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The Reason For Groups.

In a letter to The Advertiser a correspondent claims that the Dominion election failed to do the one thing that was desirable—give one party or the other a clear working majority, and in this way enable responsibility to be definitely fixed at Ottawa. He is inclined to blame the group idea of government for the present complicated situation, but finds some comfort in the fact that it has worked out to the present deadlock so early in Canada's experiment, and believes it will be an object lesson to the Canadian people on the fallacy of the group idea of government.

Canada is not alone in experimenting with government by groups. France has half a dozen groups, Germany almost twice that number; United States has had three and Britain a similar number. In the two latter cases recent developments have indicated a desire to return more to the old idea of two parties, and the same tendency has made its appearance in Canada.

Groups in parliament representing certain classes of the country are the result of a conviction on the part of that section that their interests have not received the attention they should have had at the hands of existing governments. When there is this dissatisfaction it is right that it should be voiced, and access to parliament is the logical answer. For that reason groups as we have had them, and still have, cannot be said to be wrong; they show that our governing methods are capable of reflecting the protests of those who feel that they have been neglected. It would be rather presumptuous for any person to tell the farming industry in Canada, for instance, that it has no business to send members to parliament to look after the interests of agriculture if the feeling existed that these interests had been ignored.

The influence that will remove group government from Canada is a policy that will take notice of the claims of all classes, that will be sincere enough in its legislative methods to consider the aims and ambitions of the people of all the nine provinces. Such a policy can come only from a government that is liberal in thought as well as in name.

The policy of Mr. King was making the group system of representation unnecessary in Canada. A government that is sectional in its purpose will be followed by a revival of the group system; a government that has a truly national policy will witness the gradual elimination, even to the point of disappearance, of the group system.

Being Careful of Investments.

One London banker reports that several farmers have asked his advice about the chances of making money out of real estate in Florida. They have received circular and personal letters, together with very attractive booklets, telling of the money that has been made in real estate.

The men who go and talk over a prospect with a competent financier are not apt to go far wrong provided they pay some attention to the advice given. It is not reasonable to call the development taking place in Florida a fake, because there is too much well-protected money being spent in building there to put the development in that class. In 1924 \$450,000,000 of northern money was put into Florida holdings. The magnet that drew the people in the first place was exemption from income or inheritance levies: Florida has become a paradise for tax-dodgers, and they have carried a large amount of wealth to that state.

The present boom there is history repeating itself, and the repetition will be extended to the case of those who made money and those who do not, to honorable real estate dealings and to wild speculation intended to gouge those who trust too much to faith in properties they have never seen and never will see.

Those who have never seen Florida and may never go there can very well follow the example of the farmers who went in to ask the advice of the manager of the bank at which they transact their business. That is what bank managers are for; they are in a position to know, and if they do not, they are in touch with a wide organization that can find out.

Those who have hard-earned money to invest can go with confidence to London bankers, financial institutions, reliable bond houses or trust companies for advice. They will find there men who are ready to give them information that will be helpful. They will also find there are many places in Canada where they can make investments that will give them a fair return with the best of security, and for the man who cannot afford to lose these considerations should be placed at the top of the list.

Why Were Thirty-Seven Absent?

Thirty-seven out of each hundred qualified voters in London did not vote at the dominion election. Taking 100 as the basis for analysis, 34 votes for Mr. White, 22 for Mr. Little and 7 for Mr. Colbert; the remaining 37 did not cast a ballot.

If there had been a fourth candidate in the field who could have secured these unpolled votes, he would have been elected by a very neat margin over Mr. White.

The reason for these 37 out of each 100 remaining away from the polls can be better imagined than stated. There were three candidates in the field, and that afforded ample choice.

Mr. Little was known as a capable representative in municipal life; there was no question as to his standing and fitness to serve; Mr. White had been the member for four years; he was also known as a good businessman and a citizen of high standing; Mr. Colbert, the Labor representative, has also served the city as alderman and there could have been no question regarding his character and sincerity. These three candidates were well known, they each represented a distinct school of thought to which voters might subscribe, yet 37 in each 100 could see no reason for voting.

Then on election day there were plenty of facilities for getting people to the polls. Those who did not care to walk could have driven; the law provides that ample time can be taken for voting without loss to the voter. It is hard to see where anything more could have been done in the way of supplying acceptable candidates or facilities for voting.

Australia proposes to remedy this condition by a fine of \$10 for non-voters, and advocates of this idea point to Switzerland, where a 93 per cent vote is the rule and Belgium with 90 per cent as proof that compulsory voting is the cure. Canadians will hardly subscribe to that remedy; the idea of responsible government and compulsion in electing it have no definite point of contact. A more likely remedy is a consistent and sustained interest in public matters instead of the temporary deluge for a few weeks around election times.

"Mike" Heenan is Dead.

The news that Michael Heenan of St. Thomas is dead will cause hundreds, particularly in the railroad world, to feel that they have lost a personal friend. Seldom did he ever get the full name Michael for he was "Mike" Heenan all over the Canadian division of the M. C. R., on which for 40 years he had been chief detective.

It is not difficult to recall how a keen sense of Irish humor came to the surface as "Mike" Heenan recounted some of his experiences on the road, especially in the days when tramps were more frequent than now. Even if in matching wits with this gentry resulted in the detective coming out second best, the story lost none of its delight to the narrator, who had a great fund of experience from which to draw.

"Mike" Heenan was possessed of those peculiar qualities that make for lasting friendships. For some years he had visited in Florida during the winter, and only a few days ago was regretting that Christie Matthews, the baseball star who died recently, would not again be among his winter neighbors. Now "Mike" has gone himself, and others will be voicing similar regrets in the south, but even to a greater extent in his own town.

Not What It Used To Be.

The Manitoba Free Press is certain that politics of today have many points in common with the old gray mare—they aren't what they used to be. A strange, unaccountable blight has fallen on what used to be a very colorful vocation, and political meetings of today lack the overblown rhetoric of what people used to describe as the good old days.

The Press, to make its point, reproduces from an Ontario paper of 1840 the following character sketch of a political opponent:

"Dr. Rolph is a sleek-visaged man with cold, gray eyes, treacherous mouth and lips fashioned to deceive. Dark, designing, cruel, malignant, traitorous are the depths revealed to a student. His manners are civil and insinuating. A cold, distrustful sneer or grin plays habitually about his oily lips, while at times glance forth expressions indicative of polished ferocity of soul, revealing the hard and strong depths beneath. In short, he is a kind of highly-polished human tiger."

That form of political campaigning has gone, and it is a good thing that it has. It may have been a selfish motive that produced the change, because it was realized that depicting political opponents as human tigers did not bring results. The average community has enough intelligence to spot political bunkum when it is exhibited.

Note and Comment.

The next parliament will have a Lambton Goodison, but not a Brant Good.

Premier Ferguson has been called to Ottawa to meet Hon. Arthur Meighen. What 4?

Men who make their own moonshine whiskey are afraid to put it in their cars for anti-freeze.

The present Ottawa situation is about as clear as some of the points Conservative speakers were trying to make during the campaign.

Municipal golf course report shows that it is not as much in the hole as last year. Golfers also report their game as somewhat like this.

St. Thomas woman won an election bet and got a free ride in a wheelbarrow. Yes, transportation was one of the issues in the election.

Paris courts were thrown into an uproar when a witness kicked the lawyer who was examining him. Civilization is really advancing.

Canadians may think they know something of group government, but in Berlin there are candidates representing 18 parties in the municipal elections.

They have peculiar ideas in Australia, for now they intend to fine the people who do not vote \$10. In this country those who do vote often want a similar sum.

Sarnia Liberals celebrated their victory by heading their parade with a Goodison threshing machine, somewhat similar to the one that separated the political wheat and chaff earlier in the day.

Fort Upton, Colo., sends out word of a woman who took a club and killed 140 rattlesnakes. It's not clear whether the idea is to advertise the locality or the brand of women who live there.

Long Speakers

By ARK.

A chap writes in and wants to know why some folks have to talk so long, to say the thing they want to say, instead of talking short and strong.

It's just as though a man might want to say we had a pleasant day, why he could get that over quick and pass contented on his way. Some brass-lunged jay instead would use a hundred words to say the same, and folks would stand and hark so long they'd hobble off decrepit, lame.

For he would say, "I have observed the weather for a fortnight now, is not the kind for growing feed to fatten up the brindle cow, nor is it well for days gone past for either man or lowly beast, for I've observed how many times rheumatic winds blow from the east."

"These elements we have to face are quite beyond our power to touch, so it does not improve the air that we complain now over much."

"The seasons change, of course they do, and I've observed just how they go, the months was fine a year gone past while now we've had cold winds and snow. But I admit that just right now the elements are more like May; it is a fact, as I observe, we've had a good and pleasant day."

I guess that folks who hold you up and keep you till their talk is through, they simply got to blow off steam or haven't nothin' else to do.

(Copyright.)

The Once-Over

Latest cable advices indicate that the series of serious situations in Syria is serious for the Syrians.

A professor at the local university has set a new sartorial fashion by always leaving the bottom button of his vest undone. Some of us can now eat a hearty meal and be comfortable afterwards without being out of style.

FATHER GANDER RHYMES.

Mother bought a little coat
With fur all round the collar.
But when poor father got the bill
You should have heard him holler.

A mosquito bite proved fatal to the secretary of the London Irish Golfing Society. We know men who succumbed to attacks of the golf bug, but this is a new peril of the links.

This week's prize for things which might have been more happily said goes to the author of a despatch from London, England, describing the tragic end of a young criminal as follows: "Described by the police as an expert forger, he was found hanging in a cell at Bow street police station. It was clear that he had come to the end of his tether."

London Kiwanians heard an address on tupples at their Friday luncheon. But don't run away with the idea that these meetings are a lot of applesauce.

"Millions change plugs every year," we read. A few short years ago this would have meant a tremendous increase in business for horse breeders.

The Stratford man who pushed a peanut across the street with a lead pencil as the result of an election bet has now learned the meaning of "peanut politics."

IT AIN'T THE TRUTH, SURELY.

The society column of a local daily announces that "Thanksgiving Day, Monday, Nov. 2, will be marked by a luncheon at 1 o'clock at the London Hunt club. We trust—may, we earnestly hope—that this is only another slight typographical error.

E. J. P.

Isn't It the Truth?

Modernism: More deferred payments; fewer deferred desires.
Old England is tottering, as usual, to bigger and better things.

Free men: Those who tax themselves to hire agents to make them behave.

Still, if all of us could do as we please, the coroner wouldn't get any rest at all.

How people would rave if the Rifflans were Armenians and the French were Turks.

Chinese bandits are queer. They operate in the country instead of in centers of culture.

The military is out of luck. The only one Europe bows and scrapes before is a tourist.

Jerusalem! Here it is almost winter and no craze to take the place of cross word puzzles.

It is possible to buy a good dish-washing machine, but a lot of men still prefer to marry them.

It is easier to listen to a woman's denunciation of steel traps if she isn't wearing fur.

"Grave national problems" are those things that seem so insignificant during a world series.

If inanimate things don't think, how does the gas tank know you are three miles from a filling station?

The things that tremble with eagerness when standing still are a race horse, a bird dog and a flivver.

A man is a hard creature who thinks a perfectly darling hat looks like \$1.98, even though it is marked \$22.50.

It is true that men wake up and find themselves famous, but as a rule the awakening comes decades before the fame.

Correct this sentence: "Now," said the American, "I will listen patiently to the other fellow's side of the question."

R. Q.

Lighter Vein

HIS PUPIL.

Mr. Blank, in characterizing a former employee who is now a rival and competitor, said: "Why, he's a sharper, a thief and a liar, and I taught him all he knows."

KNOW HIS OWN MIND.

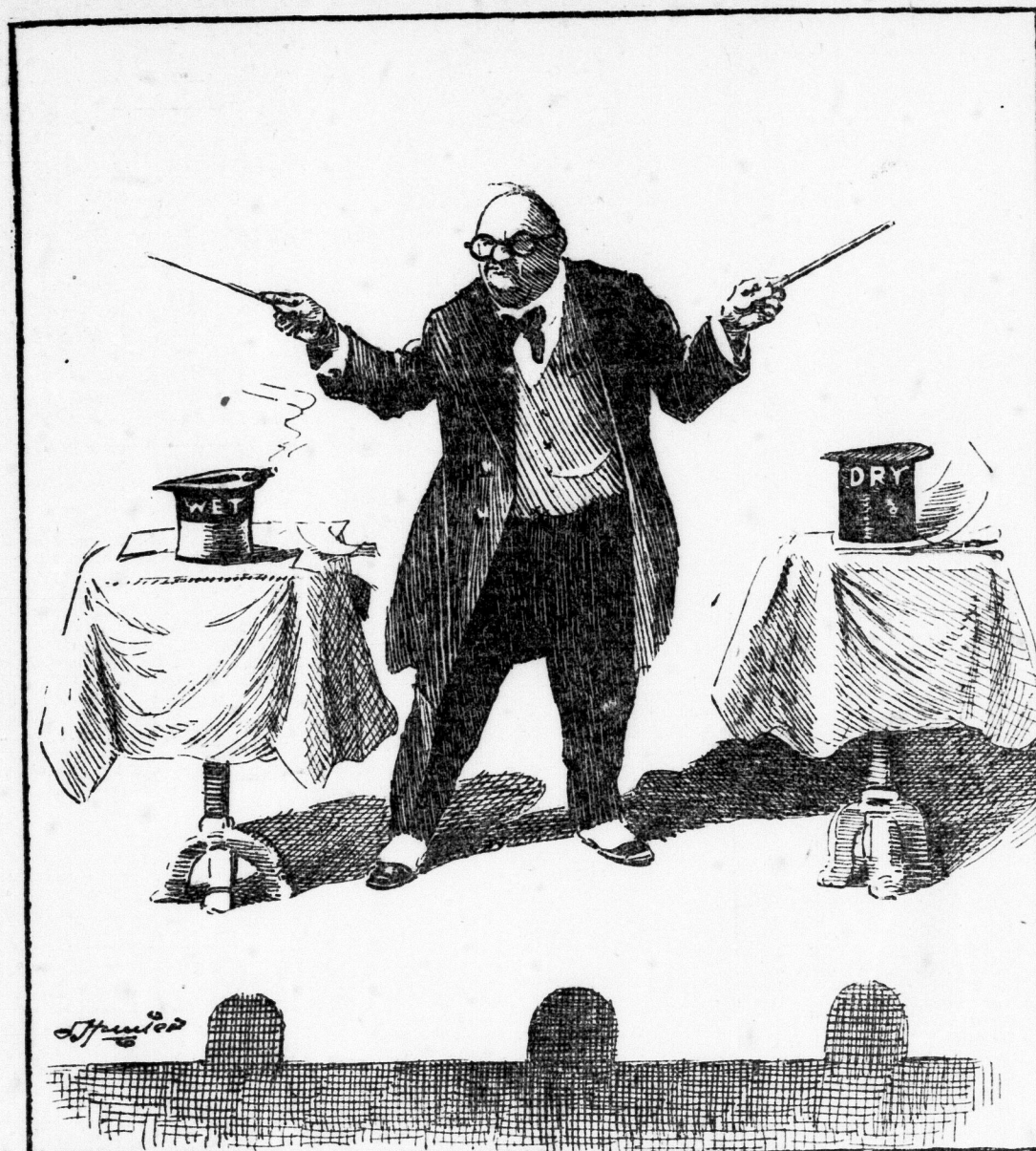
A prisoner was in the dock on a serious charge of stealing, and the case having been presented to the court by the prosecuting solicitor, he was ordered to stand up.

"Have you a lawyer?" asked the court.
"No, sir."
"Are you able to employ one?"
"No, sir."

"Do you want a lawyer to defend the case?"
"Not particular, sir."

"Well, what do you propose to do about the case?"
"We'll—uh— with a yawn, as if wearied of the thing. "I'm willin' to drop the case, far's I'm concerned."

A GREAT ACT



MAGICIAN FERGUSON—Ladies and gents, the government policy rabbit will now appear and disappear in and from both parts so as to completely deceive the eye.

To The Editor

How To Keep Our Own.

Editor of The Advertiser:
Sir—I am a frequent reader of your paper and I have seen some very amusing letters on election pleas, especially the exodus of young Canadians to the United States, and if we want to stop our Canadian boys and girls going to Uncle Sam we must stop immigration from Europe, as I know on various occasions that is the cause of so many of our young Canadian going to the United States. Why should they not, when foreigners are given work in Canada while our own Canadian people walk the street, including men who fought for us. I know of people who came to Canada and secured employment almost immediately, while our own native-born are turned down. Is it any wonder they go to America, where they are only too glad to employ them? Yet Canada brings out immigrants to take their jobs, and they also migrate to the United States, while Canada pays all expenses to bring them out here for agricultural purposes, yet we foot the expenses.

I think we have all the immigrants we need and more, and all we need to do is to ask the Canadian taxpayer and we will find out that we need no more, as he is the man who feels the blow of immigration. Give our own Canadians work and let Europe do likewise, and we can then retain our Canadians at home.
471 Devine street. J. McLEAN.

Looking at the Results.

Editor of The Advertiser:
Sir—Well, things don't look quite so good this morning, but even at that they might be worse.

The little girl came running in the other day, and said: "Hi, Mr. Bill, I fell out of a tree, and he's dead." So I ran out, and when I saw him I said: "Bill, are you dead?" and he said: "Yes, I'm dead." Well, I was glad to hear him admit it, but it wasn't much like a voice from the dead, and it wasn't long until he was going strong as ever.

I fancy Mackenzie King will feel a relief, as his job has been far from a bed of roses, and he will know how to sympathize with the other fellow, as his followers are composed of such diverse and opposing interests that it will be impossible for him to create and carry through a policy which will meet the urgent requirement of the dominion.

The Yankee is the smartest man in the world; I heard them admit it themselves, but I never heard the old Conservative party admit it before. One of their orators was telling us the other day that we have everything in Canada needed for our manufacturers, and then he told us that the American can come over here and buy our iron ore, pay for hauling it home, manufacture it, and then send it back to Canada, pay the tariff and the freight haul back here again, pay the sales tax and then undersell the Canadian manufacturer, and unless our Canadian factories have higher tariff they can't live. Well, if that is their best reason for living, it is to be hoped that an adequate protection, as it got whittled down to be in the latter part of the campaign, is allowed to take the place of the higher tariff that was at first promised, or there may be other things that can't live.

It would seem that both the old parties have got their wish to get rid of the Progressives. Whether that is a good thing or not remains to be seen. The Progressives have certainly been a blessing to the rural communities. When I went to school it was our usual custom that as long as there was no election talk everybody was about as good as everybody else, but when election time came along, we just naturally divided ourselves into two hostile camps, and if our side got the worst of the battle of the ballots it hurt our feelings pretty badly, but now it doesn't seem to be the same. The biggest difference now seems to be between the "ins" and the "outs," have fought against when they were The things that the Conservatives the "outs" will be the very things

25 Years Ago

From The Advertiser, Nov. 2, 1900.

Mr. Alf Russell, city traveller for Kerry, Watson & Co., wholesale druggists of this city, was presented with a gold watch and chain last night by city druggists, who expressed regret that he was leaving the city.

Messrs. J. L. Cathro, Fred J. Rocks, Clarence Reid, Sam Hadden and R. H. Avery have returned from Newbury where they have been camping and shooting for the past two weeks. The boys entertained a number of their friends on Thanksgiving Day.

W. D. Griggs, Woodstock freight agent for the past five years on the G. T. R., has been appointed freight agent here, succeeding Robert Scott, who goes to Portland, Maine.

Drs. Fred Wood and R. H. Abbott are attending the union dental convention in Buffalo this week. Dr. Abbott opens the discussion on "The Preservation of Children's Teeth."

Toronto dealers have reduced the price of coal from \$7.50 to \$7.00 per ton. Before the strike it was \$6.50 per ton.

Three citizens appeared in police court this morning charged with leaving cattle tied on the streets. One case was dismissed and the others postponed.

dren, in which Herb. Wilson, the superintendent, took a prominent place. Before he took charge of the City Mission in London, Herb. Wilson had a bad criminal record in the States, of which he has told me personally, and of which he has spoken publicly on many occasions in this city. I have never seen the newspapers comment on the fact that he abandoned his criminal life for time in an attempt to reform while he was engaged in evangelistic work.

While he was in London he was not only an evangelist but a furniture dealer, in your frequent references to his life of crime I do not recall any mention of his business. The thing that you stress always is the fact that he was an evangelist.

Herb. Wilson was succeeded in the City Mission here by Billy Matheson, who was in early life a prizefighter, as he has told his friends quite freely and frankly. I have never known any newspaper to make a prominent feature of the fact that Billy Matheson rose, by the grace of God, from that low moral plane to a higher one, and that he is now Rev. William Matheson, an ordained and honored minister of the Baptist church and rendering splendid service in the field of evangelism.

Now why is this? Is it because we "rejoice in iniquity" and are inwardly pleased when the other fellow goes down? Is it because the rise of a good man is a rebuke to us who are standing still, and the fall of a bad man is a help to our self-complacency? Or is it the fling of a little cheap sneer at religion for failing to hold some of our readers as it does upon mine. We expect such things from yellow journals. We look for something better, and have a right to expect it from a respectable, well-edited newspaper like The Advertiser.

Yours truly,

JOHN M. GUNN.

London, Oct. 29.

Shop at home —first

YEARS ago people went into the market place "to shop." They went, not knowing what they would find, its price or its worth. Weary hours were spent in inspection, in bargaining and buying.

Today manufacturers are bringing the market place to your home. Every time a newspaper comes, a host of people are ringing your door-bell. Merchants and manufacturers are waiting on the doorstep to spread their goods at your feet for you to look at—to inspect at leisure and in comfort.

Don't let the opportunity that advertisements offer you slip by. No matter what you want, clothing, groceries, a fountain pen or a farm, you will find the "better" ones in the advertising columns.

The advertisements tell you where you can get what you want. They are a guarantee of worth that protects your purchase.

Buying with a definite knowledge is so much better than shopping at random. Study the advertisements.