

The Toronto World

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MONDAY MORNING, DEC. 29.

The Aldermanic Candidates.

In the election of the aldermen for the new council, one thing is kept in view is the necessity of having a council which will have some harmony in itself, some ability to agree upon policies, and some concord in action so as to carry them out. One or two irreconcilables in a council obstruct and delay business to a disastrous extent, and in any ordinary business are got rid of as soon as possible. Some citizens appear to regard it as a recommendation that their favorite representatives have the power to obstruct and hold up business for months at a time.

In looking over the candidates this year, we are impressed with the necessity for new blood, as well as the advantage of preserving the best representatives of the past. If Mayor Church is re-elected, and there is not a doubt of it, to judge by the tactics resorted to by The Star, it is no service to Toronto to elect a number of obstructives who will try to delay or upset whatever he proposes. With Messrs. Maguire and Ball on the board of control with Mayor Church, and a business-like set of aldermen, much progress could be made in reconstruction work in the city this year.

It is freely admitted that labor should be and must be well represented on the council in this and succeeding years. Lack of representation on governing bodies is now recognized in Britain as the cause of most of the industrial unrest. The official labor ticket is certain to supply a number of representatives to the council next year, and citizens should note these names in making their choice. Besides Mr. Ballantyne for mayor and Mr. Simpson for controller, the labor candidates for the aldermanic seats are: W. J. Storey, ward one; H. Hine, ward two; William Stephenson, ward three; Lewis Legrow, ward four; William B. Hunter, ward five; A. L. Gadsby, ward six; George Bond, ward seven; Walter Brown, ward eight.

Of those who are nominated to represent other interests. In ward one Ald. Hiltz has an excellent record. Ald. Honeyford is probably next in merit, though he has been parochial in his treatment of questions like those arising in North Toronto. It is not the duty of an alderman to consider his own ward alone, but the interests of the whole city.

In ward two, Ald. Winnett should be re-elected, and Clara Brett Martin, whose long experience as a barrister and on the school board qualifies her for service, should be voted for.

In ward three, ex-Ald. Burgess happily returns to his old ambitions and should be the first choice, and Mrs. Hamilton should be given a place on the new council.

In ward four, Ald. Cowan and Nesbitt will certainly be returned by a discriminating constituency, while George Castle has made many progressive proposals.

In ward five, James Phinimore is an excellent candidate, and Ald. Flewman, the erratic, has good principles.

In ward six, Ald. Sykes and MacGregor have done good service this year and merit re-election. Earl Hodgson is a promising candidate.

In ward seven, Ald. Ryding and Whetter will not fail of re-election. E. A. Dalton is the best of the new candidates.

In ward eight, Ald. Miskelly has been an excellent representative and may have Francis R. Maxwell for a partner.

The Drury Government and the Patronage Evil.

The much-heralded uproar over the promotion of Miss Minnie V. Walker to the position of Middlesex county registrar has been down in the last analysis to a tempest in a teapot. Most of the uproaring seems to come from Harold Currie, prominent U.F.O. supporter in Middlesex, who wanted the plum himself. Premier Drury's letter to Mr. Currie seems to make it plain beyond question that the latter was a candidate for the position to which Miss Walker was promoted.

It also appears plain that negotiations were on foot to open the riding of West Middlesex for Hon. Manning Doherty, the minister of agriculture, who has still to secure a seat in the legislature. No doubt the deal was to give J. G. Lethbridge, the sitting member, the vacant registrarship, and thus open the seat for Mr. Doherty's benefit. Something slipped, however—possibly Mr. Drury refused to carry out the deal—and there is chagrin and disappointment in certain quarters.

Many of the newspapers have sought to magnify this Middlesex affair into a provincial crisis. They have represented the United Farmers of Ontario as so hungry for office and so devoted to the spoils system as to be willing to throw away the fruits of their recent spectacular victory and

wreck the Drury government. No evidence, however, bears out this contention. The farmers all over the province appear to be standing by the Drury government and to be opposed to the spoils system. Even Mr. Lethbridge, M.L.A. for West Middlesex, says the appointment meets with his approval and with the approval of his constituents.

However, Mr. Drury will have to do one of two things if he is to rid the province of the patronage evil. He must either decentralize the system of appointment so as to make these county officials subject to election by the people of their districts, as are the officials of municipalities, or he must bring down legislation to establish the merit system and place its administration under an independent board like the civil service commission at Ottawa. But, in the meantime, his government can only work with the tools provided for them. They must fill these positions like county registrars upon their responsibility to the people by selecting in every case the best qualified man or woman for the job, and by recognizing in all proper cases the excellent principle of promotion.

A Fair "Divvy" With Assistants.

Enough has come out in the discussion of the Middlesex county registrarship to suggest that Premier Drury see that provincial or municipal officials who are paid by fees make reasonably fair division with the assistants that they have to employ. The system of fees for officials is questionable.

CANADIAN WHEAT ALREADY EXPORTED

Two-Thirds of Surplus Crop to United States and Abroad.

Ottawa, Dec. 28.—About two-thirds of the exportable surplus of the Canadian wheat crop has already been sold and exported thru the medium of the Canada wheat board, the sole purchasing agency of the government. The total is variously calculated from twenty-five to a hundred million bushels, the quantity in the hands of the farmers not being known exactly. While no definite figures have been received here from the wheat board, which is given a free hand, a fair proportion of the supply is moving to the United States since the embargo was lifted. A primary consideration, however, is the need of Canadian millers for wheat for milling not only of flour, but also of by-products needed in stock-raising. The removal of the embargo to the States does not detract from the authority of the wheat board, which will continue as the buying and selling agency, tho its market is now extended.

All the receipts are to be pooled. Whether the wheat has already been contracted for or is still in the hands of the farmers, that part of it intended for export must be sold by and thru the wheat board, and being thenceforward up to November 30th, a total of 48,373,315 bushels at \$110,153,303 has been sent abroad. The principal purchasers and the value were as follows:

Bushels.	Value.
Great Britain	\$7,188,248
United States	9,311,154
France	3,073,916
Greece	2,666,640
Italy	1,131,820
Belgium	1,730,374
Gibraltar	1,659,484
Rumania	445,353
	107,593

What About the Union Station?

(From The Toronto Sunday World.)
How soon will the new Union Station be ready for use? This is a most important question for decision by the board of management that will practically take over the Grand Trunk Railway system in about two weeks. It concerns the comfort of more Toronto citizens and visitors than anything else that will be before the board.

The station could have been finished long ago, it will be impossible to run trains into it before early next summer. If its operation is to await completion of the viaduct, the public may have to put up with the present barn for two and perhaps three years.

The C. P. and the Grand Trunk, who own the station, would prefer to run trains on the present level. Grand Trunk nationalization gives to public ownership the majority interest in the station, for the old Grand Trunk, the old Canadian Northern, and the post office (which owns one-third of the building), make a very much bigger combination than the Canadian Pacific.

Everything waits upon the co-ordination of the Grand Trunk and Canadian National; but Toronto ought soon to know whether the great structure on Front street is to be a public utility or a Temple of Delay.

Youth From Near Silver Hill In Jail a Year for Motor Theft

Simcoe, Ont., Dec. 27.—Frank Morris, a 19 year old lad from near Silver Hill, Norfolk County was this afternoon sentenced to one year in Burwash on a charge of stealing an automobile to which he pleaded guilty. The car was found in a garage near Silver Hill, certain parts being found in the Ford garage, Simcoe.

Many authorities even so well informed as The Winnipeg Free Press take it for granted that the Union government will either blow up at the coming session or emerge as the head of a definite political party. They also assume that events might develop at the coming session so as to bring on an early

election. The Ottawa idea is that nothing will happen, but that the members will draw their pay and get home as quickly as possible. The Free Press insists that the first duty of parliament will be to pass a franchise act, altho in the same column it practically admits that the attempt to do so would wreck the government. Hon. Arthur Meighen is quoted as saying that no election act will be introduced this session because to do so would be to practically announce an election. The Free Press, however, believes the act must be passed, and in this connection says:

It may well be that matters may develop into a deadlock from which the only escape will be by an appeal to the people; and with this as a possibility the first business of the government should be to provide the machinery for holding an election. At this moment there are no means for holding an election, no matter how urgent might be the need for consulting the people. That is not a position in which the country should be left in times like these, when the future is unpredictable. The framing of a franchise act will prove, under present conditions, a very ticklish business. There have been many to predict that when the Union government makes the attempt it will be destroyed by internal dissensions. But a franchise act the country must have.

The general impression seems to be that the acting premier will pussyfoot along as feebly as possible while Sir Robert Borden is gone, or until the time comes to choose his successor.

The Ottawa Journal, however, wants a strong man who will make a progressive leader of the government and have a free hand. Quite possibly The Journal, of the corner of his eye, sees Hon. Arthur Meighen, who, if he once became acting premier, would possibly become leader later on.

John Stevenson contributes to The Farmers' Sun a pretty review of the recent political crisis. He refers to Sir Robert Borden as the Sara Bernhardt of Canadian politics, because he is always about to retire but never does. He says that Sir Robert Borden wanted to name Hon. J. A. Calder as his successor, but that the publicity given to the forthcoming resignation of the premier made this impossible. Then, according to The Sun correspondent, Hon. Arthur Meighen became a leading candidate for the premiership, but was thwarted by a combination between Calder and Rowell, and some of the older Tory members of the government.

The whole situation at Ottawa hinges on the temper of the house. If the members of the house are willing to postpone all legislation for another nine or twelve months, the session can be hurried thru without difficulty, and the government can carry on until it becomes necessary to meet parliament again in 1921. On the other hand, if parliament reflects what seems to be the discontent of the country, the government may find a number of its former supporters on the cross benches, and a number of cross-benchers frankly on the side of the opposition. In some way or another, the tariff question will be brought up and the defection of western members from the government ranks will be greater than last year. Still there is a feeling in many quarters that neither the government nor the official opposition would dare risk an election at this time, and therefore, are jointly willing to keep the lid on and at tight. The test of strength will come when independent members of the house insist upon the machinery being provided for a general election. If the government can defeat a proposal of that kind it will be smooth sailing the rest of the way, but if it is compelled to embark upon the chise act, no one can tell what may happen at the coming session.

THE BREAK IN THE DYKE



THE OLD LADY: Ye're a nice wee hero o' moral Haarlem! Why didna' ye pit yer finger in the hole?

THE COMING SESSION AND OTTAWA SITUATION

(From The Toronto Sunday World.)
The Ottawa correspondents tell us that parliament will convene on the 13th or 24th of February. This probably means sometime in March as there is always a delay at the last moment. Moreover it is desired to have the session open in the new parliament building not yet finished. Then, rather inconsequently, it is added that the session is being called thus "early" to meet the demands of the members for an early and quick session to be over in May.

There is much talk of the "round robin" signed at the last session, which requested the government to summon parliament in January and get thru by May. It was the sort of round robin, however, for which few precedents can be found. If one of the parliamentary crew had been taken up on a charge of mutiny he might have shown without much difficulty that the round robin originated in the office of the first mate. The fact is that at that time it was thought desirable that the session should be finished in time to permit the prime minister to take part in the imperial conference early in June.

But instead of meeting the first of January, parliament is to meet about the first of March. None the less the members are to be shipped back home before the 24th May. This would mean a ten week session, and one of the shortest in Canadian history. The government may be short as possible a session of ten minutes would suit them down to the ground. Yet the impression goes forth that it is the members who are unwilling to work and who want to draw their indemnities and go home without attending to the business of the country. Not much can be done in ten weeks; the debate on the address takes half that time. The outlook would therefore be to postpone all important legislation including the session down to a mere few weeks of routine it will make little difference who leads the house. Yet there is a good deal of pulling and tugging for the acting-premiership, which some people think carries the right of succession. Sir Robert is still in Ottawa and no announcement as to his plans for the future is forthcoming. It is taken for granted, however, that he will go south and re-think there until spring. Just what authority his deputy will have in his absence remains to be seen.

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MOONLIGHT AND MONEY

BY MARION RUBINCAM

A QUARREL

CHAPTER 73.

The sweeter a woman's nature is, the bitterer she becomes when she is finally roused. It is like that strength of the weak-willed—stubbornness. The strong-willed woman can be moved by logic, the weak-willed cannot be budged an inch from one stubborn attitude. The sweet little woman will yield and yield—she will make sacrifice after sacrifice; but when she turns, there are no lengths to which her bitterness will not carry her.

Thus was Louise. She had endured real hardships, as well as many wrongs she merely fancied, and she had kept her sweetness and her softness. True enough, she had run away when the situation became unbearable, but there was no anger in her action. And she had never turned against Harry, had never accused him even in her thoughts.

For a week after the baby's death she lay in bed, while June poured all its glory out of doors in blue skies and golden weather. When the nurse wanted to put her in a wheel chair and take her to the yard she shook her head with a simple, "No thanks, I'm too tired to move." When visitors came, she sent word she was too ill to see anyone, even the Dr. Drake assured her that a few short calls from friends would do her good. "Tell them I'm asleep," were her directions to the solicitous Anne, when intimate friends like Carol and Elsie were calling.

She never refused to see her father, but lay for hours with her hand in his, talking little, and never mentioning the baby's name. But her changing attitude showed more plainly towards Harry than anyone. Before breakfast and before he left for the office he would come into her room, and she would pretend to be asleep, tho she was so keenly aware of his nearness that her closed lids trembled nervously over her eyes. When in the evenings he took the supper tray from Anne's hands and brought it into her room himself, she greeted him with politeness and indifference. And in the evenings when he came back again, she would say wearily, "Please go, I want to be alone. People bother me."

So Harry, thinking he was doing Winnipeg and a few days ago an order came back making the present price, \$3.10 per can, effective for the winter. A meeting of the producers has now been called by the executive of the association to consider the situation. At the last meeting there was some talk of a strike by the farmers if they were placed under restrictions.

Speaking to The Sunday World on Saturday, E. Stonehouse, president of the producers' association, said that the producers were reasonable men and he did not think they would resort to such drastic action.

The producers early in November decided to make the \$3.35 price effective on Dec. 1, but action was deferred at the request of the board of commerce, which immediately proceeded to take evidence bearing on the necessity for an increase. The evidence was forwarded to the chairman at

Honolulu, Dec. 28.—An epidemic of influenza similar to that which swept around the world last year has broken out in Japan, according to Tokio advices to the Nippon Jiji, a local Japanese labor newspaper. Reports from different parts of Japan received in Tokio, says the Nippon Jiji correspondent, are that the government has taken measures to block the epidemic.

St. Catharines, Ont., Dec. 28.—No new cases of smallpox have been reported in three days. The number of cases now totals sixteen. The authorities look upon the situation as highly favorable. Three voluntary vaccination stations are now open. There were 125 vaccinations yesterday. The juvenile department of the public library was closed yesterday.

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MILK PRODUCERS RESENTING ORDER

Meet Wednesday to Consider Refusal of Higher Prices.

The order of the board of commerce denying the milk producers the right to raise the wholesale price of milk from \$3.10 to \$3.35 per 5-gallon can, will be the subject of deliberation at a general meeting of the producers in Foresters' Hall, College street, next Wednesday afternoon.

The producers early in November decided to make the \$3.35 price effective on Dec. 1, but action was deferred at the request of the board of commerce, which immediately proceeded to take evidence bearing on the necessity for an increase. The evidence was forwarded to the chairman at

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