

laws as from the regulations of the department and the manner in which the Minister administers them. We promise, if returned to power, to put at the head of this department the best qualified man to be found in Ontario.

### **PROBLEMS OF THE CITY**

"While our rural population has been steadily declining in the older counties of the Province, our urban population has been continuously and rapidly increasing. With the growth of our cities we are compelled to face problems of the modern city in all industrial communities, viz., the rich growing richer and the poor poorer; a rapid rise in real estate values, making it exceedingly difficult for the workman to own his own home, and imposing a great additional burden upon the businessman; the inflation of real estate values, a tax upon the labor and industry of the future, which will weigh most heavily on those least able to bear it; insufficient and insanitary housing accommodations; congested areas; slum conditions; thousands of women and girls, who are to be the mothers of the next generation, employed in shops and factories, many of them under unsatisfactory conditions of employment, both as to hours of labor and wages; sickness and old age, without the resources to meet the latter; the blighting and destructive influences of the open bar, which tends to thwart every effort at improvement; and the social and moral degeneracy which inevitably follows these conditions.

### **MUST NOT DRIFT**

"We must not pursue the policy of drift. In a country as rich as ours in natural resources, with the great production of wealth which we enjoy, it should be possible so to adjust our social and economic relations as to permit every honest, industrious toiler to earn, as a minimum, sufficient to provide a home, to feed, clothe, and educate his family properly, and to lay by something for a rainy day. This is not possible to many to-day in our great centres of population; and the number will rapidly increase as our cities continue to grow. We must face the situation and deal with it as patriots and Christians.

### **THE LIBERAL PROGRAM**

"Should we not by sane and just legislation and administrative action seek to remedy the conditions which now exist and to prevent the further development in the cities and towns of Ontario of those social and industrial conditions which statesmen and social reformers in other lands are so heroically endeavoring to solve?