

one thing I can say conclusively: It will not be on the day of the Provincial Elections. I think the Provincial Election is big enough to be an issue by itself. That is one question; and another thing, prohibition is big enough to be an issue by itself. And it was because I felt that prohibition was a big issue that I wanted a separate day, in order that the whole thought of the people might be directed toward it. You have said things that moved me a little. You have said, in the first place, that employees may be intimidated, and that they cannot get out to vote. There is something in that, but not much, because there are two hours allowed by law at noonday for casting their votes and they will be allowed in this case. But you say, the employee will be marked by his employer, and his employer, being unfavorable to prohibition, might exercise an unfavorable restriction upon him. That may be the case, but would we not be sorry to think that to any great extent the employers of labor would not be as anxious for prohibition as the workmen they employ? Is it a fact that the wealth of this country is all against prohibition? I don't believe it is. I think it is rather a reflection to say that the employers would exercise restriction over their employees. And yet it may be said that there are those in the liquor trade who would watch the polls and see who voted, and get at them that way. There is some force in that, and it might be done. It would be a very improper thing to do. But I do not see that it could be prevented. From what you say I will hold myself free, I and my colleagues will hold ourselves free, to take into due consideration if it would not be fair all around to take the date of the Municipal Elections as the day to fix. (Hear, hear.) I do not say we will do that. It is a new issue, presented to us for the first time. I will take that into consideration—respectful and thoughtful consideration. I don't want to handicap the temperance cause by anything that the law or procedure of Parliament can protect them against. I don't propose to do that. I simply propose to ask for an expression of opinion on the part of Ontario that will make me feel sure that the law will be enforced, if I am in power—and it will be no easier for any other Government to enforce it than for me, should I remain here. That is all I want. If it can be made easier for the temperance men to come out strongly and express their views manfully, then let them do so. I may make this remark before dismissing that. You may think it unkind. It is not unkind. If we as temperance men asserted ourselves a little more courageously than is often the case it would be a good thing. We have great difficulty in enforcing the present