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WETS AND DRIES CLAIM VICTORY AT TODAY'S POLL

Large Sums of Money Spent Throughout Province by Both Parties.

TORONTO, April 17.—At the conclusion tonight of one of the hardest fought battles on the prohibition question ever engaged in in the Province of Ontario, both "wets" and "drys" claimed a victory in prospect at the polls tomorrow. Throughout the province an exceptionally active campaign has been carried on by both the Ontario referendum committee and the Citizens' Liberty League. Large sums of money have been spent by both sides in advertising in the daily press and in the printing and distribution of circulars, pamphlets and handbills and instructions as to how to vote.

In the matter of big billboard advertising in this city the Liberty League seems to have scored over the referendum committee, as injunctions to vote "No" and declarations to the effect that no real man would observe a prohibition law have been starting out from billboards in letters large enough to be read almost half a block away. Intimations by the league in its advertising matter that if the "No's" carry the day it will mean the institution of government control of liquor have been met day after day by the referendum committee's vigorous denial of government control being an issue in the vote tomorrow, and the declaration that the only question at issue is: "Shall the importation, sale and bringing of intoxicating liquors into the province be forbidden?"

Great Mass Meetings. The campaign has been marked by numerous "mass" meetings, both for and against prohibition, and in Toronto, the wind-up came today by prohibition meetings in Massey Hall and Cook's Presbyterian Church, and by big meetings in the arena under the auspices of the Citizens' Liberty League. At the prohibition meeting the chief speaker was Dr. C. W. Saleeby, F.R.S., chairman of the national birthing commission, London, Eng., and chairman of the executive of the World League Against Alcoholism, who represented Great Britain at a meeting of the executive of the World League in New York last week. The Liberty League speakers in the arena were Sergeant Major McNamara, M.L.A., Riverdale, Toronto, and J. Harry Flynn, organizer of the Grand Army of United Veterans.

EXPECT HEAVY POLL.

WOODSTOCK, April 17.—A heavy vote is predicted tomorrow on the referendum question. The temperance forces have a well-organized force ready to get out their vote, while those in favor of importation, while not organized, claim a heavy vote will be polled by the "wets." The opinion seems to be that the city will go "wet" with the urban centres more or less off-setting this with a big majority in favor of "home dry." Tonight the temperance forces closed their big rally in the opera house, at which the Hon. L. D. Dickinson, ex-governor of Michigan, was the principal speaker. Alex. Donald, M.C., of this city, was the second speaker.

SARNIA, April 17.—Little interest was shown in the referendum vote at the special poll for railwaymen, sailors and travelers, and it is reported that

few votes had been cast when the poll closed on Saturday night.

Today the majority of the local preachers used temperance subjects for their sermons, which wound up the referendum fight in this city. Little interest is shown in the election on the part of the "wets," and a last-minute rally failed to rouse the followers of the Liberty League.

HELD MASS MEETING. INGERSOLL, April 17.—Under the auspices of the referendum committee a mass meeting, which completely filled the Mason Theatre, was held this afternoon and presided over by J. A. Coulter.

MEETING AT MASSEY HALL. TORONTO, April 17.—Dr. C. W. Saleeby, F.R.S., chairman of the National birthing commission, London, Eng., and chairman of the executive of the World League Against Alcoholism, addressed a large gathering in Massey Hall this afternoon, also a gathering in Cook Presbyterian Church, under the auspices of the Ontario branch of the Dominion Alliance. Admission to Massey Hall was by ticket. The meeting was fairly quiet, but there was an occasional interruption from some "wets" in the audience. Pleading for the future of Canada, Dr. Saleeby said there were two great enemies to fear—alcoholism and venereal disease—poisons that would reduce the most virile race to idleness in one generation. The disease was an accompaniment of alcohol. It was for the people of Ontario to decide on Monday whether they were going to keep these racial poisons out of the country. The British people were watching with great concern the result of the vote on the referendum, Dr. Saleeby said.

ONE LONE HECKLER.

TORONTO, April 17.—Winding up the referendum campaign for the "drys" the Citizens' Liberty League and Grand Army of United Veterans held a joint mass meeting in the arena tonight, when about 7,000 persons were present. One lone heckler, who was removed from the building by a policeman; otherwise the meeting was quiet and orderly.

I. F. Hellmuth, K.C., president of the Liberty League, and chairman of the meeting, said the league's slogan was "Moderation." The soldiers, he said, had fought to preserve the liberties of the "anemics," who were now trying to take the liquor from them. He did not regard this as fair play, he said. Mr. Hellmuth intimated that if the prohibitionists won on Monday they would next attack tobacco, dancing, racing and every innocent form of Sunday recreation. He characterized prohibition as "wicked and unchristian."

Addresses were given by Sergeant Major Joseph MacNamara, M. L. A., Riverdale, Toronto, and Sergeant J. Harry Flynn, organizer of the Grand Army of United Veterans.

BOY HIT BY AUTO IS SERIOUSLY HURT

BRANTFORD, April 17.—Eugene Dewey, a 10-year-old lad, whose home is at 60 Arthur street, was struck by an automobile Saturday noon and had his chest crushed. The machine was driven by Henry Storey, House of Refuge superintendent. The accident occurred in front of the Y. M. C. A. The boy was taken to his home in the ambulance, and is suffering considerably. An auto truck, owned by Edward Gillard, was badly turned this morning when gasoline in the engine caught fire while the machine was standing outside a garage at the corner of Clarence and Dalhousie streets.

Chief Green of Paris reports that Maud Bridge, a 17-year-old girl of that town, has been missing since Thursday night. It is thought that the girl is somewhere in Brantford.

Patetic Scene As William Pays Last Tribute to Dead

Contrast Between Former Glory and Present Humiliation of Great Over Lord Never More Marked Than At Funeral Ceremonies.

DOORN, April 17.—Never was contrast between former glory and present state of humiliation more accentuated than when Wilhelm, the former German emperor, followed the body of his wife, former Empress Augusta Victoria, to the railroad station at Maarn, where he intrusted the body of his faithful companion of his grandeur and his sorrow to his sons and friends to take back to the fatherland.

The emperor that was and the ex-crown prince and the other sons present were attired in full uniform of the Prussian Guard, their helmets crepe covered. The funeral procession arrived at the little station at Maarn in darkness only broken by the lights from a few lamps on the railway embankment. First came a huge car covered with flowers, followed by servants, who loaded the wreaths into the railway carriage. About ten minutes later the hearse arrived, flashing powerful searchlights. It was draped with black cloth with white cross and border. From the next car Chaplain Dryander alighted, wearing black robes.

Sees Seclusion. Immediately behind came an automobile carrying the former emperor and his daughter, Princess Louise, which drove on until it reached a shelter of shrubs, hiding it from view. Frederick William, the former crown prince, and Prince Adalbert, in long grey mantles, walked briskly forward, and other members of the family alighted from their cars—Prince Oscar, the Duke of Brunswick, Prince Furstenberg, General von Conrad, the king of Sweden and a number of Dutch officials closed the procession.

A Brief Oration. When all had collected around the coffin the court chaplain, Dr. Dryander, who took the text of his sermon from the tenth verse of the second chapter of Revelations, "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life."

LIVED FOR 24 DAYS WITH BROKEN BACK

Dr. J. Lancaster, Tillsonburg, Succumbed Sunday To Injuries Received March 24.

TILLSONBURG, April 17.—Dr. J. Lancaster died this afternoon, 24 days after having his back broken when his car was struck by an M. C. R. express at the town crossing on North Broadway on March 24, despite the efforts of some of the most eminent specialists in the country to save his life.

Deceased was a well-known and highly-esteemed citizen of the town and district, and as a physician was making wonderful progress. He was born at Colodien and first practiced at Mount Elgin, later coming to Tillsonburg, and after a few years moved to St. Thomas, where he later moved to City. On completing his post-graduate course in that city he returned to Tillsonburg and purchased the Dr. McDonald estate, Harvey street, and enjoyed a large practice. The doctor was prominent in local lodges, being the medical officer for Otter Lodge, No. 50, I. O. O. F., and a member of King Hiram Lodge, A. F. and A. M. In February, 1920, he was elected Liberal and politics he was a staunch Liberal and a keen supporter of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He is survived by his wife, one sister, Mrs. Staples of Woodstock, and three brothers, Drs. W. Blake and Robert, all in Dakota. Deceased was in his 48th year. The funeral services will be held from his late residence Wednesday afternoon at 2 p.m. to the Mount Elgin Cemetery for interment.

INCREASED RATES CUT RAILWAY'S BUSINESS

British Railways Greatly Depressed Since Adoption of New Rates.

LONDON, April 17.—The statement of the receipts and expenditures of British railways for the month of February shows a greater adverse balance than for the month of January. While the inability of the railways to make a satisfactory showing may be accounted for by the general depression in trade, there is in some quarters a belief that the increased rates have helped to develop business depression and incidentally to accentuate difficulties of the railways.

NO REASONABLE HOPE OF UNITED ACTION

LONDON, April 17.—At the close of a two-hour session of the Triple Alliance executives at Unity House this morning, Robert Williams, secretary of the Transport Workers Federation, is said to have declared that the railwaymen and the transport workers had been compelled to cancel their proposed strike in sympathy with the miners because "No reasonable hope remained of securing the spontaneous united action of the three bodies, which was so essential to give the miners' federation the assistance they sought."

A partial sympathetic strike would have been ineffective, the statement points out. Up to Thursday evening, it continues, there was every hope of a tremendous display of workingclass solidarity, but circumstances destroyed the firm ground on which the strike call was based.

The Triple Alliance conference, added Mr. Williams, profoundly regretted the changed situation.

FOURTEEN INCHES OF SNOW. DENVER, Col., April 17.—The Rocky Mountain region Saturday was slowly recovering from the effects of the worst storm of the winter, which Friday covered the district with a snow covering ranging from 11 to 14 inches, blocked railroads and paralyzed wire communication in most directions from Denver.

MEIGHEN SEEKS TO PLACE BLAME 20 YEARS BACK

Declares That Many Railways in Dominion Are Premature by 30 Years.

BLAMES OPPOSITION

Premier Asserts That Majority Rule Is Going To Prevail.

TORONTO, April 17.—Premier Arthur Meighen had a busy time in Toronto on Saturday. He arrived here Saturday morning, accompanied by his ten-year-old daughter Lillian, and Senator Smear, Winnipeg, and Col. Harold Daly, acting private secretary to the prime minister, and left late Saturday night for Ottawa. Mrs. Meighen, who had been visiting in Toronto a couple of days, returned with her husband to the capital. Deputations and callers were received by the premier at the King Edward Hotel Saturday morning; a luncheon at the Albany Club at noon was followed by conferences with prominent local Conservatives; a reception to Premier and Mrs. Meighen was given in the afternoon at the Women's Liberal-Conservative Association of Toronto; in the evening Premier Meighen addressed a memorial tablet in the armories, and Saturday night he addressed a large audience under the auspices of the Conservative Club.

In his speech Saturday night, Mr. Meighen discussed the difficulties which confront the country during the present period of reconstruction and readjustment, the transportation problem; the problem of the mercantile marine, and the fiscal policy of the Government.

Alleges Obstruction. Incidentally, he referred to the alleged obstructive tactics of the opposition, saying that the Government had no trouble in passing its measures through the House of Commons, and he announced that the business of the country would be put through with all possible dispatch and without any undue waste of time.

"In a word," he said, amid applause, "the Government intends that the majority in the House is going to rule, and that the rule of the majority shall prevail." The Government, he added, was not going to be thwarted by the tactics of Opposition, no matter who might compose the Opposition.

Referring to the present unsettled conditions in the world, Premier Meighen contrasted Canada's position favorably with that of other countries, and said that the unemployment question was worse in other countries than in the Dominion. The transportation was one of Canada's greatest problems at the present time, the premier said. The problem, he said, was all the greater because of the tremendous error the country committed thirteen and twenty years ago.

Premature Railways.

Beyond all question the country was led astray at that time, he asserted. He pointed out that at the time of the construction of the lines from Moncton to Winnipeg and from Winnipeg to the Pacific Coast, there was no reasonable traffic to be expected for thirty years. They had railways through the Dominion now which were premature to the extent of thirty years, and the cost of construction, although it had been colossal, was only one of the elements

under which the country was now laboring. The other element was the question of operation. The lines having been constructed, the Government could not now desert either the commerce or the population affected. The burden of both was now upon the country.

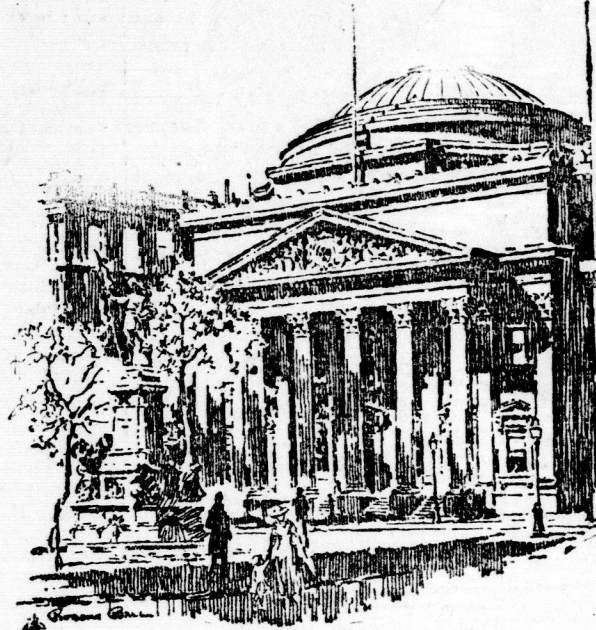
Premier Meighen outlined the steps which had led to the Government taking over control of the Grand Trunk Railway system, and the present arbitration proceedings, which he said caused disadvantageous circumstances for the operation of the railway and declared that the Government was determined to handle the system to the best advantage.

Blames the Opposition. The events leading up to the establishment of the Government mercantile marine were described by Premier Meighen. In this connection he referred to the obstructive tactics of the Opposition in Parliament, and said that of the \$8,300,000 asked for by the Government \$5,000,000 was voted for by members of the Opposition last year, yet the Opposition refused to vote for it again.

Premier Meighen devoted some attention to the Government's fiscal policy and set forth reasons why a protective policy should be maintained.

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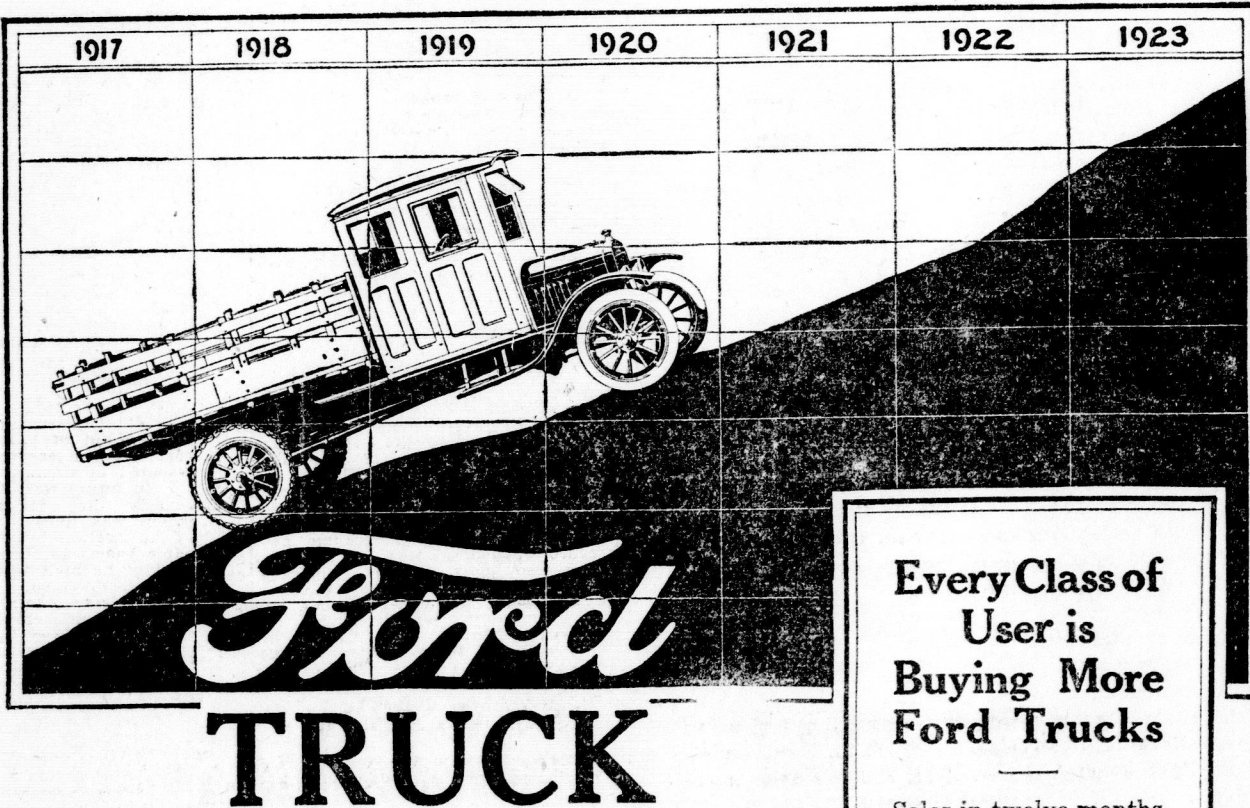
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