

DRURY THREATENS DISSOLUTION AND AN ELECTION

PREMIER VIGOROUSLY DENIES HICKS' CHARGE THAT HE HAS VIOLATED PRINCIPLES OF U. F. O. BY SEEKING ALLIANCE WITH THE LIBERALS

Wellington Hay, the Liberal Leader, Also Declares That No Arrangement With U. F. O. or Premier Exists—Drury Government Sustained by 62 to 29 on Want of Confidence Motion.

ELECTION MAY FOLLOW PARTY WHIP'S BOLT

Special to The Advertiser by a Staff Reporter.
Toronto, April 12.—The Casselman motion was voted down in the legislature at 12:35 this morning by 62 to 29 and the main motion to go into committee of supply passed on the same division, thus sustaining the government.

Conservatives voted solidly for the Casselman motion, and did four Liberals, J. C. Tolmie of Windsor; W. E. N. Sinclair, North Ontario; H. S. Cooper, Northern Ontario; A. P. McWhinney, Bruce.

Mr. Casselman was the only U. F. O. member to vote for the amendment, leaving Mr. Hicks and Fox voting with the Government.

Special to The Advertiser by a Staff Reporter.

Toronto, April 12.—Although Premier Drury refused to make a positive declaration that the legislature would dissolve, the members of parliament last night stated that the House will be dissolved within a few weeks and Ontario will have a general election. What the premier did say in his budget speech was, "I am inclined to take the position now that we will let His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor that the House be dissolved and that we go to the country."

Such a statement was accepted as a definite declaration by the opposition members and was cheered by the government supporters.

On the question of redistribution, the declared that without a majority he felt that he did not have a mandate to go on with that policy, although he spoke strongly in favor of proportional representation, which he said should at least be tried out. He denied the charge of Mr. Hicks made earlier in the day, that he had betrayed U. F. O. principles and that he had declared with the Liberal leader with a view to amalgamation of the parties. Wellington Hay, Liberal leader, emphatically denied the existence of an arrangement with the U. F. O. government. "These declarations followed a long debate on the budget, during which Andrew Hicks, the U. F. O. whip, read a statement to the effect that he could no longer follow his leader, and charged the latter with betraying U. F. O. principles. A motion of want of confidence in the government was moved by W. H. Casselman (U. F. O., Dundas) and seconded by Milton Fox, who, however, stated that he did so under a misapprehension.

The news that the U. F. O. whip had bolted, and the further development, the measure of the want of confidence motion, was moved by W. H. Casselman (Dundas), and Milton Fox (South Essex), spread like wildfire in the city. When the night session of the legislature opened, the galleries were crowded by eager, expectant people. In the recess both Conservatives and Liberals held councils, but no word as to their plan of action was given out. Mr. Fox, who seconded the motion, said the want of confidence motion, and who announced before the evening session that he would withdraw his name as second, said that he intended to remain with the U. F. O. So did Mr. Hicks, the cause of the crisis, if such it could be called. While censuring Mr. Drury, he said that he was not leaving the party, and that when he did so he would drop out of public life.

Absolute denials were made that Conservatives were appraised in advance of what was to happen.

Mr. Raney, who was the first minister to enter the chamber, came in smiling. Col. Carmichael, minister without portfolio, smoked a cigarette with nonchalant air. Mr. Premier Drury entered amid deafening thumping of the U. F. O. desks.

Mr. Fox opened the ball by saying that he signed the resolution not knowing the seriousness of the resolution and that it was a want of confidence motion. "Therefore, I ask that my name be withdrawn from that motion." (Applause.)

He understood that he could withdraw only by the unanimous consent of the house. To this the speaker agreed.

"I presented the motion to the

member," said Mr. Casselman, "and asked if it met with his approval. He would not object to the withdrawal of his name."

Regrets Failure.

"The sentiment in that resolution represents just what I think," he declared.

"He left it in the hands of the House. You can do what you like with it," he said.

The resolution regretted the failure of the government to live up to the principle which brought the government into power.

Col. Curry (South East Toronto) seconded the resolution, but the speaker ruled that as a minute had elapsed since the seceder withdrew his name, the motion stood on the order paper as a dropped motion. The attorney-general said the government was willing to have the name of Col. Curry substituted. The speaker then asked if there was any objection to Mr. Fox withdrawing, and immediately Col. Curry and Mr. Ferguson objected. Finally, the speaker ruled that unanimous consent not having been given, Mr. Fox's name must remain.

Mr. Drury arose amid a burst of applause. "In all the history of the legislature there was never a parallel case like that which arose in the House this afternoon," said he. "Never before has a member of any party chosen the House as a place to accuse any member of the House of party management of which he did not agree."

Casselman Objects.

Mr. Casselman rose to object and Mr. Drury asked the speaker that he rule that no one interrupt while he was "defending his honor on the floor of the House."

Mr. Drury referred to the ideals of the farmers, who hearing that they had been neglected, took action. They wanted to be represented by big and broad enough to be supported by others than his farmers. When representatives were elected they were not large enough to carry the government, but they found another group whose policy, it not identical, was similar. The labor movement in Ontario was something they might well be proud of. If the policy of the farmers was the land, the policy of labor was the conservation of the human being. They lay close together. What was more natural than that they should unite?

The task was accomplished in two years. There was fostered a new spirit.

For class consciousness there had to be substituted a larger thing—citizen consciousness. The government was to be the government of the interests of the whole commonwealth.

"I am glad to acknowledge to the members across the aisle the support which has helped the government to

"This afternoon I was charged of dicker. The charge is not true. (Applause.) It would be beneath me to take to the hon. gentlemen across the aisle. It would be beneath me to dicker." (Applause.)

"If any course has appealed to the gentlemen across the aisle, we will accept it. We have no quarrel with our record and our policy is here and nothing can change it."

Mr. Drury then reviewed the government finances for the last three years. "The charges against us would be serious if they were true," he said. He compared the years 1919 and 1922, before the present government took office. He said that outside expenditures for education, teachers' superannuation, mothers' allowances and such work, the present government had carried on all other work at \$60,541 less than in 1919.

Mr. Drury said the previous government's educational policy had been followed. "It is unfair that these same people whose policy we followed should come back and criticize us," said he. Speaking of the rural school expenditure, Mr. Drury said it was not a throwing away of money. "It is turned back to those who would otherwise have to pay it out of their own pockets," he pointed out. "There was half a million dollars' expenditure against us when we came in. It was camouflaged and was held against us. We had to carry it on."

Defends Expenditures.

What about the public institutions? They had increased the public institutions from \$2,695,000 in 1919, to \$3,640,000 in 1922. It was just as far away from camouflage. The salaries had increased. The number of patients had increased from 7,432 in 1919 to 8,411 in 1922. Nurses had increased from 288 to 424, and the patients were given better attention. He was not blaming the old government because nurses could not be got during the war years.

The expenditures in the feeble-minded institutions had increased from \$1,000,000 in 1919 to \$1,400,000 in 1922. It was a slight increase in the running of the industrial farms. "But we have more revenues," continued the premier. "More people are working at the institutions. More money is coming into the government."

Mr. Drury said that in the accounts of the old government appeared \$279,000 for perquisites. It was just another instance of camouflage. It represented a house, a car or something else.

Last year the government had valued these perquisites and it was put in as an added expenditure, but was it an added expenditure?

The premier also referred to the increased costs to institutions from 50 to 75 cents a day per inmate.

They don't hesitate to criticize us for the money we spend on mothers' allowances, said Mr. Drury. "But they go out and take credit in the country for mothers' allowances."

"But Mr. Speaker, politics is a queer game."

"I feel," he added, and his voice quivered. "The only good politician is the one who is credit for what he has done."

From what had been done for fatherless children at a cost of only 4-4 for a day, Mr. Drury believed that the expenditure was justified.

Mr. Drury said he felt he had

son's soldier settlement scheme

"There was a most lamentable state of affairs when we came in," he said. "My honorable friend knew everything about the north except the most essential thing, that not all men are pioneers." It was to look into the Knapewasing settlement, which had been lauded in motion pictures, that the government had formed their first royal commission, continued Mr. Drury, and read items from its report referring to heavy expenses.

"But as I said before," added the premier, "Politics is a queer game and the real politician is the only good one."

Refers to Redistribution.

"You're a good one," interjected Dr. Forbes Godfrey and there was a flurry of laughter. The premier ignored the interruption and turned his attention to the matter of provincial highways. In permanent work which he said would be good 100 years from now, between 60 and 65 per cent of that of the province had been expended, said he.

From public roads to railroads the premier jumped and proclaimed why the government backed railway development in Northern Ontario. He pictured the mines, the water powers, all the resources and pictured a coming north country of culture. He then announced the intention of the government to have built 25 miles of a steam railroad running through the River valley. This would link up with the T. & N. O. but would be under a Nipissing Central charter.

The premier then turned to the question of redistribution. The last election, he said, showed very serious conditions. There were more than 40 constituencies and there might be more than two in the coming election. They were not safe in assuming that the voters against a man in such cases were all against the candidate elected. The result of the election was that the U. F. O. elected 44 per cent of the members, the Liberals 30 per cent and the Independent Labor party 25 per cent. In the house of 111 members 49 were minority members against whom more votes were polled than there were for them. These minority members were distributed as follows:

Conservatives 15, U. F. O. 14, Liberals 14, Labor 4, and Independent Labor 2. Of the 1,167,000 votes cast there was a majority of 379,419 in favor of these elected. Nearly half the voters were opposed to the present membership of the house. In the Conservative minority ridings 34,000 more people voted against them than for them. In the U. F. O. 22,000 more, Liberals 15,000 and Labor 197. Where did this lead to? It leads to the question of whether the electoral system serves the need of the present day. It did not appear certain that they would return permanently to the two party system.

"It leads to the conclusion that if there are more than two," said Mr. Drury, "that in common justice, we must devise a system that will make sure more are not opposed than are in favor of them."

"The remedy for that condition lies in the system of the single transferable vote. It ought to be introduced to the people of the province." Proportional representation is the same system but allows for larger ridings. It does not detract from trying this system in Ontario.

"There have been serious charges made in the house this afternoon," he said.

Constitutional measures say perhaps that we should pass the bill immediately and go into the hands of the people of the country. This brought forth a roar of applause from the government benches and cries of "Now's the time." We're ready from the opposition."

The premier continued to refer to the government's actions. I haven't any sympathy for a taxation which taxes the babies in the cradle. We're not getting one cent of direct taxation from the people, said he, pointed out that no one should suffer when amusements, movies, race tracks were taxed. He closed with a declaration that the government was handling the province in the best interest of the people.

Favors Closing House.

Mr. Halcrow, at the conclusion of the premier's address, said he felt Mr. Drury has not cleared up the matter of electoral representation, and asked him to do so.

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WILL LIKELY GO TO COUNTRY.

Although Premier Drury's government was sustained by 62 to 29 in the legislature early this morning in the vote on a want of confidence motion arising out of the Hicks charges, the premier's public statement is taken as an intimation that the house will be dissolved very soon and a general election called.

son's soldier settlement scheme

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CURRY LETTER WAS ADDRESSED TO WRONG MAN

Intended for J. Walter Curry, It Goes to Col. John A. Currie.

PURELY PRIVATE
Writer, Senator Hardy, Did Not Send It as Official Communication.

Special to The Advertiser by a Staff Correspondent.

Ottawa, April 11.—The reference made in the Ontario legislature to a letter written by an Ottawa senator to a Liberal member in Ontario, but which finally found its way to the Conservative camp, brings out an interesting political story. From sources that The Advertiser correspondent believes to be reliable, the event came about in this way:

Some two weeks ago, J. Walter Curry, Liberal member for Seat A in Southeast Toronto, in the Ontario legislature, was in Ottawa. While here he had a long conversation with a Liberal senator, claimed to be the Hon. Arthur C. Hardy, of Brockville, and matters concerning the Ontario situation were discussed along with other political topics. Mr. Curry was not acting on instructions, or was not there as the representative of the Liberal party of Ontario. Neither was Senator Hardy acting for any political party.

Some days after this took place Senator Hardy is stated to have written to Mr. Curry at Toronto, and in the course of the letter he reviewed at some length much of the conversation that had taken place between them at Ottawa. He also is supposed to have added some of his own views on the subject. Reference was made to the talk that has been going around for some time about a working arrangement or an understanding of some sort between the Liberals in Ontario and the Drury party.

When the senator came to address the letter, so the story going the rounds in Ottawa tonight says, the mistake came of addressing it to J. A. Currie, Parliament Buildings, Toronto. In due time the letter was received by Col. John A. Currie, Conservative member, who has a name so much like that of the Liberal for whom it was intended. The letter has since that time, it is stated, been passed around the Ontario legislature quite freely.

Senator Hardy, it is alleged, wrote again in about a week to J. Walter Curry, as he expected a reply to his first letter. It was then that he found out that the man he intended should get the letter had never received it at all. The information was sent along to the right Mr. Curry in Toronto that there had been a letter forwarded that he should have received, and it was not until some hunting and questioning had been done that it was found that the senator's letter had fallen into the Conservative camp, and some of its contents undoubtedly passed around the House.

MAKE ALTERATION.

Special to The Advertiser.

Galt, April 12.—The dates of the Preston Flower Show have been changed to August 15th and 16th so as not to conflict with the dates of the Gladioli show at Guelph August 21 and 22.

Currie Lauds Premier.

"I said that I don't know that it belongs to you, and I will use it," said Col. Currie.

Mr. Currie said that he had no doubt as to who the house and the province would believe. "A man who does that under the criminal code is designated as a thief," he declared. "It was marked private and confidential, and I believe that the letter was for me."

He believed that if there was a man who had the confidence of the people of the province it was the Prime Minister, whom he admired for his truth and honesty. "I would rather be classed as one of his followers than as a member of the Liberal party," he said.

"How was Curry spelled?" Asked a member.

"C-u-r-r-y," replied Mr. Curry, who went on to say that the colonel was evidently a party to the Hicks revelation.

Turn to Page Five, Column Five.

CLUB MEMBERS HELD BY NEW YORK OFFICERS

Associated Press Despatch.

New York, April 12.—Three hundred men, members and guests of the Twentieth Assembly District Republican Club in Brooklyn, found one narrow door too small to pour through today to stop an exhibition dance by five women said to be too meagerly clad.

Two hundred and forty-five of the men and the five women were taken to jail.

Hicks Created Sensation In Speech Three Years Ago

The surprising action of Andrew Hicks yesterday recalls one other incident which happened in this city, when the eyes of the whole province were drawn upon him. His attitude at that time was as difficult to comprehend as his present about-face.

Following a speech at an East Middlesex U. F. O. picnic at Queen's Park, this city, in 1919, Mr. Hicks was quoted by an imaginative reporter as saying: "The amount of money which certain interests attempted to use to influence the Drury government was appalling."

Immediately the whole province was in an uproar, and in every city the papers demanded an investigation.

Mr. Hicks was besieged by reporters. At first he indignantly denied making such statement. He said the wind must have affected the reporters' hearing. But after withstanding pressure for several days he weakened, and finally confirmed the report.

Two days later he again visited the city. When asked by The Advertiser why he admitted saying such a thing when many who attended the picnic were willing to swear that he did not, he replied: "To tell you the truth, I don't think I did say it, but when they bothered me so much I got confused."

However, the whole matter ended when, on appearing before a special committee, Mr. Hicks stated that even if he had made the charges they were not true.

Erie Beach "Oil" Shipment Is Liquor Valued At \$1,700

Police Make Discovery After Consignment Had Lain At Station, Unclaimed, For Three Weeks.

Special to The Advertiser.

Chatham, April 12.—"Oil" was the label affixed to a large barrel delivered at the pavilion station at Erie Beach about three weeks ago. In that time it has stood out in the raging tempests unclaimed. A report of this particular barrel was given to the county police, so when the next patrol made its rounds it stopped at the

amusement park to take a look at the unclaimed freight.

The address "Niagara Ice Co., Erie Beach, Welland," was a puzzle, so the head of the barrel was knocked at \$1,700 was found. The contents were found to be of the very best brands and were brought to the city in the police car and shipped to Toronto.

NAME D. M'KENZIE NOVA SCOTIA JUDGE

Former House Leader of Liberal Opposition Receives Appointment.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, April 11.—Hon. D. D. McKenzie, solicitor general, was formally appointed to Nova Scotia judgeship yesterday.

The appointment of Mr. McKenzie, forecast frequently within the past few months, comes after nineteen years in the House of Commons. He was first elected to the house in 1904 and was re-elected at the general elections of 1908, 1911, 1917 and 1921. Following the death of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1919, Mr. McKenzie became house leader of the Liberal opposition and acted in that capacity till the end of the extra session of that year, when the Liberal leadership was formally taken over by Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, the present prime minister.

On the advent of the present administration following the general elections of 1921, Mr. McKenzie came solicitor general, a position he held until his present appointment to the bench.

Mr. McKenzie during his political life had the good fortune never to be defeated in an election. His appointment will entail a by-election in North Cape Breton, N. S.

MAY CUT ASSESSMENT ON AGRICULTURAL LAND

Associated Press Despatch.

London, April 12.—Sir Robert Sanders, minister of agriculture, intimated last night that a bill would be introduced in the present session to reduce the assessment on agricultural land.

It was proposed to make up the difference in revenue by an excise-quer grant.

LEADERS TO ADDRESS INSTITUTE

Special to The Advertiser.

Kawarwood, April 12.—The Women's Institute will meet at the home of Mrs. John Johnson, April 18.

The district president, Mrs. Walker of Glenora, will be present and address the meeting, and Mrs. Rev. Deibel will give a paper on "Worship and Work."

Crispest Corn Flakes

Down where the best corn is grown and known, Post Toasties are the largest selling corn flakes. Because they have more of the real corn flavor than any other corn flakes. 2 for 25c.

More full-bodied and crisper, more gratifying to the palate, more nourishing corn flakes—therefore more economical.

Post Toasties

"There's a Reason"

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