

TO WIDEN SCOPE OF CIVIC ART GUILD

President of Society Urges the Co-operation of All Public Bodies.

A proposal to widen the scope of the Guild of Civic Art was laid before a room full of prominent citizens at luncheon yesterday by Mrs. J. B. O'Brien of the guild. The speaker reviewed briefly some of the improvement schemes which had been planned and emphasized the necessity of securing the co-operation of all public bodies in carrying them thru. The success which had crowned similar efforts in Chicago was referred to and Mr. O'Brien said arrangements were being made to have the president of the town planning commission of Chicago appear at a public meeting here in Massey Hall sometime in February and give an address. A town planning enthusiast from New York will also be present.

Mr. Edmund Walker, in a brief speech, said it was the duty of all public spirited citizens to co-operate in meeting civic problems as they arose, because if they neglected they would be still harder for the next generation to solve. A tribute to the work of the civic guild and Mr. O'Brien in particular was paid by Works Commissioner Harris. An organization of this kind with a zeal for public service, said Mr. Harris, could accomplish great things for the city and secure improvements much more economically than could the city government. Disciplined and co-ordinated effort was required to carry thru the work the guild has in hand.

DEWART-FERGUSON SCORE GOVERNMENT

(Continued From Page 1.)

tions had been adopted they would have had a commission which in its report to the government would have dealt with the issues as they arose and rendered unnecessary further commission to be appointed.

"Broadening Out," said Mr. Dewart, "we have heard on more than one occasion of impending changes which the leaders of the Farmer and Labor groups in this house desire to bring about. Particularly at Chatham and at Welland, did we learn from his public utterances of some kind of a 'broadening out' process which he believes he is undergoing, and he suggests that there should be a 'broadening out' of the groups that he represents."

"The leader of the Farmers' group is a real political chameleon—he has such a wonderful facility for changing his political hue to suit the company that he keeps. Speaking at Fenslon Falls, under the influence of the revered member for South Victoria, in the summer of 1919, he declared that between the U.F.O. and the dead, defunct and discredited Liberal organization, there can be neither amalgamation, unification nor endorsement."

"But the leader of the Farmers' group has broadened out since then. It is true it is a far call from these declarations in June and July of 1919 to the premier's utterance at Chatham in December last and at Mill on the present month. But the S.O.S. has been sent out, and the watchword now is, 'Whosoever will may come.' There had been indications of the coming change when he was speaking at an independent labor gathering at Wabasso Park, near Hamilton, on his picnic tour last August, and referring to the alliance of labor and farmer to build up the country against those who would exploit it, he said, 'As he had assumed the leadership of both the Farmers' and Labor groups, he counted himself as belonging as much to one as to the other.'"

"It was not unnatural that the U.F.O. party, which has been stepping stones to the premier's political advancement, should object to obliterate itself. 'The People's Progressive party' was certainly a large gulp, but while denying that the U.F.O. and Labor parties were liable to split, it was quite evident that he thought that a new party name was needed—if his appeal was to be successful in West Kent."

"But it was a Milton of the eve of the session, to be exact, on January 14, 1921, that the premier made it finally clear as to what were his personal views."

"As might have been anticipated, his

unexpected declaration which appeared to portend some important political revolution in the Farmer-Labor government did not pass unnoticed by those who represent the sentiment of the farmers of the province, and were responsible for whatever success the farmers have achieved in the election of October, 1919.

U.F.O. Secretary's Views.

"Secretary Morrison has asserted clearly what his position was when they found the duty of forming a government imposed upon them by the lieutenant-governor. He thought that a government should be formed in which all parties in the legislature should be represented, with representation in the cabinet of Liberal, Conservative and Labor parties in the legislature, as well as a majority to the Farmer group, but he tells us he was overruled and his policy of co-operation under the difficult conditions that then existed when no party had a majority in the house, was not accepted."

"Under the new 'broadening out' process all classes of the community are to be represented, even the displaced lawyer—the merchant—the manufacturer may come in. An important side-light is thrown upon the whole matter by a leading editorial which I read in 'The Farmers' Sun' of Sept. 23, 1920. We can understand a little better after reading it that this 'broadening out' process means the adoption of the methods employed by some manufacturers and some business men whose example 'The Farmers' Sun' proposed to adopt, but to whose policy and methods Liberalism was definitely opposed. It is worth while to read the article in its entirety so that we may understand the situation."

"With this doctrine the Liberal Party has no sympathy."

Why Was This Done? "If this broader idea is the idea that is to prevail—why was the minister of agriculture nominated in the general election to run a poor third as a U.F.O. candidate? Two thousand votes behind both Liberal and Conservative to compass the defeat of W. J. Lowe who had stood for honesty and put the profiteering horse dealer out of business?"

"Why was the broader idea not adopted in North Huron where Mr. Fraser, a member of the U.F.O. had, during his short period in the house, advocated the interests, particularly of the farmer and of all classes in the community? Why was he opposed so that a Conservative might be elected?"

"Why was a candidate for the U.F.O. nominated in Lennox in a three-cornered fight against Carlton Woods, the Liberal candidate, who was standing for the same principles as the U.F.O. candidate who compassed his defeat and secured the election of a Conservative in Lennox?"

"In the campaign of 1919, the Liberal Party showed the broadness of their policy and of its valued views by refraining from nominating candidates in 39 constituencies and enabling the United Farmers to return as the majority in the largest numerical strength in the house? We tilted the ground; we sowed the seed, but we have to admit that some of the harvest hands came in and took a larger share of the crop than those who had sown the grain. Analyze the vote:

Conservatives	391,278
Liberals	233,550
U.F.O.	258,090
Labour	121,894
Independent	56,256
Total	1,170,568

"393,484—jointly—less than one third of total vote."

Should Join Liberals.

"There is room for the farmers of the province of Ontario and for the fair-minded Labor men in the province of Ontario in alliance with or as a party of a party which was good enough for the premier's father and for my father—for my honorable friend and for myself as late as 1917. It is a party which has enunciated a platform and policy which is democratic and progressive. It is a party which is giving fair-minded support to fair-minded legislation, whether it comes from farmer or artisan—for the advancement of urban or rural interests—for the professional man or for the merchant or business man, for the interest of honest and decent sport or to protect religious and moral welfare. It is a party that stands against fraud—for the protection of the public and for the recovery of the money to which the people of this province are justly entitled."

"The policy of investigating the timber frauds in this province was a part of the policy upon which we went to the people and which must be carried out to the end. The province shall regain every dollar to which it is entitled. In view of all these facts may I say to my honorable friend: It is not 'broadening out' to represent in the Farmers' Sun of January the 19th inst. three days after the premier's Milton speech, that at a recent meeting of representatives of the U.F.O. a political platform was adopted which is the platform adopted by all the candidates that had been appointed up to the beginning of September, 1919, and identical with the platform published in 'The Farmers' Sun' of September 10, 1919."

"It is not 'broadening out' to talk of throwing the Liberal party, as one of the two old political parties, into the scrap heap as if the Farmers' group was unshaking in a new political era. It is not 'broadening out' to play the part of the Pharisee and thank God you are not as other men are, and claim the whole credit for what is due to the hearty and whole-hearted co-operation of others."

Exploitation of Fads. "It is not 'broadening out' to allow your groups to be used to exploit the legal fads and crotchets of a theorist, whom the exigencies of your position has clothed with a little brief authority."

"It is not 'broadening out' to adopt a policy of sniping or looking around for the damaged and bruised windfalls that are shaken or dropped from the party trees."

"Let no one be deceived; may I say to my honorable friend, do not deceive yourself as leader of the parliamentary-Farmer-Labor groups in the house."

The manifest intention of the 'broadening out' is not co-operation between those who may have similar views and progressive ideas, but the autocratic exercise of the power of government by absorption and by the elimination of opposition."

Civil Service Commission. Referring to the superannuation of civil servants, Mr. Dewart said: "If a civil service commission was a good idea, the should have been filled by a business man of long experience and practical knowledge of what a man could do, should do, and what such service is worth. But here a man was selected who had had no business training

whatever, who knew nothing whatever about office work, except what he learnt while filling an office with the workers' compensation board. 'Who should make the recommendation, who should know the merits of the work, their worth for promotion, or worthlessness for the position they hold—surely the department. He was allowed any say in the matter? No. Are his recommendations needed again? No. Some of the heads have never been consulted, and I understand that in most cases even the heads of the departments have not been consulted. I venture to say that were any such power placed in the hands of any one man in any factory or institution other than the Ontario government an instant strike would result. It is almost unbelievable when viewed dispassionately that any government should have deemed this fake an improvement on any possible system of patronage, no matter how bad it may have been. It may be said that no general outcry has been made by the service against this system. This may be true and yet the reason not far to seek. Any outcry might mean instant dismissal, and to an elderly clerk in this employ, who has worked here for many years on a salary that permitted no saving, dismissal would mean starvation. They may think that a crust is better than no bread. But we hear the mutterings of discontent."

Promises Not Implemented.

"The premier has not implemented his promise of last session by giving information to the leaders of other parties in the house of vacancies and changes in regard to which all parties were to have the right to make recommendations. 'We looked for some reference to this important matter in the speech from the throne, but there is not a word. The pressure of work and the lateness of the session were the plea made for delaying action. The autocratic commission was to be made the secretary of a new commission. He will press for legislation which will establish a real commission, in which each of the four parties in the house shall nominate its representation, on which the Civil Service Association shall have its nominated representative, and in a man of large business experience and a promoter as chairman to deal with this matter that has been a long delay."

Conservative Leader Speaks. Mr. H. G. Ferguson complained that the Farmers' movement was everywhere in season and out of season, that the calling of a farmer was the 'worst on God's earth' and that he was simply hewers of wood and drawers of water. But this sombre picture was not true. In his country farmers were numerous and this applied to other parts of the province also.

Continuing, he proposed to give the house an account of his administration of his former department and would perhaps go further and ask for an endorsement to give an account also of some of the things they had done. However, he would deal with the matter later.

As for the Liberal leader, he evidently still smarted under the defeat of his party at the last election. His practically told the lieutenant-governor he did not know his job and he (Mr. Dewart) should have been the man called upon to form a government. (Laughter). But The Globe did not think so and sunk their difference over the hybrid U.F.O. party. The newspapers hardly mentioned the name of Mr. Dewart, who was the man who was the premier, on the other hand, was broadening out. (Laughter). Mr. Dewart seemed to be troubled in the ranks of the U.F.O.; troubles between the bandmaster and the rank and file. But The Farmers' movement was all and sundry that harmony once again prevailed and Secretary Morrison and Premier Dewart sank their differences. At the same time, too, it was made clear by the paper that no more pronouncements from a public platform would be made as to the government's policy. Did this mean they were trying to work the riddle on the premier?

Respects to Mr. Doherty. Paying his respects to the minister of agriculture, Mr. Ferguson said: "I heard a lady say about Hon. Manning Doherty that he was a tailored copy of the ten commandments."

Mr. Doherty: Will you give me the address? The Farmers' official organ, continued Mr. Ferguson, was unashamedly teaching the young of the province that the present members of the government were heaven-born. He did not wish to make any credit away from them but the source of beneficial measures should be truthfully made known. The education department, for instance, was being ministered along lines laid down by the old government.

Greatest Class Feeling.

Deplored the creation of class feeling, Mr. Ferguson said it was to regret that members of the government were spreading it all over the province, which was one of the most unfortunate things which could possibly happen the country. The premier and his colleagues knew very well that the farmers' movement could not last long as a class organization, and they realized this and held out the hand of friendship to the farmers, the cry that they were broadening out. Secretary Morrison, however, fully realized that the farmers' movement was flattening out and relinquishing all claims to class distinction. He was right in this view if he wanted to keep the U.F.O. movement together."

No Sympathy for Hydro. As for Hydro-Electric, Mr. Ferguson said it had not much sympathy from the present government. It was practically ignored by their speeches to the country. The move of the Union said the Hydro had endorsed deficits. He wanted the commission supervised by the house, and the presumption was the government endorsed these views. In any event, this threw an interesting sidelight on the government's real attitude regarding Hydro."

As for reforestation, the former minister said it was a Conservative minister who had inaugurated a forward forestry policy, but the premier would create the impression that it had been initiated by the present government. Artificial reforestation was all right as far as it went, but nature itself was the most effective. Aid nature by removing the debris and removing the fire hazard and a great forward step would have been accomplished. Fire was the greatest menace to the forest wealth of the province today."

A member: And thieves. Mr. Ferguson promised the house that any criticism he and his followers had to make would be of a constructive nature."

Legislative Notes. Hon. Harry Mills, minister of mines, stated yesterday it was proposed to amend the mining tax act so as to increase the tax on gold and silver from three to four per cent, on profits up to \$1,000,000, and from five to seven per cent, on profits over and above \$1,000,000. In the case of nickel, the present tax is five per cent, up to \$5,000,000 profits. Now it is proposed to raise the tax to seven per cent, on profits over \$1,000,000. A deputed agent representing the Union of Municipalities of the electoral districts of Kenora, Rainy River, Fort William and Fort Arthur asked Premier Dewart, Hon. F. C. Biggs and Hon. Beniah Bowman

yesterday for the appointment of a colonization agent for northwestern Ontario, and the completion of certain roads between Nipigon and Fort William.

Attorney-General Rainey said yesterday, with reference to the report that Chief Dickson and Deputy Chief Geddes of the Toronto police force had been approached by the province, said that no such office had yet been created, and the officers mentioned had not been approached by him.

SENATOR BRADBURY ILL. Ottawa, Jan. 27.—(Can. Press). Senator George H. Bradbury of Saskatchewan, is seriously ill at the home of his brother here.

Fine or Prison for Offspring Who Neglect Their Parents Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 27.—Sons and daughters of financial ability.

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would be made responsible for the welfare of their parents under a bill introduced in the state legislature today.

The bill provides that unnatural offspring who seek to avoid the responsibility may be found not to exceed \$200 or imprisoned for not more than six months. Courts are given authority to release convicted persons on promises to assume proper filial attitudes.

PULP EXPERTS CONFER. Montreal, Jan. 27.—A number of the leading pulp and paper experts of the States and Canada are here attending

a two-day conference to discuss the question of freight rates for the industry, both here and mainly in the United States. Officers will be elected at the meeting tomorrow.

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