

Some Canadian Political Topics

What Ontario Papers Are Saying of Mr. Drury and the New Farmers' Party—Leader Has Difficult Task Ahead.

The New Ontario Premier, (Ottawa Journal.)

The political earthquake visited upon Ontario has left Mr. E. C. Drury, agrarian agitator and former Liberal anti-conscriptionist, candidate, upon the threshold of power and the Premiership. It is a position which having regard to all the circumstances—they are many, puzzling, and precarious—casts for a great deal of sagacity, character and skill. Just to what extent these characteristics are possessed by Mr. Drury time alone can tell. For the moment, however, it is due to Mr. Drury to say that in what may be called his preliminary inaugural address he has spoken like a man who is sane. Take the following from his address to his supporters:

"It is true that in a sense we represent the farming community, and in all truth that section of the people has been in great need for many years of a greater voice in the legislatures of the province and of the country, a voice which it is our duty adequately to supply. But in a very real sense we represent not alone the forty per cent. of the people who are on the farms, but also the great bulk of the common people of all classes, the people who are desirous of good government, of stability, efficiency and economy, and of the fair and equal enforcement of law."

"Our success therefore depends, not on political manoeuvring, but on the breadth and fairness of our policy, and on our adherence to the high ideals of democracy and public service, which have made this movement a vital thing in the life of the nation."

This is not the language of a demagogue or mere sectional leader. Rather it appears to be the utterance of a man who, suddenly placed in a position of great responsibility and difficulty, is conscious of his own shortcomings but is honestly desirous of doing his best for all classes in the state.

Mr. Drury's Difficulties.

(Montreal Gazette.)

The fusion of the farmer and labor groups is an attempt at the union of elements inherently hostile. Moreover, from even a numerical point of view it is not an expedient which can guarantee success or permanence. The union does not give the proposed farmer-labor party a working majority, a handicap which would be sufficiently serious for a ministry and party composed of men skilled in politics and the manners and customs of legislatures. The new party lacks any such skill, being almost wholly lacking in experience. Despite what has taken place, therefore, the problem presented by the election returns remains unsolved. That the leaders of the new party realize this is shown in their expressed willingness to go "outside" in the formation of their ministry. Upon the ability of the new leader to draw upon the Conservative or Liberal groups, or upon both, much depends. Failing a successful manoeuvre on these lines the Drury regime promises to be interesting but brief.

E. C. Drury Premiership May Be Better, and Could Not Be Worse, Than an H. H. Dewar Premiership.

(Toronto Telegram.)

Under the Premiership of Mr. E. C. Drury, a Farmer-Labor Government should be easily formed, and ought to command a majority in the Legislature.

United Farmer members number 44, Labor members number 12. United Farmer-Labor following totals one more than an even division of the 111 seats in the Legislature. At least 6 Farmer members of the Dewar party dare not vote for a Dewar Opposition against a Drury Government. These 6 Farmer Liberals would give the Drury Government a majority of 12 exclusive of the Speaker's vote.

Conservative members will never wantonly vote with the Dewar party against a United Farmer-Labor Government. The Ontario Conservatives have nothing more to fear from the United Farmers. The E. C. Drury Premiership will turn 12 or 15 Conservative seats back to party lines. Conservatives were told that the United Farmer movement was engineered by "Grit schemers." That cry will be remembered when the Conservative Farmers realize that the United Farmer strategists have handed the Ontario Premiership over to a party bigot who supported every inquiry that Laurierism ever perpetrated or attempted, and went down fighting for Laurier on the Military Service issue in 1917.

Loyalty to New Group.

(Toronto Free Press.)

The Hearst administration was no group of idlers. Reference to them as the "Seven Sleepers" was almost a most unmerited coinage of opponents, who, lacking in criticism, became merely detractors. The farmer-Government will discover the truth this when they set out to match the pace. There should be no disposition in any quarter to make the way difficult, to raise up obstacles. Sober citizens will recognize that the farmer-legislators are taking hold a moment when unrest is general, when living conditions are extreme, when national dangers are lurking in every shadow. If for no other reason there should be loyalty to the new group of provincial governors, provided they manifest the sanity and judgment with which they are credited.

The more mature decision to select one of their own number for premier is a wise one. While Sir Adam Beck would have brought to the movement a large measure of personal prestige, the fact remained that the glory and the discredit would alike have been his. Under his leadership they would have resulted no real test of the value to

the farmers and to the community at large of the changed conditions.

Back to Two Parties.

(Toronto Star.)

But with all that can be done to increase flexibility, we are inclined to think that the drift will be towards a return to the two-party system. Its convenience is obvious. The group system might be worked under the constitution of the United States, where the President and his Cabinet have no seats in Congress, and cannot be made to resign by a hostile vote, representatives or in both. Such situations have actually existed. But under our system the relation of the Ministry to the Legislature is so close as to make it exceedingly difficult for government to be carried on without an assurance of steady support, which can only be given when one party or group has a working majority.

TO ATTEND CONVENTION

Mrs. J. W. V. Lawlor left yesterday via the Transcontinental Railway for Toronto, where she will attend the Federal Women's Institute Convention to be held in that city. Mrs. Lawlor, Miss Eliza Campbell, Kingsclear, and Miss Helen McCain, Fredericton, will represent New Brunswick at the convention.

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POLICE COURT CASE YESTERDAY

Evidence Was Taken in Prohibition Charge Against Thomas Ramsay of the North End.

In the police court yesterday afternoon a prohibition case against Thomas Ramsay, Main street, was given its first hearing. Evidence was given by Inspectors Merryfield, McAlinh and Kerr, who raided the premises of the defendant Monday afternoon. Inspector Merryfield told of receiving a complaint regarding the place and of making a visit there with the other officials. He said that there were men loitering around the door who seemed to be acting as outposts, and when he entered the shop the defendant crouched beneath the counter and tried to break two jars. One of these jars was found to contain liquor and the other creoline. Inspectors McAlinh and Kerr substantiated the above statements. William Ryan appeared for the defence and the case was adjourned.

STOMACH AND LIVER TROUBLE

Once the liver fails to filter the poisonous bile from the blood, there is a clogging up and poisoning of the whole system which causes many troubles to arise. Therefore, upon the liver, more than any other organ of the body, depends the general health. Carelessness and neglect, and often times, wilful disregard of nature's laws will put the system out of sorts. The bowels become constipated, the liver inactive and the stomach upset. To bring the system back to its normal state, you should take Milburn's Laxa-Liver Pills. They live up to the liver, get the bowels back to their proper condition and tone up the stomach. Mrs. G. L. Cackett, Rocham, Alta., writes:—"I have used Milburn's Laxa-Liver Pills and have found them good for both stomach and liver troubles. I have told others about your valuable medicine and they have used them with good results."

"They are also good for headache." Milburn's Laxa-Liver Pills are for sale at all dealers or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

WEDDINGS.

Dilger-Barton.

A wedding of interest to friends in St. John took place in St. Matthew's Church, Winnipeg, on September 30, when Rev. Canon McIlhenny united

in marriage Miss Ma M. Barton, daughter of the late Wm. H. Barton, of this city, and Edward Dilger, of Winnipeg. After a short wedding trip to Minaki, Ont., Mr. and Mrs. Dilger are residing at the Evelyn Court Apartments, Westminster Avenue, Winnipeg.



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