

EVENING TIMES-STAR, ST. JOHN, N.B.

## ROBERTSON FIGHTS CATHOLIC UNIONS

In Doing So the Minister of Labor Is Not Prompted by Religious Bigotry.

VERY MODERATE MAN

He Is Fighting, Like the Late Cardinal Gibbons, to Prevent Division Among Citizens.

By H. GRATTAN LEARY.  
SENATOR GIDEON ROBERTSON, at present a political storm centre because of his attacks on the National Catholic Unions of Quebec, incarnates the "middle-of-the-road" man whom Mr. Meighen has summoned to his banner. In the Senate, where his presence is like an exotic plant of democracy in a hot-house of reactionism, he is regarded as a dangerous radical, but one who is not a danger to the British Empire. He is a man of the people, a man of the people, a man of the people.

He is not of the class of labor leader who promises the millennium every morning. He is simply a plain, old-fashioned trades unionist, his thinking cast in a traditional, conservative mold, and with nothing utopian in his vision. Nor is his attack upon the National Catholic Unions prompted by either religious bigotry or anti-clericalism. It is



Senator Gideon Robertson

simply that he regards them as a menace to the solidarity of trades unionism as a whole, and as a hindrance to a development to be combated. It was the same with the One Big Union. Senator Robertson saw in the rise of the O. B. U. the ultimate destruction of all that Labor had achieved on the North American continent in the last half century, and he fought it with all the strength at his command. In the Quebec Catholic Unions he discerns a similar peril. He sees their idea of a sectarian test for membership spreading to other provinces and other Labor groups, incubating religious prejudice, promoting sectarian groups and enfeebling the entire Labor movement with the poison of bigotry and strife. And so just as he fought the One Big Union he is now fighting the Catholic Unions.

### Oppose Religious Segregation

It is perhaps not without interest to recall that in this attitude he is fighting over and over again the late Cardinal Gibbons fought and won more than a quarter of a century ago—in the days of the Knights of Labor. The Knights of Labor, under the leadership of Terence Powderly, himself a Catholic, came under the ban of the church. In Quebec, where Cardinal Taschereau was then at the zenith of his power, they were completely banned, no Catholic being permitted to join them under pain of excommunication, while in the United States, where the matter had been left to the decision of the American bishops, the third plenary council of Baltimore, a similar situation was threatened. It was argued that Catholics who joined an organization like the Knights of Labor endangered their faith, and a movement was mooted for the organization of purely Catholic workers' societies under the direction of the clergy. Cardinal Gibbons stoutly opposed the idea. In a letter addressed to Rome, and which has since become famous, he defended the right of Catholics to mix with Protestants in daily intercourse.

Cardinal Gibbons was a clear-sighted triumph. Not only did Rome decide not to forbid the organization of the Knights in the United States, but the ban was lifted in Canada. The inadvisability, not to mention the danger, of Catholics segregating themselves from Protestants in the sphere of citizenship, was definitely defined.

Senator Robertson is not concerned with the faith and morals of Catholics, as such, but, like Cardinal Gibbons, he believes that any system which would divide the members of the various creeds into a multitude of unions could only result in disaster, not only for the cause of Labor, but for that of religious tolerance as well. And while he may not be as successful as was the late cardinal of Baltimore in achieving his ends, he will not easily recede from his position.

### Much Worse.

HAVE you a little fairy in your home? No, but I have a little miss in my engine. The Dread.

## FARMERS' CABINET GOOD OFFICE MEN

Premier Drury Answers a Hundred Letters and Does Day's Work With Despatch.

NIXON IS SYSTEMATIC

Minister of Education Grant Never Hurries, But Always Has Work Well in Hand.

By W. H. G.  
IF he is wise, the supporter of the United Farmers' government will come to Toronto during the session of the legislature should he desire to find out how the Drury cabinet is getting along. From the seat in the speaker's gallery, he will be able to judge by results. There he may note how his favorite minister has improved in oratory. He may also pick up a copy of "votes and proceedings" and follow up the progress of government legislation. He may possibly determine the good and bad points in the administration of the year.

But the ardent member of a U. F. O. club, who would love to see the ministers of the crown carry on in between sessions, is up against a hard proposition. It is difficult for him to get anything more than a peek into the nicely furnished offices, marked "Private."

Over a year ago, there were those who had grave forebodings that the province would suffer severely at the hands of farmers who were in bad luck. It was a widespread belief that lawyers and professional men were best suited to occupy cabinet positions. Since then results have satisfied many that that belief was ill-founded. Yet there are others who still wonder how these farmers manage their office work.

However, a minister cannot hide his light under a bushel for long. There are a select few who act as judges and sooner or later give their verdict. These are civil servants, who stay when government goes, and whose favorite pastime is to make comparisons. And in spite of the fact that the majority of these uncritical individuals are superstitious, their general belief is that the present cabinet, taken as a whole, is as efficient as the average group of men which has headed the buildings in the past. It appears that the training of the farmer gives him a great capacity for work, and after all is the main essential for office or any other kind of efficiency.

Premier Drury sets the pace. On an ordinary day, he comes to his office from his room bright and early and loses no time in getting to work. When there is something that must be done, he despatches that must be done. He is not a man of secondary considerations. Usually, he has from eighty to one hundred letters to be brought before he does anything else. To the greater portion of these, he directs a reply for his secretary or to the "boy statement," also has a large number of deputations to attend to, but to his list falls more actual office work. Like the premier, he has not learned the art of "choking off" an eloquent speaker, who has exceeded his allotted time for presenting his case.

### Biggs Looks Busts

THEN comes a moment in the morning when there is no one waiting in the outside office to see the premier. And here the junior minister, a man of study in his room and in his study, has to find one of the few who has exceeded his allotted time for presenting his case. At two o'clock Mr. Drury slips away for luncheon and is generally back at three, when he either attends to his desk or to a meeting of the cabinet. The evenings he spends in study in his room and in his study, has to find one of the few who has exceeded his allotted time for presenting his case.

Mr. H. C. Nixon, the provincial secretary, is not a man of study in his room and in his study, has to find one of the few who has exceeded his allotted time for presenting his case.

Mr. Grant is the aggressive member of the cabinet. He literally breezes into his office in the morning, although he is not at home as often as his colleagues. His keen interest in the progress of government legislation, he believes in advertising that he is working.

Mr. Peter Smith, whose duties as provincial treasurer are perhaps a little heavier than some others in the cabinet, has most of the details of those under him in spite of outside crutches. He is a man of the people, a man of the people, a man of the people.

## A PAGE ABOUT PEOPLE YOU KNOW

Sidelight on Men and Women in the Public Eye.

Englehart, a Practical Joker, Pulled "Good One" on the Count

Former T. and N.O. Chairman a Kindly Man With Great Sense of Humor—Close Interest in Government Railroad.



J. L. Englehart

Mr. J. L. ENGLEHART, who died recently, gave of his very best for years to the T. and N. O. Railroad, of which company he was chairman. He served too without pay, turning his \$5,000 salary over to charity. He put into effect a paternal note to say patriarchal method of handling the employees, holding frequent conferences of officials. He kept tab on the work of almost every employee and one of them was as likely as not to receive a personal letter of commendation. Many stories are told about his capacity for close detail in the affairs of the road. Mr. Wallace Nesbitt, K.C., is authority for the following:

While on a trip over the Ontario government's road he got into conversation with one of the track workers and asked him how he liked certain officials. After getting the trackman's frank opinion about several of his superiors Mr. Nesbitt asked: "And Mr. Englehart, what about him?"

"Englehart!" replied the man with the pick. "Say! If there's a match missing on this line Englehart knows it!"

Petrols also knew Mr. Englehart as a kindly benefactor. The big Imperial Oil Company's plant there, which he was head, saw many examples in effect of better conditions for workers. A practical form of workman's compensation was worked out years before the province made it effective.

Mr. Englehart, in his younger days, was a confirmed practical joker. One

day he ever knew a funnier thing than when he saw a fellow worker with a pick, but he stands by you. People who rap at him don't know him. He does not have found him to be a philanthropist!

"Not exactly—not altogether. There's nothing philanthropic about a share certificate, is there?" "I'll be some parting between you when the power and light clean-up is through, and the city takes over the street railway."

"I'll find it, I'll find it to part no more. I hope the railway passes to the city on the first day of the year. Do you know what I'm going to do? I'm going to the Exhibition every day and all day and stay with my Jersey. It will be bliss divine, all bliss!"

"For the Jerseys," I said. "Yes, they don't see as much of me as I'd like." "How much more of you do you want to see?"

"Say," said Bob, "I'm afraid you're getting to be a jolly." "Possibly," was the answer. "See the company I'm in."

"My dear boy," said R. J. gravely, "life is too short at times, sixty-seven, to spend an afternoon in this sort of frivolity. Why don't you go when you're for the referendum. You know, I'm a veteran of the Dominion, and for many years I was a treasurer. I've a daughter in the mission field, and I shall soon be out of work."

"Why not run for mayor?" "Not on your life. I was mayor of this town twenty-nine years ago. I was elected. Then I was two years off the job, then back in 1886 I was elected again. I was a commissioner in August, 1897, and a pretty good mayor. Toronto was a manageable place then. Now it's a pretty good mayor. I take a whole Church to run it. In those days I knew everybody on the street, now I don't."

"Now you are scarcely ever on the street." "I couldn't help breaking in." "Not as much as I'd like to be." "It's very different from the days when I used to deliver milk and sell coal and wood. Oh, you haven't looked as though you fear I don't mention my number days. When a man's too big to remember the foundation on which he was reared, there's something hopeless about him. I can spend a dollar without missing it, but it wasn't always so. I know what it is to be poor because I hadn't anything, and I know what it is to be poor because I had too much."

"A poverty lack of people would like to suffer." "Oh, I don't know. It's a fearful thing to be land poor. I was, as a result of the land boom of thirty years ago, I'd right up on St. James' now, but I've seen the time when you couldn't sell land and it was a most infernal scratch to keep what you had. That's the period in my life when you really know what it is to be poor. I had faith, and here I am, and at picking the Jerseys are. Do you like cream? Ride down with me and I'll give you a puff of faten you a bit."

"Does Sir William like cream?" "Not much, and I haven't found

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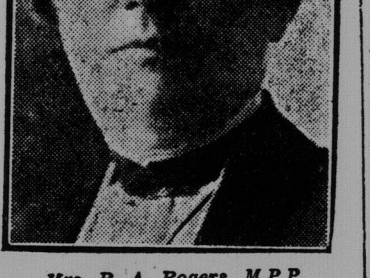
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OF OLD WEST FAM

Manitoba Is Right Up-to-date With Four Political Part Elected Through "P.R."



Mrs. R. A. Rogers, M.P.P.

### SIR ROBERT HORNE'S METEORIC RISE

N the last two years Sir Robert Horne has shot like a meteor across the political sky of Great Britain, minister of labor, president of the board of trade, and now chancellor of the exchequer in succession to Bonar Law. People are justified in asking: What next? For he is not yet fifty years of age. He resembles Bonar Law in one respect: he is the son of a Scottish manse. Bonar Law was a New Brunswick man.

Sir Robert was an athlete in his youth and played rugby for Glasgow University. He was said to have been making between \$5,000 and \$8,000 a year at the bar when at the outbreak of the war he threw it up to assist in recruiting. His subsequent political adventures have therefore been also made at considerable financial sacrifice. He was discovered in a sense by Sir Eric Geddes, with whom and Sir Auckland he went to school. At Watson's, Edinburgh's famous academy. When Sir Eric wanted help to organize the transport system during the war he called in his old friend. He has been progressing onwards and upwards ever since.

Sir Robert is a Conservative. Some months ago the London Times marked him out as Bonar Law's natural successor as leader of the Conservatives, but hinting that his mind was not yet made up. He is a man of progressive elements that now exist side by side within the coalition. He is sure of a notable future in British politics.

### A Priest President

THE C.P.R. once had a temporary president in the person of Rev. Father Lacombe, O.M.I., the well-known and widely respected missionary. The further west, relates George Ham in Maclean's Magazine, the arrival of the first train from Winnipeg to Calgary was the occasion. At luncheon in President Stephen's private car, at which were several directors and Father Lacombe, it was playfully suggested that in recognition of his invaluable services during the building of the road through an unknown country largely peopled by savages, the good priest should be elevated to the presidency of the C.P.R. An emergency meeting of the directors was hastily called. Mr. Stephen resigned his office, and Father Lacombe was elected in his stead. His term of office lasted exactly one hour, during which he installed Mr. Van Horne as general manager, but did not enunciate any particular policy, and gracefully retired without drawing his salary.

### Slamming in Montreal

Writing of Vice-President I. G. Ogden, "financial genius of the C.P.R.," in Maclean's Magazine, George Ham says that he has a keen appreciation of the humorous. His frequent sallies always produce laughter. One of the best he goes on, was that when, some time after the formation of the Montreal millionaire club, the Mount Royal, which led to the desertion of some of the habitués of the well-known fashionable club, the new alumnus, St. James' Club for the new attraction, one day a friend, who had been conspicuous by his absence from the St. James and presence at the Mount Royal, dropped in casually at the former, and when Mr. Ogden saw him gaily greeted him with "Hello, old man, slamming again?"

### From the Ranks

WORKHOUSE boy, pit worker, bus conductor and soldier, Captain Robert Gee, V.C. M.C., who won the Victoria Cross in East Woodwich from J. Ramsay MacDonald, has had a wonderful career, particularly as a fighting man.

After spending three years in the workhouse, he "roughed it" in the East-end, and got a job as a bus conductor at twelve shillings a week before joining the army. Rising to the rank of regimental quartermaster-sergeant, he was given a commission on the field for gallantry, subsequently winning the Victoria Cross at Cambrai.

On one occasion, finding an enemy machine-gun still in action Captain Gee, revolver in hand, and followed by only one man, rushed and captured the gun, killing eight of the crew.

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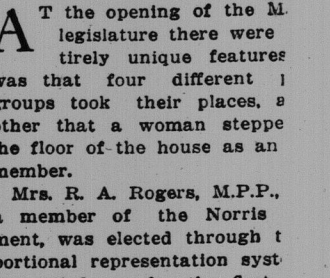
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