The Toronto World.

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The Conservative Policy.

Prime Minister Thompson has announced the Conservative policy in terms that cannot be misunderstood. The Government will go to the country at the next general election on the old question of protection against free trade. The last Presidential contest in the United States was not that of protection v. free trade, but rather of protection-run-mad (McKinleyism) v. reasonable protection. Moderate protection was not defeated. It was McKinleyism that was hit. McKinleyism has never got a foothold in Canada, and it requires no popular vote to kill it. The two political leaders have now announced their policies. The next election will be fought out on the same lines as characterized the celebrated contest of 1878. In that year the workings of the then propsposed policy were problematical. To-day they are a matter of history. That policy, after a 15 years run, has fully justified itself. It is the policy that will be endorsed by the people when they are called upon to decide between it and Mr. Laurier's fool policy and nation killer. We will allow Sir John Thompson to speak for himself. He says:

"Now, gentlemen, I have told you that we have admitted at the outset that the tariff requires changes, and that investigations are going forward towards that end. The public works of this country have been, perhaps, lavishly, certainly liberally, dealt with in the past, and in the immediate future there would be no great demand for the increasing of public indebtedness by the extension of those public works to any very large degree. Under those circumstances we are concluded that the time has come when the tariff may profitably be revised even to the extent of a reduction of it. I shall endeavor to show that the principles upon which it is founded, and to which I will refer to in a moment, are principles which will be extended for the benefit not only of the manufacturer and of the working classes, but of the farmer himself in an equal degree. Let me tell you that the principles upon which we propose to revise the tariff are very different from those which the Opposition lay down. They have declared as their cardinal principle that every vestige of protection must come out of the tariff. We declare it to be our policy—whether it be popular or unpopular, and we feel it would be an injury to Canada if we deserted that policy—we declare that every effort will be made which can properly be made by a tariff, to provide a home market for our people. But above all things it shall be our policy to write it upon our tariff, to write it upon every place the hand of the Government can reach, that the industries of Canada, whether manufacturing, mining, fishing or farming, are never to be at the dictation of a foreign country. We have seen it stated in the speech delivered by the Opposition leaders in the town of Newmarket the other day that if any man, an American or anyone else, came along and wanted to sell you a dollar's worth of goods for 50 cents the Government should not be allowed to prevent him doing it. We have no objection to those gentlemen being allowed to bring in their dollar's worth of goods and sell them to you for 50 cents, but we intend to take good care that when they have driven the workingmen from our soil into their own country they shall not come back and oblige you to pay one dollar and fifty cents for one dollar's worth of goods.

"I think a pretty plain issue is drawn between us, and that issue is that the feature of protection shall remain in the tariff so long as we can keep it there. Then we do not propose to agree to the Opposition program of adopting a tariff for revenue only. They tried that for five years in this country, a tariff for revenue only, and many of you, doubtless, remember that those were sad years for Canada. One thing is quite clear, that the tariff for revenue did not raise the revenue—[laughter]—and that, on an average, the then Government had an annual deficit of $2,000,000. Another thing is quite certain, that the tariff for revenue did not take down the public debt, because they increased the public debt at the rate of $8,000,000 per annum, while in all the period of the Liberal-Conservative Government since, extending over 15 years, the increase of the national debt has been only about $6,250,000, and out of that we have constructed the finest public works that any country with our population possesses. Out of that sum the Canadian Pacific Railway has been constructed, receiving something like $60,000,000 as subsidies; other railways have been constructed in every direction, the canals have been deepened and extended, the Government railways in the Lower Provinces have been carried forward and every kind of public work has been given to this country to make a complete equipment for a growing and rapidly developing nation. We do not intend to go back to their policy of tariff for revenue only, because we know that while it did not raise revenue, and while it increased the public debt for the few public works they were obliged to construct, the people were leaving this country in greater numbers than ever since and were in a more hopeless condition than I trust we shall ever see Canadian workingmen occupy again.

The Sunday Rights Association.

It is evident from the spirit animating the meeting of citizens on Wednesday night that the Sunday car advocates are still in the ring and intend remaining there. It is surprising to us how any citizen of Toronto can oppose himself to the object that the Equal Rights Sunday Observance Association seeks to attain. This object is that the people of Toronto may be permitted to enjoy the same privileges that are enjoyed by other cities and towns in Canada on Sunday. This seems to be a harmless object, but it is opposed by many citizens and by none more than the one-time leaders of the Equal Rights party.

When the time arrives for action we trust the 13,000 voters for Sunday cars will render their best assistance and sympathy to the new organization.

As for Mr. Kelly's decision to run a bus line next Sunday, we think every one will congratulate that gentleman on his pluck. But we think Mr. Kelly is making a mistake in starting the enterprise on a charitable basis. The friends of Sunday cars are not law breakers. They will neither break the law themselves nor countenance others to do so. If the law says a citizen is not to be permitted to pay a 5-cent fare for a ride in a bus down Yonge-street on Sunday, then the Sunday car people are prepared to obey that law. They do not seek to evade the law or to beat about the bush, and we would much rather have seen Mr. Kelly run his busses on an ordinary business basis, charging each passenger a fare and collecting the fares in an open and business-like way.

However, Mr. Kelly proposes to run his busses according to his own ideas. He apparently intends avoiding a brush with the police by collecting no fares. Mayor Fleming admits no one can legally interfere with Mr. Kelly in operating his busses in the way proposed.

During the interval between the present time and the day when Sunday cars will run this kind of a service will not be satisfactory. We will be able to obtain a pretty decent service so soon as it is generally understood that the law will not interfere with a man conveying passengers in a vehicle on Sunday and collecting fares from them. The World has been informed that there is no doubt as to the law. Any man can operate a bus on Sunday and collect fares without violating any law of the land. That is the opinion of a barrister who is an expert on this particular branch of the law. If the men who own horses and rigs are assured that the law is as we have stated, we imagine there will soon be an ample supply of vehicles to fill the demand for Sunday traffic. During the the winter months the traffic may be limited, but during next spring and summer (unless we have the cars sooner) there will be an immense business to take care of. There will be a regular bonanza in it for men who can get up decent rigs and run them on Sunday. In the meantime we await developments, trusting that some enterprising citizen will make a test case of collecting fares the same as on a week day.

Those who think Torontoians ought to have the rights enjoyed by other cities should join the new association, and do their best to help it along in vindicating the people's liberty.

They All Like Toronto.

Toronto has a warm place in the hearts of the people of Ontario. Every county and town and village in the province has sent its quota of visitors to our Industrihl Exhibition. They have crowded our streets during the whole of this week. They have visited the Fair, and are well pleased with everything they have seen there. They seem delighted with the city and its bustling activity, so different it is from their own quiet surroundings at home. The annual visit to Toronto in September is now one of the pleasantest events of the year that the resident of the province looks forward to. After the toil of the harvest season the farmer finds his way to the Queen City, and indulges in a few days of relaxation, amusement and profitable research. He comes to the city with a capacity for absorbing unlimited distraction. He finds a feast spread before him. He partakes of the banquet and goes home perfectly satisfied both with himself, with Toronto and everyone else. Toronto likes to see her country cousins. She enjoys their visits, and tries to make things as pleasant for them as possible. We are glad to see the relations between Ontario's metropolis and the country continue to grow closer. The receipts of the Exhibition this year will exceed those of any past year, notwithstanding the alleged widespread depression. Hard times is the last thing anyone would think of who has witnessed the tide of contented humanity that has filled the streets of Toronto during this week.

He Has Tried It.

Mr. John Anderson, Kinloss, writes: "I venture to say few, if any, have received greater benefit from the use of Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil than I have. I have used it regularly for over ten years and have recommended it to all sufferers I knew of, and they also found it of great value in cases of severe bronchitis and incipient consumption."

Winter Coming.

Furs altered and repaired at moderate prices. Satisfaction guaranteed. Ordered work a specialty. J. Harris, manufacturing furrier, 71 King-street west, Toronto, first flat over Bilton Bros.

Sunday Cars in Montreal.

Hugh Graham of The Montreal Star is at the Queen's. He visited the Fair and bought a handsome carriage team. Toronto, he says, is the place to see and buy fine horses.

"What about the report that the church people in Montreal intend to agitate for the abolition of the Sunday car service there? Will The Star assist the movement?"

"Montreal could not get along without them." I use them," said Mr. Graham.

Mrs. Martha Besant's New Treatment

Absolutely cures nervous debility, impotence and all their attendant evils. It never fails. This new medicine quickly makes itself manifest in the brightened eye, clear complexion, vivacious spirits, increased bodily strength and general feeling of buoyant health and vigor. Circular free. Weak men and women should write confidentially to Mrs. Martha Besant, Toronto. 5

It Still Leads.

Among the many exhibits that attract the attention of the merchants is that of the National Cash Registers. This machine has been before the public for the past 10 years, and from the increased demand they are meeting the approval they so justly deserve. The exhibit that is shown by this company is on the ground floor of the Main Building, at the western entrance, and should be seen by all parties visiting the Fair. The exhibit consists of several improved machines specially perfected for the World's Fair, at which place this firm has several hundred machines in daily operation. City office 63 King-street west. e

Mr. T. J. Humes, Columbus, Ohio, writes: "I have been afflicted for some time with Kidney and Liver Complaint, and find Parmelee's Pills the best medicine for these diseases. These Pills do not cause pain or griping, and should be used when a cathartic is required. They are Gelatine Coated and rolled in the Flour of Licorice to preserve their purity and give them a pleasant, agreeable taste.

To Columbian Exposition

Via the Wabash vestibuled trains running to Chicago every day in the year, are the finest known to the railway service. They are complete and solid vestibuled from end to end, the entire train being a moving palace of connected apartments. All Wabash trains stop at Englewood, near 60th-street entrance to the World's Fair; electric cars direct to grounds every five minutes. Get your tickets via Detroit and the banner route. J. A. Richardson, Canadian Passenger Agent, northeast corner King and Yonge-streets, Toronto. e

"Go to Sleep," sure cure for sleeplessness, nervousness and headache. "Contains no Narcotics," gives sweet refreshing sleep in every case. This splendid sedative is especially efficacious in cases of insomnia from overwork, excitement or alcoholic excess. Guaranteed safe, sure and effectual. In bottles 25c at all drug stores.

MANY VISITORS AT THE FAIR

SIR RICHARD WEBSTER ENTERTAINED AT LUNCHEON.

The Ex-Attorney-General on the Behring Sea Arbitration—Canada Can Always Depend on England's Help So Long as She Has Justice on Her Side—The War Minister on the Cattle Embargo.

From 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. citizens and visitors flocked to the Fair Grounds. In the evening the grand stand and the lawn were literally packed. It is safe to say that the crowd was the largest that has ever been in the grounds after sun-down.

The principle feature of the day was the visit of Sir Richard Webster, Attorney-General under the late Salisbury Government, to the grounds. He arrived their at 11.30 under the espionage of Ald. Saunders. He visited a number of the departments and wound up with the C. P. R.'s exhibit of the products of the great Northwest. He spent more time in inspecting this show than any of the others. To a World reporter he expressed his delight at what he called the wonderful resources of this wonderful country. He was very much taken with the samples of barley and grain, on which he is well posted. The black barley is new to him, and he examined it with a great deal of curiosity.

The Luncheon.

In the afternoon the management of the Exhibition banqueted Sir Richard. The president, Mr. Withrow, occupied the chair, and in a few graceful words introduced the guest of the hour.

Sir Richard said he was much pleased with what he had seen in America. He felt that all men in political power in the Mother Country should visit Canada that they might learn to realize what a country we possess, what a people we are and to enter into our feelings and thus know how true they are to the Mother Land. He hoped to be able to pay some attention to the agricultural exhibit at the Fair, since he took a great interest in this line of exhibit, having had some little experience in farming and cattle. Referring to the recent Behring Sea arbitration, he said that so long as Canada's cause continued to be the cause of justice she would always be able to count on the support of Great Britain. As one of the recent members of the above-mentioned arbitration, he felt that England's aim was to be simply just and fair in all her dealings.

The War Minister.

Hon. J. C. Patterson, Minister of Militia, had visited the Exhibition privately and had seen 75,000 well-dressed, well-behaved people gathered together from the ends of Canada. In no country that he had been in had he seen a better class of people. After a striking panegyric on the extent and resources of Canada he turned his attention to the cattle embargo and said the people of Canada expected justice from Great Britain, and he hoped that Sir Richard's influence might help to remove this iniquitous cattle embargo, which the people of Canada feel very much and which they considered as an injustice. Referring to the Exhibition, he said that the Government was willing to do all in its power to further the interests of Canada's great Fair, the annual treat of the people of the country.

Farmer-General Dryden, who has just returned from the Chicago Exhibition, said that it gave him much pleasure to say that in open competion with the world Canada had taken first place in more than one department. In her exhibit of cheese, grain, vegetables and fruit she stood easily first. The World's Fair was a good thing in that it showed the relative worth of peoples. The cause of Canada's great success at Chicago was not far to seek. Her people are intelligent and full of pluck and enterprise, and the Provincial Fair has taught them the value of that true competition which gives birth to a disire to excel in all things. That Canada can hold her own anywhere is the verdict of those who visited her exhibits at the World's Fair.

A Visitor From Asia Minor.

Mr. Socrotes Leferiades, a Greek wholesale exporter from Smyrna, Asia Minior, who had taken in the city and the Exhibition on his way home from the United States, spoke in very broken English.

He had spent some time studying the various exhibits at the World's Fair, and his observations had led him to believe that Canada's motto was forward and ever forward. He had a great love for England and consequently for Canada. He would therefore ask the assembly to drink the health of both countries, which was done with a right good will.

Dr. Smith, V.S., president of the Ontario Veterinary College, said that from examinations that he had made, he felt sure that no contagious disease existed among Canadian cattle.

Mr. Weir of Scotland, one of the judges on Clydesdales at the Chicago Fair, said that Canada's fair is ahead of that of any city of the size of Toronto in Great Britain.

Mr. McCrea suggested that it was now time that the judging of cattle should have some system, and proceeded to outline one which he thought might work well. The president assured the speaker that next year would see his suggestions in part at least carried into effect.

After luncheon Sir Richard visited the live stock and dog show, where he was again impressed with the greatness of Canada. He spent a short time in the grand stand, and left the grounds about 4 o'clock.

A GRAND SHOW OF HORSES.

All the Prizes Awarded Yesterday—Maud Jumps 6 Feet 3 Inches.

It was late yesterday afternoon when the judges completed their work in the horse ring and the final prizes had been awarded. Such a show of horses has never before been seen in Toronto, the greatest improvement being among the saddle horses, though all classes, with the exception of the thoroughbreds, were superior to other years. The ladies' saddle horses, together with the best saddle, hunter or ladies' horse combined, and high jumping competition brought the judging in this class to a close and were decided yesterday. Upwards of 20 put in an appearance to try for honors in the ladies' saddle class, and after half of these had been weeded out the contest was keen. The first prize was finally awarded to Grenside & McGibbon's chestnut mare Neoli, by Orange Boy, the Westminster Stables' brown mare Music, which was most fancied by horsemen, getting second and her stable companion Sweet Briar third. Grenside & McGibbon's chestnut gelding, The Wizard, was given fourth prize. They were an exceptionally good quartet and worthy of the highest honors. A good-looking bay mare by Watchman was evidently overlooked by the judges as she was certainly entitled to a share of the spoils.

For the best saddle, hunter or ladies' horse, first prize winners only being eligible to compete, brought out Messrs. Grenside & McGibbon's chestnut gelding Kalee, winner in the gentlemen's saddle class, Lady Rosebery, winner in the lightweight hunters', and Neoli, winner in the ladies' saddle horses, and Robert Kilgour's brown mare by Orange Boy. The competition was really a duel between Kalee and Mr. Kilgour's mare, the former securing the verdict, though the daughter of Orange Boy was thought by many to be the better of the two.

The high jump came next and aroused considerable enthusiasm. There were six competitors in all, and the bar was placed at 4 feet 6 inches as a starter. Maud, The Dude and Top Gallant, all the property of George Pepper, cleared at the first attempt, as did Dr. Campbell's Glenora, her stable companion, a good-looking bay mare by Watchman and Lowes Bros.' Kenilworth, failing after several attempts. The bar was raised to 4 feet 9 in. at which Neight Maud and The Dude cleared at the first attempt, Glenora and Top Gallant requiring two trials to get over. At five feet Glenora, Maud and The Dude negotiated safely on the first effort, and then The Dude was retired, leaving Maud and Glenora to fight it out. The pair cleared 5 feet 4½ inches at the next attempt, and the bar was then placed at 5 feet 8½ inches, which Glenora cleared at the first trial, Maud requiring a second trial to accomplish the feat. At 5 feet 11½ inches Glenora failed after three unsuccessful attempts and Maud cleared the big obstacle on her third trial, thus capturing the prize, Glenora getting second, The Dude third and Top Gallant fourth. Maud was ridden by Hugh Wilson, while Glenora was piloted by Reginald English. Maud was given a further trial and at the fifth attempt cleared 6 feet 3 inches amid great applause.

Other Prize-Winners.

Of the other classes the Hackneys were an exceptionally good lot, R. Beith & Co.'s 3-year-old Ottawa being especially fine. The same owners carried off first prize with Jubilee Chief for stallions four years old and upwards, while A. G. Ramsay of Hamilton secured second with Courier. The principal exhibitors in this class were R. Beith & Co., Bowmanville; Graham Bros., Claremont, Hillhurst Farm, Hillhurst, Que., and George Hastings, Deer Park, and nearly all the prizes went to the above owners. For pair matched high steppers, Douglas Grand secured the red ticket with a pair of chestnuts named Poem and Dream, while the Hillhurst Farm carried off first honors for single horse high stepper with the imported Miss Baker, an unusually fine cut. Mr. Adam Beck's Westminster Belle secured second and D. H. Grand's Poem third.

The carriage horses showed vast improvement over last year, both in number and quality. Of course the most important award in this class was for the best stallion 4 years old and upwards, the red ticket going to Thomas Irving of Winchester, who showed Igmanthrope Forester II., a son of Baron Rothsay and Prince Arthur, by Prince Victor, dam Countess of Wilton, the latter getting first and the former third, A. C. McWilliam of Erin securing second with Shining Light, by Wonderful Boy. Prince Arthur was also awarded the medal for best stallion of any age. The 2-year-old fillies and geldings were an exceptionally good lot and worthy of the class they represented. The single carriage horses in harness were not quite up to the mark. For horses 15¾ hands to 16½ hands Lawrence & Johnson secured first prize, while Charles Brown captured a like honor for horses not less than 16½ hands with a good-looking chestnut.

The general purposes horses were one of the smallest class in point of numbers exhibited at the Fair, though they were not lacking in quality. J. L. Clark of Brampton was the largest exhibitor and carried off several prizes, A. Dolson of Alloa also capturing a good share of the honors.

The entry in the Clydesdale class was very large, and surpassed last year both as to quality and quantity. As usual, Graham Bros. of Claremont were the largest contributors to the class and secured the lion's share of the prizes. D. & O. Sorby of Guelph, Robert Davies, Todmorden, and J. J. Davidson & Son, Balsam, were also well represented and captured a fair share of the tickets.

The heavy draught horses were not so numerous, but they were a good lot. William Foster & Son of the Humber were the most successful exhibitors.

The Suffolk Punch horses were almost extinct, there being only four entries in the entire class, of which Mossom, Boyd & Co. of Bobcaygeon had three and J. H. Strong of Winchester the other, the latter capturing first prize with Captain William beating Duke of Thorndale for stallions 3 years old and upwards. Mossom, Boyd & Co. had the only two entries for mares, 3 years old and upward, and these, with the two stallions mentioned, comprised the exhibit of Suffolk Punches.

Manitoba's Grain Fields.

Manitoba is attracting widespread attention, and will attract still greater attention in the very near future, and the reason of this is because of its fields of grain—grain the finest in the world, wheat the hardest, wheat which produces flour the strongest, and by flour the strongest is meant that quality which, owing to its inherent virtues, produces the greatest amount of bread from the least amount of wheat. It is because of her wheat fields that Sir George Stephen and all those enterprising men who first established the Canadian Pacific risked millions in that enterprise. It is because of the wheat fields of Manitoba and the provinces beyond that Mr. Van Horne bases his conviction of the greatness of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and it is these wheat fields which are the source of that wonderful energy which he is displaying in the development of that country. It is not because the C.P.R. is a great trans-continental road, although that is one great reason of its existence, but the primary reason of its existence and the primary reason for all the energy which has been displayed in the development of that country is its wonderful wheat fields. The immense prairie country through which the Canadian Pacific runs was established and designed by Providence for the growth of millions and millions of bushels of the finest wheat in the world, and it is because these prairies are to be the homes of millions of successful farmers, and that this road will be the highway by which the products of these fields will reach the markets of the world that the C.P.R. is now realizing magnificent results and looks for still greater results. Having the faith in the country that they have they are taking every means to bring its resources before the farmers of Ontario, and those who desire to seek new homes under more favorable auspices. For this reason they have gathered together that magnificent display of grain grown in the Northwest at the Canadian Pacific Building on the Fair Grounds. On the walls, on the tables and all about the building there is nothing but grain—grain the finest and best in the world. The attentive agents of the company are there to exhibit these products and give intending settlers the fullest information in regard to the country, in regard to its productions and the means for obtaining splendid farms in this great growing country for almost nothing. The C. P. R. is convinced, and has long been convinced, of the value of these great grain fields of the Northwest, and they are determined to rapidly place settlers upon them. Any man of ordinary energy and common courage can go up there and take up land with the surety of being independent and well-to-do within three or four years. From his very first crop his circumstances began to improve. He can combine dairy farming with grain growing, and there is a splendid field for the stock raiser as well. Whoever is inclined to be independent, whoever wishes to own and till his own acres, ought to visit this collection of the products of Manitoba, and ought to ascertain the easy and generous terms on which he may become a wheat baron of the great Northwest of Canada. Mr. Callaway and his staff of assistants are there for the very purpose of enlightening the inquirer in regard to the farm lands of the Northwest.

Harry Webb's Dining Hall.

Although Harry Webb's dining hall and lunch counter was well crowded yesterday, he still has ample facilities to feed everyone in comfort. After having their meal the crowd came away well satisfied with the prompt attention and excellent fare they had received.

Common-Sense Ear Drum.

Wilson's Common-Sense Ear Drums are the most simple, and at the same time the

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ADVANCED PROHIBITIONISTS.

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if he would repudiate the action he did not answer.

He had voted for a plebiscite because the people wanted it. He had received a lot of requests from his riding to that effect, but very few had written about the Marter bill. He thought it unfair to ask the Government to pass legislation until they knew the public sentiment, and this the plebiscite would show. He concluded by again warning the people against being taken in by the pledge-signing business.

Mr. Stark, Reeve of Derby, followed. He had always been a Reformer and voted for Cleland at the last election. But he was sick and tired of this everlasting delay. The aim of the politicians seemed to be simply to stave the prohibition question off as long as possible, and he would use his influence to force the question to an issue. His sympathy, his prejudices were with the Mowat Government, but he had signed the covenant of the advanced prohibitionists nevertheless, and if Mr. Cleland did not do the same he would never get another vote from him. Though there might be other political questions he would like Mr. Cleland to name one which had the importance of an issue in the coming election unless manufactured especially for the occasion. If ever there was a good opportunity of making prohibition an issue that time was the present. If the Mowat Government had not the authority to adopt prohibition, they were certainly not forced to license the traffic and give it the sanction of law.

Mr. Buchanan Reviews the Situation.

Mr. W. W. Buchanan of The Hamilton Templar was the last speaker, and although introduced at the advanced hour of 10.30, was listened to throughout with attention. He regretted Mr. Cleland's assumption that the Mowat Government was going to be attacked. It was not customary at meetings of this kind for speakers to make general attacks upon the provincial or general administration. They came together only as earnest prohibitionists, anxious to discover the best methods of co-operation, and that they might press their question to an issue. As Mr. Cleland had said, that question was now fairly in politics, and it was as a political question that he would discuss it. He showed up in a good-natured, but rather sarcastic, manner some of Mr. Cleland's sophistries and arguments. He had illustrated in his own address the greatest difficulty in the way of political progress under existing conditions. He had declared himself to be "a temperance man, to want the temperance vote, but he also appreciated the liquor men and wanted their vote, too." So long as politicians and members of Parliament were thus permitted to straddle the fence no progress could be expected. The first duty of the prohibition electors was to change that condition by forcing political candidates to either one side or the other, and to be elected either by the vote of the prohibitionists or that of the liquor men.

Mr. Buchanan went into the philosophy of our system of government at some length, and pointed out that what Prohibitionists wanted was not a prohibitory law, but new conditions. The law would be appreciated as a means to an end. No matter how good the law on the statute book it could not bring a new and better condition unless enforced. He recognized the fact that the Government included two important functions—the legislative and the administrative, and that the only condition under which we could secure a proper performance of both these functions was through the election of a Government not only of good men and Prohibitionists but a Government elected by the votes of good men and Prohibitionists.

License Not Productive of Sobriety.

He differed with Mr. Cleland with respect to the administration of the license law. The men who compiled the license law might have been actuated by good motives. But 20 years experience with the law had shown that so far from promoting sobriety it had actually developed the business, not only as a business speculation, but as a political force. The law was very badly administered. Wherever there was a strong pro-liquor sentiment the law was not enforced, because a strict enforcement would drive their supporters out of the party, and defeat that party at the elections. A loose and scandalous enforcement was therefore unavoidable. If a small proportion of the Reform party could so influence the Government and the License Commissioners, the only way to secure a proper enforcement was to drive these men from the party, and to fill their places by those who were favourable to a proper administration. He contended that the liquor question could not be settled in Canada until the people were divided upon it as an issue, and until the political leaders took sides for or against it, and the Government was elected by Prohibitionists to make and properly administer the law. The proper course for the Prohibition party therefore was to refuse to cast their ballots along with pro-liquor men; to refuse to support candidates who also sought the support of the liquor men, and to force these candidates to either openly espouse or oppose the proposition for prohibition.

Every Candidate Should Take a Stand.

This question ought to be carried into the election, both of members of the Assembly and members for the Commons. So far as the Assembly was concerned, he agreed that there had never been a better opportunity for forcing the issue into politics.

He admitted that Mr. Cleland was right in stating that there were other questions to be considered in politics, but that gentleman entirely misunderstood the desire of the advanced Prohibitionists if he thought that they intended to confine any candidate to one single plank. They were prepared to give them the utmost freedom to discuss any and all questions of public import. They simply wanted to know what they would do with that particular question. If they criticized very severely the administration of either the Provincial or Dominion Government, or the inconsistency of individual politicians, they did it not because of any bitterness in their hearts, or a desire to be captious or cranky. But they did it because it was the only method that would draw public attention to the question and make it an issue.

The extreme sensitiveness shown by Mr. Cleland and by other representatives in both Houses proved that this fire of criticism was not without effect. It was forcing those gentlemen to study the question and to speak, even if they had nothing better to do than to apologize for the Government they represented. Mr. Cleland had fired a hot shot at the Hon. George E. Foster, and although he (the speaker) was not there to make any apologies for Mr. Foster, who, he was certain had not done all he should have done for the temperance question, yet he was prepared to say that the Minister of Finance was a consistent politician from a party standpoint, because he stood by the party which he was elected to support, just as Mr. Cleland had been.

The speaker referred to the extra license granted at Owen Sound, and thought that the law seemed always to be twisted in favor of those who lived upon the vices of the people rather than in an effort to promote sobriety. Their action in this case was a fair sample of the position of the Government in the whole of this business. There might be a doubt as to whether the Government possessed the power to utterly prohibit the manufacture and sale of strong drink, but it was quite clear that they were not compelled to authorize anybody to sell it and that they were able to punish any citizen who sold it without such license authorization.

The Marter Bill.

It was very unfair in Mr. Cleland to object to Mr. Marter's bill because it did not go far enough. The bill did not propose to prohibit the manufacture of drink because there was a doubt as to the power of the province. It was a practical measure, and made to do just what the Government has authority to do, namely, to stop the granting of licenses to men to sell strong drink, and to punish those who attempted its sale without a license. There could be no doubt about the authority of the province to do this thing. He believed Mr. Marter had been actuated by the best of motives. He introduced it not as a party measure but as a private bill. Its adoption would have been the greatest possible blessing to the people of the province, and would have at one stroke severed the partnership which now existed between the Government and the sale of drink. The first convention held to endorse the plebiscite was made up of devoted Reformers, and yet even at that meeting there was not a dissenting voice in the matter of endorsing Mr. Marter's bill. At the great temperance convention held in April, and made up largely of Mr. Mowat's political supporters, right in the face of the action in the House, when both the plebiscite and the Marter bill were before it, this convention had endorsed Mr. Marter's bill, so far as he knew, without a dissenting voice, and had moreover refused to give any endorsation to the plebiscite.

Mr. Cleland might have represented his own views, and he might think he was a temperance man, but in opposing Mr. Marter's bill and supporting the plebiscite he did not express the views of the temperance people of the province. The Mowat Government had opposed the Marter bill and offered the plebiscite as a substitute, he believed, simply because they did not want this question to become an issue. They did not want to lose the liquor support, and wanted to postpone the time when they would have to take a definite position on the question.

He denied that the Mowat Administration had been making any reasonable progress towards prohibition either in law or administration. A number of the cities of the province where temperance sentiment was supposed to be at its weakest had gone a great deal further than the Crooks' Act, and reduced the number of persons who could take out a license from 1 in 400 to 1 in 1200 and 1 in 900, though the Mowat Government had taken no step in the direction of establishing a law to reduce the number of licenses. Mr. Cleland claimed there had been a reduction, but the credit of that was due to the action of municipalities and not to the legislation of the Government. It was not forgotten either that only a couple of sessions ago Mr. Mowat himself had endorsed the proposition to grant licenses to railway trains, but owing to the strong temperance sentiment of his supporters in the House he was not able to carry the bill through.

He made no attack upon Sir Oliver's motives, because he believed he desired to promote sobriety, but he was not judging him by his opinions or desires but by his laws and administration. Although he, the speaker, had always been a Reformer and was to-day an admirer of Sir Oliver's, he was free to say that he was utterly dissatisfied with this phase of the administration and was not prepared to accept Mr. Cleland's statement that the Government was promoting the interests of prohibition.

The Scott Act.

With respect to the Scott Act, he pointed out that Mr. Cleland had given them the best possible pointer when he said that the act had failed because the temperance people could not elect municipal councils which would enforce it.

Mr. Cleland had also advocated the principle of trying to make the people believe they could settle the question by voting for the plebiscite. The aim of the Prohibitionists was and should be to vote, not only for the plebiscite, but to vote for members to the Legislative Assembly who would make and enforce the right kind of laws. In the party caucus the question was one only of expediency, and the man was chosen, not for principle, but because he could get the most votes.

The speaker concluded with an able exposition of the economic sides of the question.

At the close of the meeting a Prohibition Club was formed and delegates elected to attend the county convention at Owen Somnd, to be held on Saturday, when candidates will be nominated for the Prohibition party.

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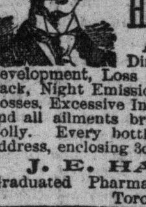

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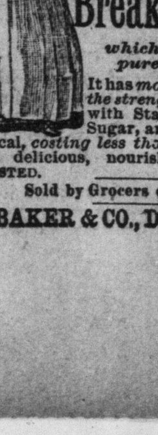

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