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MANITOULIN August 20th, 1912 (Provincial)

Organizer D.H. Walkinshaw reports that he visited Manitoulin Island and conferred with Thomas C. Sims, President of East Algoma Association. He is captain of the Mail Steamer from Cutler to Little Current. Also with R. Hay (Provincial President) of Manitoulin Association. Hay promised to attend to the lists around Little Current. He is an enthusiastic worker. Ross Hearst of Gore Bay promised to attend to Gore Bay and surrounding Townships. President Hay intends to call a meeting after Toronto Exhibition closes for the purposes of local organization. Political conditions in Manitoulin appear to be improving for the Liberal Party, and there is dissatisfaction expressed with Smythe and Gamey. The Liberal office holders have been discharged which will give the Liberal Party more workers. Temperance is a strong factor here and in October they will vote on "Canada Temperance Act" and hotelkeepers seem to fear it will carry. I also met Dr. John Carruthers of Little Current and others. The mainland is receiving attention. George J. McArthur, Blind River, Secretary of East Algoma Association is looking after the lists. Majority of the divisions in his district are unorganized
SEPTEMBER 11th

Organizer W.F. Summerhayes saw James M. Haverson, K.C. Solicitor for the Liquor License Association who informed him that a "Scott Act" vote is to be taken in the judicial district of Manitoulin and Algoma in the month of October 1912 and that the License side, and the Prohibition side are respectively revising the voters lists. This is deemed a strongly temperance riding. Robert Tilson of Tehkummah was the last Provincial candidate. A.B. Murray, Barrister of Gore Bay is reported by some as a strong candidate. The Secretary of the Association submits the following general report;

Manitowaning, Nov. 15th, 1912.

RE. MANITOULIN

"Yours of the 11th instant just to hand, and contents noted.

I regret to have to say that so far as I know absolutely nothing has been done in regard to revising the voters lists or anything else for that matter. This district is totally unorganized and has been for years.

In the first place it appears to me that a few have been in the habit of running things, you fellows out-side furnishing the money. I am also of the opinion from what I hear that this is the popular opinion, against which there has been a great deal of dissatisfaction expressed.

I was appointed to the position of Secretaryship at the last convention held last fall here. Since that time I have, as always, endeavoured to work for the best interests of my Party. But I am in no position to do much.

Since the dismissal of John Fraser, James Fraser Gore Bay, and our last President W.J. Tucker here, the rank and file seem to have taken courage again and are clamouring for a re-organization to which I have lent my every influence to try to bring it about. I was pressing the first vice-president personally and by letter to call a meeting. He promised to do so about this time, but as yet has not done so and it is now too late. We will have to wait until the going by ice is good, for the boars are on their last trips and altogether unreliable.