000, while the next largest industrial province has one of \$52,000,000.

Mr. Ferguson puts the case so well that we shall quote his words in full as follows:

"Visit Montreal, Sherbrooke and Sorel; see contractors, the workmen and builders working overtime. Because capital, with the aid of labor, is developing the province, tax rates are low. They are not afraid they are going to be shouldered with a tremendous burden of debt in Quebec. Point out to me when and where in Ontario there are any very large business organizations being established. They realize when they come in here they have to share a portion of debt, and they have to pay the same high tax the rest of us do. The business and investing people are to-day alarmed about the situation in this province. And they are keeping away from Ontario with their funds. The reason for it is that our Government in the past few years has been so extravagant that they have shaken the confidence of the money markets and investing public in Ontario's future. That is caused by irresponsibility, vacillation and instability on the part of the Government."

The moral of this is plain; the Drury Government must go.

Vote for Ferguson and Dr. Clark on June 25th.

Owens and Operates a Farm

J. J. Morrison, U.F.O. secretary, has found the U.F.O. representation in the Legislature an embarrassment of riches. Probably the 43 have been too many to handle conveniently from headquarters—indeed, there are well known incidents indicating that fact. In any event, Mr. Morrison's theory is not based on the agricultural group assuming office, but only achieving legislation through adequate representation in the Legislature, the number elected in 1919 he described as "more than our share, probably." Assumption of office comes procedure on party lines, and that is just what Mr. Morrison is opposed to. In order to help "J. J." out of his difficulty, electors of the province ought to oblige on June 25th by sending a much reduced U. F. O. representation to Toronto. It is not necessary to reduce the agricultural representation, particularly, because there are any number of first-class farmers running as Conservative candidates.

Dr. H. A. Clarke owns and operates a large farm near Brockville and is intensely interested in agricultural pursuits.

How Millions Were Squandered on Biggs' Good Roads Programme

During the 1919 campaign one of the chief points of attack for Drury-Raney sharpshooters was the Conservative good roads programme, which contemplated 500 miles of provincial highway.

"Far too much money being spent on highways connecting the big motor centres," charged Mr. Drury and Company. "If we are elected we will see that, instead of spending money on highways for the use of city motor owners, the money will be spent on rural roads to provide access for the farmers from the farms to the markets."

And then Mr. Frank Biggs was made Minister of Highways and his first good roads programme included 1,800 miles of provincial highways. Mr. Biggs told the people of Ontario his programme of good roads would cost the sum of \$22,000,000.

Up to the end of 1922 the work on Mr. Biggs' good roads had cost \$38,000,000, plus \$4,000,000 liability incurred, but not yet liquidated.

Mr. Drury, in a speech in Halton, expressed the hope that the good roads

programme would be completed at a total cost of \$50,000,000.

Ontario has already spent its share of the Dominion Government good roads grant, and the Government at Ottawa refuses further assistance, so that the balance of the work, costing some \$10,000,000, must be financed entirely by the province and the municipalities.

One example will explain why the actual cost is so great in excess of the actual estimates.

The Hon. Mr. Biggs planned a provincial highway from Hamilton to Brantford on the road passing his farm and his father's farm.

Mr. Biggs estimated that this highway would cost \$34,000 per mile, and on this basis the Federal authorities agreed to contribute 40 per cent.

When the highway was completed and the cost added up it was found to have cost \$72,000 per mile.

The Federal Government refuses to contribute more than 40 per cent. of \$34,000 per mile, and the province and the counties must finance the balance.

A Very Costly Experiment

Criticism of the Drury Government's record frequently elicits a commiserating comment to the effect that "Drury hasnt done so bad, considering."

Ample proof that this is a dangerous delusion is easily produced from the Government records.

All the virtues which E. C. Drury's friends claim as his peculiar attributes have been exploited to the limit for partisan purposes with disastrous results to the province.

A Government which came into office with the avowed purpose of reducing expenditures and administering the affairs of the province on business principles has set a new pace for extravagance, piled up millions on the provincial debt, dissipated the natural resources and handed out political patronage with a reckless disregard for the public welfare and their own solemn pledges.

People who think that "E. C. Drury has not done so badly, considering" should consider that the increase in per capita taxation from 1919 to 1923 has risen from \$7.50 to \$13.00; that at no time have their estimated expenditures come with millions of the original figures; that aside from the deplorable ignorance of the first principles of business they have been absurdly extravagant.

Cost of experiment of putting inexperienced men in charge of the affairs of the province cannot be paid in full in this generation.

A concrete example of what the Drury Government has cost and is costing the people of Ontario is furnished in the increase in the number of civil servants. During the previous administration there were 790 employees on Government payroll. Today there are 1,293 and 377 temporary employees. Hearst Government were able to move along with 11 motor cars and 41 trucks. Drury Government has a fleet of 209 motor cars and 100 trucks.

Inability of the Drury Government Commission were appointed at a gross to govern the province is advertised in the fact that one less than 26 Royal cost to the electors of over \$1,017,000.

An example of the Drury Government's absolute lack of business methods is furnished in the deal whereby the old Knox College building on Spadina crescent was acquired for Government offices.

The building was originally purchased for \$160,000. It was used temporarily during the war as a hospital. It was then leased by the Drury Government, in order to find accommodation for civil servants who had been crowded out of the Parliament Buildings, at a cost of \$20,000 for the first five years, \$25,000 for the next five years and the Government pays the taxes. They spent \$150,000 in refitting it, and at the end of the lease it must be returned to the owner with all improvements and the Government does not even have the option of purchasing.

At the present time it is costing the electors \$61,000 per annum for the rent of temporary offices for civil servants.

Vote for Dr. H. A. Clark and Lt.-Col. A. W. Gray, Conservative candidates for Brockville and Leeds ridings respectively.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF DRURY'S "ECONOMY"

The Drury Government having increased the number of civil servants from 790 to 1,250 required additional office room. The Old Knox College had been purchased by J. A. Mitchell for \$160,000. The government leased this building for a term of 10 years, instead of buying it. The rent for the first five years is \$20,000 a year; for the second five years \$25,000 a year, or \$225,000 for the ten years. The government also contracted to expend \$56,384 on repairs and \$93,835 on extensions. That is: The government rents a building which cost its owner \$160,000; they pay in rent, repairs, and extensions \$375,219; they also pay taxes during the ten years. This is one sample of the way the Drury government squanders the people's money. Put them out, in the interest of economy.

Hon. Howard Ferguson's tour of Western Ontario proved a veritable triumph. Last week he addressed ten meetings in almost as many different constituencies. Audiences were large, attentive and cordial. In many cases the chairman was the mayor of the town and arrangements for the gatherings were such as to do honor to a coming premier. Brass bands gave concerts preliminary to the meetings at Stratford and Ingersoll, and prominent citizens accompanied the speakers on the platforms. Everywhere Mr. Ferguson was received with enthusiasm and his message seemed to make a profound impression.

Return officers in the present election are to receive the largest remuneration yet paid in the province to appointees to this position. By an Order-in-Council, passed on the 9th day of May, the remuneration to be paid returning officers was fixed at \$300 minimum. When there are more than ten thousand names on the list, the returning officer is entitled to another \$100 and similarly he is entitled to an additional \$100 for the excess of twenty thousand and thirty thousand. These fees are exclusive of mileage allowances, disbursements, postage, etc., and payments of election clerk.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Vote for Dr. Clark on June 25th. It is everywhere conceded that he will redeem the Brockville riding by a large majority.

Mr. Morrison went to Dundas county to aid in getting Mr. Casselman the U.F.O. nomination. The hatchet said to be buried by Mr. Morrison and Mr. Drury a few weeks ago can easily be dug up.

What Mr. Hay's slogan is to-day it is not quite easy to discover, but while the Legislature was in session it might have been summed up in the phrase of the renowned Woodrow: "Too proud to fight."

The Globe, strong supporter of prohibition as it is, apparently believes the O. T. A. would be safe no matter which party gets into power. "In all three parties," it says, "there is among the candidates as well as in the constituencies a decisive majority in favor of prohibition which can be depended upon to prevent the destruction by any one party of the prohibitory law."

Another thing that is noticed is the strong Drury candidate being nominated in many places. In 1919 some candidates were weak, as the U.F.O. never expected to be in power, and it did not seem to matter who was elected. In 1923, that is changed.—Fergus News Record. This sounds interesting, but it would be infinitely more so had the News-Record pointed out who the weakones were in the last U. F. O. government.

The Ladies' Aid of the Methodist church held their June meeting at the House of Industry on Thursday, and spent a most delightful afternoon. After transacting the usual business, the ladies, who numbered about 40, repaired to the dining room where a dainty luncheon was served. Both Mrs. Burnham and her daughter, Miss Pearl, spared no effort in making the event a delightful one. The Ladies' Aid purpose holding a strawberry social the latter part of June.

LOCALS

Mr. Lloyd Wilson, who resides near Owen Sound, was in town recently attending the funeral of his grandmother.

The members of the catechism class of the Methodist church purpose holding their annual picnic on the church lawn on Saturday afternoon, June 23. Every member of the class is expected to be present, and bring their mothers along with them, as a jolly good time is expected as usual.

AT REST.

One of our most highly respected citizens, in the person of Sarah M. Boyce, relict of the late E. D. Willson, passed away at the residence of her son, Mr. C. H. Willson, Elgin street, on Wednesday, June 6th, 1923. She had been in failing health for some months past, owing to advanced years. The late Mrs. Willson, who had attained her 89th year, was born at Lyn, Ont., where she resided until she moved with her husband to Athens in 1888, where they resided with their son, Mr. E. L. Willson, who succeeded his father in business. The late Mrs. Willson, who was exceptionally well read, was beloved by all her friends for her kindly manner, and during her long life was constantly performing kind deeds. In her last hours she was tenderly cared for by her son and daughter. After patient endurance of suffering, she met death peacefully, free from pain. The funeral took place from her late residence on Friday, June 8th, interment taking place at Lyn. Her pastor, Rev. S. F. Newton, spoke in the highest terms of the life and character of the deceased. Mr. C. L. Willson is the only surviving member of the family.

CARD OF THANKS.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Willson wish to tender their sincere thanks to their friends and neighbors for their kindness and sympathy during the illness and death of their beloved mother, Mrs. E. D. Willson.

WON HIS PLACE

Hon. George Howard Ferguson, Leader of the Conservative party in Ontario, won his place as the most valued member of the Legislative Assembly. From the time he was asked to assume temporary leadership in 1919, which was confirmed by the large and representative convention held in Toronto in the fall of 1920, until a few weeks ago, when on the floor of the House he forced Premier Drury into unconditional surrender, Mr. Ferguson has grown in political stature and popular favor. The qualities that he brought to bear on the responsibilities of leadership are those that stamped him as a man worthy to fulfil the traditions of the Liberal-Conservative party in Canada and to restore that party to its rightful place in the management of the affairs of the country. Vote for Dr. H. A. Clark and Lt.-Col. A. W. Gray and a return to normal conditions.