

The Ontario Challenges Mr. Johnson to Come Out Publicly in Defence of the Work of the Open Bar, the Institution for Which He Stakes His Political Life.

The Weekly Ontario

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TEMPERANCE CANDIDATE IN NORTH HASTINGS

The nomination of Rev. J. P. MacInnes B. A., by a convention of the temperance workers of North Hastings to contest that riding in the coming election will give to the electors of that constituency an opportunity to cast their ballots upon this great issue of Abolish the Bar. Mr. MacInnes is a fine platform speaker, a hard fighter, and a thorough believer in the cause he advocates. Temperance sentiment is strong in the municipalities throughout the north and we may expect these places to make a good showing on election day.

There is a number of places such as Marmora village and Marmora township where the temperance people have been deprived of the benefits of local option by the iniquitous Three-Fifths whiskey device. Marmora township last January carried local option by a majority of seventy-three, and yet had to be told by the Whitney government that it required three temperance votes to be as good as two liquor votes.

Such a gross injustice as this is not going to work to the advantage of the conservative nominee.

The last two or three elections in North Hastings have gone by acclamation. This will be the first time that many of the men of the younger generation have had a chance to use the franchise in a provincial contest. It is to be hoped that their first vote will go to banish from their constituency and their province this greatest evil.

MR. JOHNSON AND THE ONTARIO

Mr. J. W. Johnson would be well advised if he were to devote more time in his public addresses to answering the arguments advanced by The Ontario, and less to personal abuse of the editor. This sort of thing is beneath the dignity of any public man who makes a pretence to fairness and decency. His reference in his speech on the Hastings to the business management of The Ontario was a gratuitous insult that fell flat, even among his own sympathisers. Such tactics deceive nobody, convince nobody and always carry with them their own condemnation. Abuse is the weapon of the weak man who has no other means of defence.

The Ontario has tried to be courteous and fair with Mr. Johnson in this campaign. We have attempted to show by just argument that he and his leader are on the wrong side of a great public question. If we are in the wrong on our side we are entirely willing to be put right. To this end we have offered Mr. Johnson the free use of our columns to define his position. We have asked him repeatedly and pointedly to tell us just where he stands upon this great issue of the administration and government of the liquor traffic.

And again we request and urge Mr. Johnson to show us that he and his leader do not stand for the indefinite continuance of the Open Bar, to point out to us some other route he favors leading towards prohibition besides this intolerably slow one of local option. If he and his leader do not stand for the indefinite continuance of the Open Bar, then will he come out and tell us what are the merits of the licensed barroom that it demands such consideration at the hands of the government.

If Mr. Johnson will calmly, and unequivocally clear up these two points he will do much towards removing the necessity for any further discussion.

There is no need for hot words, abuse, or loss of temper, over a little thing like this. Manifestations of petulance do not get us anywhere.

This is after all just a plain, simple, business proposition.

The people of Ontario have given to a few men in each community the exclusive right to sell liquor. The rest of us are prohibited from taking part. The license system is in itself a species of prohibition.

What the people have the right to give the people have the right to take away. If a majority of the people became convinced that the licensed sale of liquor by retail in barrooms is a bad thing, an economic loss, and a menace to the well-being of the community, they are perfectly within their rights in declining to continue the license of its sale. That is about all there is to it.

Mr. Johnson and his leader apparently take the ground that the license system is a good way to handle the traffic. If we are wrong in this conjecture we are willing to be corrected. If we are right, we will be very glad to hear Mr. Johnson's reasons why the institution of the Open Bar is a benefit to the community, and why it ought to be perpetuated.

RIGHT AND WRONG METHODS

The present election campaign is unfortunately drifting in many quarters into a bitter personal fight where the real issue is lost sight of and where we are blinded by our passions against any appeal to reason. This is above all an election with an issue at stake that should not be decided by the heat of passion, but by the calm judgment of the electorate after a full discussion, and with a frank, honest determination to do our duty after we have acquainted ourselves with all the facts.

We have heard for instance altogether too much questioning of the motives of temperance men. They have been held up to us as a lot of insincere nobodies, whose convictions were all

on the surface, who would never vote as they talked. There are some insincere temperance men it is true, just as there are some insincere liberals and insincere conservatives. But temperance men are probably quite as much in earnest in behalf of their cause as are the members of any other class.

We would say to all temperance workers who have their cause at heart—keep cool, be patient and let the other fellow do all the calling of names. The object should be to convince the wavering by appeals to his better judgment, rather than to antagonise him by denunciation and abuse. This is a free country. We cannot compel men to think as we do. Persuasion is the only way. The temperance people have an excellent platform, but it is not wise to say to the conservative who has been making professions of temperance principles,—"This Rowell policy is right and if you don't support it you're a hypocrite." A hypocrite is a man who is knowingly insincere. It is not fair to say that all the temperance men who oppose Rowell are insincere in their professed belief that they are doing what is right. Deluded misled, they may be, but many of them are true to their honest convictions. To address such men as though they were temperance men in profession only, does them a wrong. To lay the situation correctly before the vote of this type should be the aim of all supporters of the Rowell policy. The object of all this election work should be to win support to the cause of Abolition of the Bar and not to gratify petty animosity, merely because the other man cannot or does not see as we do.

On the other hand, Rowell and all believers in his policy are generally represented to be a lot of smooth goodly-godies, scrambling after office, who hope to win power by an appeal to temperance sentiment, but who will surely betray the cause once they are elected. Such insinuations are to be expected, and do harm only to the people who make them.

BILINGUALISM

This attempt of the government party to becloud the issue of the Open Bar with Bilingualism is the last desperate resort of a party that is already beaten at the Open Bar of public opinion. Word has gone out to the faithful newspapers all over the province that something must be done to stem the tide of growing indignation on account of unsatisfactory attitude of the government party towards temperance. All the government organs are now receiving acres of boiler plate trying to make out on the eve of election that Rowell is hatching some terrible conspiracy to hand Canada over to France or to Rome. It matters little which as long as racial and religious prejudice can be aroused, and make people forget that main issue.

That this sickly device will deceive anybody, except those who are perpetrating it, is to be doubted. The people have been fooled too often that way before. The gag has been worked overtime until it is stale.

The bilingual schools are inefficient where does the fault lie? Is it with Rowell, or the Seven Sleepers of Queen's Park who have now been in office nine years? It took Whitney seven years to go even so far as to appoint a commissioner to investigate conditions. Sir James kept on repeating that there were no bilingual schools in Ontario, and finally convinced himself that what he said was true. Therefore he saw no need of applying remedies to evils that did not exist.

Since the report has been received and regulations adopted there has been no unanimity among the government forces as to the carrying out of the new regulations.

The fault does not appear to rest with the regulations so much as with their administration. The new regulations were passed with the unanimous consent of Mr. Rowell and his following. Both parties were agreed, but the carrying out and enforcement of the law is entirely the concern of the government. That the government has egregiously failed in its administration everyone at all acquainted with the facts knows full well. When Mr. Rowell attains to power we may look for him to see that the law is strictly carried out, and the French children will not be handicapped by their inability to learn English in the wretched schools now provided.

There is no equivocation about Mr. Rowell's attitude or bilingualism or upon any other question. He stated his opinion clearly and honestly in the campaign of 1911 in his Massey hall speech and has never since shifted one hairsbreadth from his original announcement of policy. Here is what he said:

"English is the language of this continent. It is the official language of this Province. Our French-Canadian citizens will agree with us that any child in this Province who does not acquire at school a good working knowledge of English is handicapped in the struggle for life, and has fewer avenues of advancement opened to him than he otherwise would have. It is the duty of the State, therefore, to see that in every school of the Province every child receives a thorough English education. But, on the other hand, we should not seek to prevent the children of our French-Canadian fellow-citizens retaining the use of their own mother tongue. What are we concerned about is that they should master English and not only that they should be ignorant of French. The problem in its working out is largely one of teachers and administration, and it is in this view that we have adopted the policy on which we stand."

"To provide through adequate training schools a sufficient supply of competent teachers, and thus insure under proper regulations that the pupils in every school in the Province receive a thorough English education."

On Saturday last Mr. Rowell said: "This is an English speaking Province and English it will remain."

SHOPS

It seems necessary to repeat that Mr. Rowell's policy includes the immediate abolition of club licenses in addition to those of the bar. The government press and government orators seek to convey the impression that Rowell is determined to retain the shop licenses, or in other words to take away the bar and keep the bottle. Even in regard to the shops Rowell offers far more than Whitney. With the present government it requires a three-fifths majority to do away with shops. Rowell will permit the people to do it on a straight majority. Nine-tenths of Ontario is already dry as far as shops are concerned. How long would it take local option on the straight majority plan to clean up the other tenth. We should remember that when a local option contest comes along where hotels are affected, the argument always is that the bar is needed to insure hotel accommodation, and that hotels could not live without the income from the bar. This may or may not be true, but it has done good service as an argument wherever local option has been voted upon. If a vote were to be taken upon the shop licenses alone, there would be no question of hotel accommodation. It would be the shop standing the test alone. In how many communities would it be retained by a popular majority vote? It is now absent from nine-tenths of the municipalities of the province, how long would it take to reach the other tenth?

How many of the proprietors are out fighting for Rowell?

From having the appearance of a government defeat it now begins to look as if it would be a government rout.

There was once a boy. He was fighting his father homewards past the saloons and bars. The father was drunk. The boy, being only a boy, was finally overpowered, and the father burst into a saloon. That boy stood on the street and wept and damned the saloons. I was the boy.

"We do not touch the heart of this temperance question until our own hearts are seared."—Alderman Maybee, (Conservative), at South Toronto.

Mr. Sinclair is being universally complimented on account of the magnificent address he delivered on nomination day. He was master of himself, his subject, and his audience at every moment. His facts were skillfully marshalled, and one by one he refuted with merciless logic or quick repartee the loose arguments of his opponent. Rev. W. G. Clarke, too, made an admirable and convincing address and was warmly congratulated by his opponents after the close of the meeting.

Are the hotel men convinced that Mr. Rowell is sincere? Watch proceedings the next few days if you have any doubts as to their opinions. Are you convinced Mr. Voter, that Rowell is sincere? Or are you trying to find excuses for your own insincerity in the cause of temperance? Be honest with yourself.

As Mr. Sinclair cleverly showed, that inebriate asylum proposed by Mr. Johnson is a proper part of the policy of a government that backs up an institution that manufactures candidates for asylums, jails, and penitentiaries. Relieve us of the Licensed bar and asylums, jails, and hospitals will pretty nearly close down for lack of orders.

The abuse of clergymen indulged in by speakers and newspapers supporting the government is one of the most regrettable features of this strenuous campaign. If the statements of the ministers in each case were correctly quoted we feel sure there would be small ground for complaint. But to misrepresent what they said in the hope of gaining political capital thereby, is the device of cowards.

Mr. Johnson in his address yesterday afternoon stated that he had been abused by the ministers of Belleville in their pulpits. Does he mean by this that he has been abused by all the ministers of Belleville, or only by some of them. It would facilitate matters if Mr. Johnson would tell us which particular ones have been guilty of this offence, and at the same time it would remove the stigma from those who might not be included in this general charge. This is a pretty serious charge to make in public, and in justice to all the clergy of this city acts and particulars should be given.

The hotelkeepers have many friends. The Open Bar has no defenders, journalistic or otherwise, in all Ontario, in the present campaign for its extermination. The Open Bar has no friend bold enough to lift up his voice in public commending its work, and advising its continuance as an institution. Its evils are too well known. Its advantages too few. It is opposed altogether to the modern spirit of sobriety and efficiency. It is medieval—a relic of barbarism. It has got to go. If the Whitney party is not defeated in this election it will be so shattered that it can never survive another contest as the silent defender of the Open Bar. The days of the licensed barroom in Ontario are numbered.

The Ontario welcomes Senator Corby to the ranks of the temperance reformers. Perhaps it is too much to expect just yet to have him take off his coat and work for the Abolish-the-Bar candidate in West Hastings, but if he will infuse some of his newly formed temperance principles into the present campaign in

Belleville and see to it that this is a "dry" election, we will certainly be convinced of the genuineness of his conversion. We trust the honorable senator will go this far in proving his faith by his good works. Then perhaps by the time the next quadrennial election comes around he will have progressed so well that he will resign his seat among the Sleepers at Ottawa and himself contest West Hastings as the Abolish-the-Bar candidate.

Enthusiasm for the Abolish-the-Bar policy and the excellent candidate representing that policy in West Hastings is manifesting itself in various unmistakable ways over the constituency. The public meetings so far held show not merely the ordinary party enthusiasm but an earnestness that is altogether new to party controversies.

The reports that are coming from all quarters of the province remind one of the accounts handed down to us of the abolition of slavery movement in the United States. Men who never thought of changing party affiliations before are doing so now and expressing pride in the fact. No man can at present foresee what the final count will be, but party alliances are counting less than in any previous contest in this province.

It would be more to the point if those who are making such loud complaints about the ministers "talking politics" would apply themselves to answering some of the arguments that the ministers advance. The trouble is that the government supporters have no argument to justify their course, and they fall back upon the last resort of those who are beaten in debate—abuse, and calling the other fellow names. Abuse is not argument, but some people think it is, and they delude themselves with the thought that everybody else is of the same opinion. It takes more than mud to change the view-point of fair-minded men. Such tactics will not deceive any great proportion of the electorate. There was only praise from this same quarter when in 1905 a large number of these same clergyman were assisting Whitney into power.

Some esteemed contemporaries are objecting to ministers of the gospel taking part in the present campaign. A minister of the gospel, it seems should preach the gospel; he degrades both himself and his calling when he enters the political arena. A good many people are old enough to recall the campaign in 1905 which resulted in the defeat of the Ross Government. Several ministers took part in that campaign against the Liberal Candidates. There was no evidence then that the Conservative papers were shocked. They thought it was the proper thing for ministers of the gospel to come out and reveal their manhood when there was a great moral issue before the country.—Woodstock Sentinel Review.

A gentleman of education, occupying a position of influence in this city and a prohibitionist by profession has convinced himself that it would be wrong to vote for Rowell because the leader of the opposition is a member of the Ontario club in Toronto, an institution that is licensed to sell liquor to its members.

We find it difficult to believe in the sincerity of the temperance principles of any man who brings forward an excuse of that nature. If he were honest with himself and were to reveal the true reason for his attitude he would probably tell us that he was more concerned about the fare of his party than the promotion of temperance.

We might as well accuse Rowell of insincerity because he is a citizen of Toronto, a municipal corporation that grants one hundred and fifty hotel licenses. Rowell is an unwilling partner and shares with the rest of the community in the profits from those one hundred and fifty bars.

It is true that wines and other intoxicants are sold at the Ontario club as they are at fifty-one other licensed clubs in Ontario, but to insinuate that Rowell is responsible for this is about as fair as a lot of other quibbles that are doing service in this campaign.

The Rowell policy includes the immediate abolition of all club licenses, the Ontario club included. What more could any prohibitionist ask?

Let this gentleman ask himself, pointedly and squarely, as did Rev. A. R. Sanderson, would he have supported this policy had it emanated from Sir James Whitney. Can he then consistently reject it merely because it was introduced by a liberal?

THE OPEN BAR

A bar to Heaven, a door to Hell—Whoever named it, named it well—
A bar to manliness and wealth
A door to sin and broken health
A bar to honor, pride and fame,
A door to sin and grief and shame:
A bar to hope, a bar to prayer
A door to darkness and despair,
A bar to honored useful life,
A door to brawling, senseless strife;
A bar to all that's true and brave,
A door to every drunkard's grave.
A bar to joy that home imparts,
A door to tears and aching hearts.
A bar to Heaven, a door to Hell—Whoever named it, named it well!

Vote For The Man
Who Will
Abolish The Bar.

GRADUATION EXERCISES AT THE TABERNACLE

At Holloway street church Sunday morning, the graduation of members of the primary department to the junior department took place before the congregation. The graduates are those who have committed to memory the Ten Commandments, Apostles' Creed, Twenty-Third Psalm, Beatitudes and Lord's Prayer. They were Harry Bell, Frank Elliott, Arthur Henry, Norman Wessels, Norman Boyd, Thomas Moore, Leslie Pappas, Elsie Johnson, Florence Brett, Vera Wheeler, Mabel Garrison, Lillie Parmenter, Dorothy Vandervoort, Katie Harris and Lucella Mastin.

Those officiating were Rev. A. R. Sanderson, pastor; Rev. A. Martin, and Mr. A. E. Bailey, superintendent. The graduating class repeated the scriptural passages and each member was presented with a copy of the Bible with name inscribed. The teachers of the class are Mrs. Chas. Walters and Miss Stocker.

The superintendent, Mr. Bailey, congratulated the class on the excellence with which they had repeated their memorized passages. He wondered how could a man go and vote a week from Monday to undo all the work of devoted and noble teachers. He himself had never got so strong a hold of the Christ as he had in the past week in trying to blot out that which has crushed so many homes.

"I'll do anything, I'll go anywhere to save the boys from damnation. Men, think of it! What would Jesus do if you ask this, all will be well!"

Rev. Mr. Sanderson addressed a few words to the school which occupied the center of the church. He referred to the value which these portions of Scripture would be to the children in after life and hoped the parents would devote more time in inculcating the great scriptural truths.

The school and choir sang a number of children's day hymns.

THIRD LINE THURLOW

Third Line Thurlow, June 22.—The welcome rain has improved the crops. Mrs. Egbert, (Belleville) of Ficton, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. Rutan the past week.

Mr. Thos. Bell and family of Belleville, were visitors at Mr. Wm. Prelops and sister, Laura, last Sunday.

Mrs. Har. Wallbridge was visiting her brother, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Joseph, Massawaga for a few days.

Mr. Stephen Eluke (and daughter) were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. G. Clapp on Sunday.

The recent frost did not seem to do any damage in this section.

As the election will soon take place we noticed a great deal of shaking hands and buttonholing in the city last Saturday.

Road work is in order now on this line. Mr. Sam Dean is walking boss.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Cooley took dinner at Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Ketchum's on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Rutan spent Sunday at Mr. A. Rutan's.

BABY'S HEALTH DURING HOT WEATHER

During the hot spell the health of baby must be carefully guarded. Diarrhoea, cholera infantum and dysentery carry off thousands of precious little lives every summer. Baby's Own Tablets are especially adapted to keep the little ones well during the summer. They regulate the bowels, sweeten the stomach, and an occasional dose will prevent the dreaded summer complaints, or if they do come on suddenly the prompt use of the Tablets will set baby right again.

The Tablets are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brookville, Ont.

Broke His Arm.

William, the eight-year-old son of Mrs. Bert Langfield, Church Street last evening, with an accident that will incapacitate his right arm for service for some time to come. He was mounted on another boy's back and fell off his perch in such a manner as to break on of the bones below attended to the injury.

Remains Brought to Belleville.

The remains of the late Miss Nancy O'Connell, of Madoc, whose remains were found on Sunday about four miles from her home from which she had wandered over a month ago, were brought to Belleville this morning accompanied by Rev. Father O'Regan and interred in St. James Cemetery. The unfortunate woman was about eighty years of age.

The Rev. A. R. Sanderson and Mr. Sanderson leave on Friday on a two months' tour of Europe.

Mr. Stanley Newton of St. Louis, Mo., is in the city visiting his mother, Mrs. John Newton, Ann St.

Mrs. M. T. Pollock (nee Miss Eva Burrows) and her two children of Washington, D.C., are visiting with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. Burrows, Bridge street.

The Ontario was pleased to have a call yesterday from Mr. M. A. James, editor and publisher of the Bowmanville Statesman. Mr. James is one of the best known journalists in the province and has made The Statesman a leader in its class. He was in Belleville attending a meeting of the board of management of Albert College of which he is a member.