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MONDAY MORNING, AUGUST 4.

Ontario Conservatives Want a Convention Before the Election.

At the recent Queenston picnic Premier Hearst concluded his statement of policy with the declaration that co-operation should be the watchword of the Canadian people. As far as we can judge from his speech he endeavored to convey the impression to his audience that as far as Ontario is concerned this co-operation should be the policy of the party of which he is the ostensible head, and of which he expects to continue to be the open leader. There was just enough ambiguity in the idea of co-operation to suggest that it was the same thing as Union government, and Mr. H. M. Mowat accepted this view and avowed himself a Conservative-Liberal, pleased and happy in the bosom of the Liberal-Conservative party. Mayor Church, however, frankly hoped soon to be back to the old system of party government, and Mr. Donovan and Dr. Sheard were of a similar opinion. Sir William himself, however, declared that he had had nothing to do with the formation of Union government and added, "I have had nothing to do with any plans for its continuance," also, "I have never had any understanding or agreement with Mr. Rowell; politically, in any way, shape, or form."

The bulk of Sir William's address was devoted to the prohibition issue and a repudiation of Mr. Dewart's policy as leader of the provincial opposition on this question. As Sir William has himself adopted the same terms exactly as Mr. Dewart to express his position upon it, the effect is to eliminate prohibition as an issue in Sir William's approaching election campaign. It is perhaps better to quote his statement:

"The prohibition question," he said, "is being submitted to the people in such a way as to permit of public opinion being freely and fairly expressed. The time has come when you electors, you men and women alike, of the province, must say by your votes the policy you desire pursued in this matter. Whatever the will of the people in this province is, as given expression to at the ballot-box, will be carried into law by the government and faithfully and honestly carried out."

That is to say that, if the people vote for the restoration of the bar rooms, Sir William would faithfully and honestly carry out that measure. If they voted for an absolute, bone-dry extermination of the consumption of liquor, except for medicinal, mechanical or ecclesiastical purposes he would faithfully and honestly achieve that. And if they voted for any intermediate measure, as between the two extremes, he would accommodate them. Mr. Dewart takes exactly the same stand. The Globe, which is faithfully and honestly prohibition, repudiates both leaders alike in an editorial captioned, "When Leaders Cease to Lead."

Under these circumstances it is not remarkable if the people of Ontario, outside the confidential circle of the political machines, find themselves at a loss to know what to do. They have to judge the two leaders outside their prohibition utterances and as far as provincial measures go the Liberal-Conservative party has nothing to say to them. The Dewart party has adopted a strong platform, embodied in a series of resolutions promulgated at a recent convention. The United Farmers of Ontario are also aware of their intentions, and have a platform of their own. The Independent Labor Party over two years ago adopted a platform which cannot be ignored by any party, which has been plagiarized by the Dewart party, and must form the basis of all constructive legislation for many years to come. The returned soldiers, the veterans of the war, in their several associations, have adopted a non-political attitude, but they constitute a definitely coherent body of opinion on many matters, and their inclination will have a decisive influence.

The great strength of the Liberal-Conservative party in Ontario under the late Sir James Whitney was developed under a policy almost diametrically opposite to that being followed by Sir William Hearst. For over thirty years the party had been in opposition. It would probably have been in opposition still had not Sir George Ross insisted on pursuing a policy of refusing to trust the people; of dominating his party by inner cliques and personal manipulation directed to the one end of holding on to office; of subordination to corporation interests; of reliance on equivocal, and ambiguous statement, rather than on straightforward, outspoken frankness on public affairs. In opposition to this the Liberal-Conservative party in 1904, under Sir James (then Mr. J. P.) Whitney, held a convention and constructed a platform upon the embers of which Sir William Hearst, after fifteen years, is still warming himself. Embers, however, will not be sufficient in the cold season approaching, and we believe that if the true interests of the party are to be considered, the calling of a convention of the Liberal-Conservative party is the one sane policy to be adopted at this juncture. The grave evils that threaten the party are not confined to the nickel revelations, which threaten to be as serious as anything uncovered in the history of the province. Other matters are being talked about and will be brought to the surface in due time, for whatever may be said of Mr. Dewart, he is an active and aggressive leader, and is not going to sit quiescent.

Sir George Ross sat, hoping for the storm to blow over, trusting to the weakness of the opposition to survive the general disintegration. He did not believe that active and aggressive leadership and a trust-the-people policy had any virtue in it. He lived to learn. We may not have ballot-box scandals today, nor "Minnie M." excursions, nor Gamey-Stratton incidents, but the still concealed inside history of the nickel trust and its relations with the Ontario government, the juggling with the referendum, and the election date, the refusal to hold a convention on the death of Sir James Whitney, and the arbitrary selection of a premier by the Ottawa nickel interests, and other matters which good Conservatives are not anxious to rake up, but see no way to avoid, do not harmonize with the old principle of being "bold enough to be honest, and honest enough to be bold."

It is not pleasant for Conservatives to feel that they are sitting on a volcano, which may break into eruption any day and calcine their ideals. There has been a world revolution in the past five years. We are celebrating the beginning of that new time today. People everywhere are clearing away the debris and putting down new foundations. Those who think that nothing is changed, or that anything remains unchanged, have entirely misread the situation. It is not sufficient for the Conservatives of Ontario that in the midst of the war a new premier was installed by grace of the interests dominant at Ottawa. Loyalty to the greater cause than that of party subdued all protest at the time, but the war is over now and reconstruction is the universal policy. When these same Ottawa interests refuse to permit a convention to be held until after a general election in the province, loyal Conservatives feel that the great fight against autocracy and for the triumph of a real democracy has not reached its final phase in Ontario.

There is not the slightest doubt in the mind of square-dealing Conservatives that a convention should be called immediately, representative of all who belong to the Liberal-Conservative party, and who wish to identify themselves with its policies, for the adoption of a new and forward-seeking platform, about which the progressive electors of the province may gather and feel assured as to whither they are heading. It is no slight to any leader in these days to ask that he declare himself. While responsible government remains, as distinct from Soviet methods, which take no note of conventions or public aspirations, leadership must rest on the willing choice of the led and the endeavor to give expression to their wishes. It is a small favor, but of weighty importance, that the Conservatives of Ontario ask of the premier, to be allowed to say what they want before he attempts to interpret their wishes.

A National Evil Must Be Corrected by the National Government.

President Wilson, his administration, including the attorney-general and a congressional committee, are grappling with the all-absorbing problem presented by the high cost of living in the United States. Some relief must be afforded, and the people properly look to the national government.

In Canada the cost of living is higher than in the United States, and our people are likewise demanding drastic action by the government at Ottawa. At the last session of parliament laws were passed to prohibit and punish profiteering and combinations in restraint of trade. A board of commerce was also created with powers to search for the causes of high prices and to uncover the combinesters and profiteers.

The members of this board have not yet been appointed and no one can say just when it will be fully organized and commence work. The sooner the better. The board can at least illumine many dark places by the searchlight of publicity. Unfortunately the board has no power to enforce its own decrees; nor can it launch any criminal proceedings. When they find that profiteering is going on in this or that commodity and that illegal combinations unduly enhance the cost of living THEY HAVE UNDER THE LAW NO OTHER FUNCTION THAN TO REPORT THEIR FINDINGS WITH THE EVIDENCE TO THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL OF THE PROVINCE WHEREIN THE OFFENDER RESIDES AND THE OFFENCE IS BEING COMMITTED.

The government of Canada will do nothing. No provision is made for the department of justice to begin or carry on criminal prosecutions. The "buck" is passed to the various provincial governments, and the federal government washes its hands of all responsibility.

The World believes in federal enforcement of federal laws. It is a mere play to say that if the federal government punishes profiteering it must also prosecute and punish everyone who commits any crime from arson to shoplifting. The U. S. government prosecutes a number of offenders against the law, but leaves the ordinary administration of criminal justice to the various states.

Our government at Ottawa should enforce the laws against combines and profiteerings just as it enforces the laws against counterfeiting, misuse of the mails and frauds on the public revenue. It can do these things without interfering with the ordinary administration of criminal justice by the provincial governments. It will have to do this under penalty of hearing in no uncertain way from the people of Canada.

A national evil must be corrected by the national government.

The high cost of living represents a nation-wide condition, and in some cases a nation-wide conspiracy. It must be grappled with by the Dominion government just as it is being grappled with in the United States by the Wilson government. Passing the buck to the provincial governments will not meet the situation.

OTHER PEOPLE'S OPINIONS

The World will gladly print under this head letters written by our readers, dealing with current topics. As space is limited they must not be longer than 200 words and written on one side of the paper only.

THE HOUSING COMMISSION'S HOMES

Editor World: In Saturday morning's edition of The World, you have a news item with reference to The Toronto housing commission and the apparent mystery why people do not make application for purchasing one of these houses. Well, my candid opinion is voiced in the following reasons:

1st. The houses are not worth the money that is being asked for them.

2nd. About one person out of every hundred have the money necessary to pay the first instalment.

3rd. It requires every cent a man makes to keep his family in eats, let alone paying three hundred and sixty dollars on a house.

4th Poor transportation to where houses are located.

5th. Better houses at practically the same money and terms can be procured from private builders with the exception of 1 per cent difference in the interest.

Suggestion:

Sell the houses without the first payment down. Terms $25 per month and the mystery why people are not purchasing will be settled and a flood of applications will come in with a rush.

N. Millison.

FARMERS OF ALBERTA RAISE CAMPAIGN FUND

Also Express Lack of Faith in Existing Political Parties.

Regina, Sask., Aug. 2.—At the final meeting of chairmen of the Grain Growers' Federation, constituency executives and members of the executive of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, the following resolution was passed:

"Whereas at all the constituency conventions held under the auspices of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, the delegates assembled expressed in no uncertain terms their lack of faith in the existing political parties, and their conviction that it would not be possible to secure, thru any of them, legislation which will give effect to the new national policy laid down in the platform of the Canadian Council of Agriculture.

"Be it resolved that we proceed immediately to perfect a provincial organization for the purpose of nominating and electing representatives to parliament free from allegiance to any existing political parties, and who stand for the enacting of legislation that will give effect to the new national policy, and, further, that this organization shall co-operate with similar bodies in the other provinces for the purpose of creating a national organization for the furtherance of the principles enunciated by the Canadian Council of Agriculture, and, further,

"That such legislation can be secured only by organizing the supporters of the platform for the purpose of nominating and electing representatives to parliament who will be responsible to them only, and

"Whereas, the finding of these conventions constitutes a mandate to their official representatives to take immediate action to complete such action, and further;

"Believing that such steps would be in accorded with the awakened public conscience of the Dominion;

"Therefore, be it resolved by this, the provincial committee, that we proceed to perfect a provincial organization to co-operate with and co-ordinate the efforts of the various constituencies committees in the nomination and election of representatives to the parliament of Canada."

"Mr. Pratt of the United Farmers of Alberta, states that in Alberta, the farmers would raise a political fighting fund of $250,000.

Advises Dairymen to Go Slow In Matter of Cheese Prices

Special to The ToronHto World.

Kingston, Aug. 3.—G. G. Publow, chief dairy inspector for Eastern Ontario, has advised the dairymen to go slow in the matter of cheese prices. He says Canadians have been offered the highest price England can afford to pay and that there should be a fair profit on the price that has been fixed, namely 25 cents.

Second Instalment of City Taxes due August 6th. Avoid loss of time. Mail your cheque now.

THIRTEEN-YEAR OUTLAW GUN-A-NOOT SURRENDERS

Most Progressive Indian of British Columbia at Vancouver to Face Consequences of Act Committed Under Tremendous Provocation.

Press despatches from Vancouver state that "Simon Gun-a-Noot, the notorious Indian outlaw and 'bad man', has experienced a change of heart; he has given himself up, after evading the police and the white man's law for thirteen years." At present he is in Vancouver, accompanied by Mr. Stuart Henderson, K.C., M.L.A., his counsel and adviser.

To call Simon Gun-a-Noot an outlaw is technically quite correct. To describe him as a western "bad man" is about parallel with so describing Alessandro, the picturesque and appealing hero of "Ramona." That he has "evaded the police and the white man's law for thirteen years" is due to the fact that in all those years he has enjoyed the respect and the co-operation not only of his own people but also of every white in the far northern district wherein he had his home. There was a price on his head of $1,000, but the man who would have delivered up Gun-a-Noot for the blood money would have been anathematized thruout all the northland as a twentieth century Judas. The law demanded his arrest and trial as a matter of form, but Gun-a-Noot had long years ago received the confidential assurance from the attorney-general of the day that proceedings against him, should he consent to surrender, would be purely formal.

For, as a matter of fact, sympathy for and with Gun-a-Noot extended as far south as the provincial capital. Simon Gun-a-Noot is no common man and he never has been regarded as a common criminal. Least of all has he ever been counted a "bad man."

Became a Christian.

More than a quarter of a century ago, Simon Gun-a-Noot listened to and weighed and pondered the message brought to his people by the pioneer missionaries of the Christian church. He studied the pathetic problem of his people. After a time he embraced Christianity and became an active worker with the priests of Catholicism, not a formalist and observer of religious formulae merely, but a progressive and practical Christian, in whom the missionaries took especial delight. The old days of Indian life were passing swiftly. Gun-a-Noot more than any other of his race in the northern British Columbia wilderness realized that a great readjustment was necessary or his people would speedily vanish, losers in an unequal contest with advancing "civilization." He sought to strengthen the natural lines of defence by setting an example to his people in how they might better themselves by learning of the whites. He cleared and cultivated land and shortly was famous thruout the north as owner of the finest farm in that country. He built and equipped a sawmill, and found employment for native labor in both his mills and his camps. Had he been white he would have been recognized as the most progressive citizen and statesman of his little world.

The Tragedy.

Then came the tragedy and "crime." During one of Simon's business absences from his home, that home was visited by a French-Canadian half-breed, Max Le Clair, and a trader, Alex Mackintosh, who brought with him bottles of the white man's "potlum." Max sought hospitality at the home of Gun-a-Noot, and repaid that hospitality by giving liquor to Simon's young Indian wife, her ruin following fast. Simon on his return learned all the details of the domestic tragedy. Le Clair boasted, indeed, of his conquest, and he and Mackintosh are known to have subjected the silent Indian to most cruel taunts and insults when they met in a roadhouse "store."

Gun-a-Noot made no attempt to resent the insults heaped upon him, but warned the cultus white men against visiting his home in his absence or ever again giving whiskey to his wife. They laughed at his warning and struck him. Next day the body of Le Clair was found on the trail which led to Simon's home. Mackintosh, it was later reported, had been shot in self defence, being the aggressor in a quarrel which ended in a contest of quick drawing.

Gun-a-Noot did not forthwith seek safety in the hills. He went first to the local magistrate and told his dramatic story, convincing the official of its truth. He offered to surrender but was advised to hide himself for a time, "until the thing blew over." Taking this advice he abandoned his farm and his sawmill and lived for the next decade the life of a hunted thing, faithful friends, both Indian and white, contributing to his material necessities as best they could. Expedition after expedition was sent after him with beating of drums but he was always warned in time to slip away.

Clemency Offered

Some seven years ago the word was sent to him that his presence at Hazelton was necessary in the settlement of his business affairs, particularly in connection with the sale of his milling interests. He visited the district capital, the government office and the bank, and no one sought to hold him. Then he returned to the sheltering hills.

The explanation of his surrender is characteristic. His wife had fallen ill. He wanted her to have the best medical skill and the comforts of civilization. And also his children were growing up and he desired that they might be educated. His last act before leaving his mountain retreat was to arrange for the baptism of his youngest child, for he has never been out of contact with his church or lost the respect and confidence of its priests.

The trial of Simon Gun-a-Noot will focus the attention of all the Indian tribes of British Columbia. They know considerable about the white man's law already. What are they now to learn as to white man's justice?

SUNDAY CAR SERVICE FIRST TIME IN GALT

General Rejoicing in Number of Towns Over Action by the Grand River Railway.

Special to The Toronto World.

Galt, Ont., Aug. 3.—The Grand River Railway today introduced Sunday cars on its lines, connecting with all points on the system. This service comes as a result of requests from Preston, Hespeler, Kitchener and Waterloo for Sunday service to connect with the C. P. R. main lin trains here and to give workingmen who cannot afford motor cars an opportunity of visiting neighboring towns and cities and going to Port Dover. The service is only two hourly. All cars today were crowded. With Kitchener cars running on Water street the L.E. and N. Railway changed the terminating point of its Sunday cars from the head of Main street to the waiting room on Water street, and cars of both lines now make direct connections. There has not been a sign of opposition to the new service, but instead general rejoicing.

ARMED GUARD PATROLS WELLAND SHIP CANAL

Strike of 300 Foreign Laborers Causes Taking of Precautionary Measures.

Special to The Toronto World.

St. Catharines, Aug. 3.—Welland ship canal, where 300 foreign laborers went on strike Friday afternoon because of failure of reply to proposal for eight-hour day and increased wages failed to arrive from department office at Ottawa, is being patrolled by armed guards today as precautionary measure. There have yet been no serious disturbances. Officials of labor federation yesterday afternoon informed some of strikers that they were exceeding their rights. An effort is being made by union officers tonight to get the men to return to work tomorrow, until reply of government officials is received. Because of walkout 500 men are idle. Strike has not yet extended to sections one and two.

"International" to Regain Western Labor News

Winnipeg, Aug. 3.—One Big Union leaders have taken unjustified possession of The Western Labor News, international representatives declared today, and it was announced that a new press committee was appointed and empowered to take over the paper and issue it as the official organ of the reorganized Trades and Labor Council. The committee is preparing to take prompt action.

It was explained by Wm. Varley, organizer for the American Federation of Labor, that all business following the report of the One Big Union committee, including the resolution which the O. B. U. supporters claimed transferred the property rights of the labor party, was irregular.

OSGOODE HALL NEWS

Master's Chambers.

Before George M. Lee, Registrar.

Brandon v. Brandon Pressed Brick Co.—Sinclair (Ludwig and Co.), for defendants, obtained order on consent setting aside orders of 16th and 23rd July, 1919.

Chartered Trust and Executor Co v. Bell—A. H. Robertson, for plaintiff, moved for order for substitutional service. Order refused with liberty to supplement material.

Phipps v. Jones—Clarridge (J. C. M. German), for defendant, obtained order on consent dismissing action without costs.

Seaman v. Siemon Co.—Beatty (J. B. Holden), for plaintiff, moved for final order of foreclosure. Material insufficient.

Weekly Court.

Before Justice Kelly.

Lake v. Toronto—W. A. McMaster, for plaintiff; G. R. Geary, K. C., for city of Toronto; G. H. Kilmer and A. L. Malone for Sir John Eaton, Sir James W. Wood, Frank A. Rolph, J. Allan Ross and H. H. Williams. Motion to restrain defendants other than city from excavating cellars, felling trees, erecting any walls or buildings, or depositing building material upon any of the property taken by them or on their behalf as members of the housing commission, and from letting contracts, and restraining the city from paying over moneys or incurring liabilities in connection with the erection of houses on these lands. Judgment: "The motion was argued with a motion by the plaintiff to quash bylaw No. 8,122 of the city, appointing the defendants other than the defendant corporation as members of the housing commission. The facts relative to this motion are set out in my reasons for judgment on that motion and need not here be repeated. For the reasons there stated the injunction is refused. Costs in the cause unless the trial judge otherwise orders."

Lake v. Toronto—Same counsel as in previous case. Motion to quash bylaw 8,122 of the city of Toronto, creating housing commission. Judgment adjourning motion to permit application by city to legislature to validate bylaw. If city is not successful or application is not dealt with, motion may be renewed. If before that time city comes within operation of the Ontario housing act, either party may bring on motion on one week's notice. Costs reserved.

DREADNOUGHTS SHAKEN BY DOUBLE EARTHQUAKE

On Board U. S. S. New Mexico, Aug. 3.—Six dreadnoughts of the Pacific fleet were shaken severely by double earthquake shocks at 4.18 o'clock yesterday afternoon, 20 miles off the coast of the State of Colima, Mexico. None of the warships reported any damage.

The New Mexico trembled from stern to bow as if she had struck an unchartered reef, and the navigating officer sounded "collision quarters" on the flagstaffs. Sailors in the foretop said the basket masks of the warship swayed like poplar trees in a gale.

One of the officers reported that he believed the earthquake came from the old crater in the Sierra Mountains, which fringe the coast line near here, dropping off into the sea.

SIR THOMAS WHITE SAYS FAREWELL

Retiring Minister of Finance Appreciates Having Served Canadian People.

SUMMARY OF HIS TERM

Giving Principal Measures of Important Financial Legislation Passed.

Ottawa, Aug. 2.—On retiring from office today, Sir Thomas White said that he greatly appreciated the honor and privilege of having been permitted to serve the people of Canada as minister of finance for the past eight years, and especially during the period of the war. He desires to thank the public generally for the fine support given to the Victory Loan campaign, and earnestly bespeaks a continuation of that support for the issue of this fall, which will be offered by his successor, and will be the last of the great Dominion loans arising out of the war.

During Sir Thomas White's term of office, important financial legislation was passed. The principal measures he carried thru parliament were the following:

Revision of bank act.

General acts under which loan companies and trust companies may be incorporated and defining their powers.

Legislation providing for the acquisition of $33,000,000 of bonds of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company which are now held in the Dominion treasury. This legislation saved the Dominion the large amount which it would have had to pay under the so-called "implementing" judgment of the privy council.

Legislation relating to the acquisition of the stock of the Canadian Northern Railway Company.

Partial revision of tariff 1914.

Special War Revenue.

Special war revenue act, 1915, which imposed taxes upon banks, trust and loan companies, railway and steamship tickets and upon many articles of luxury.

Increase of 7½ per cent. to the general, and 5 per cent. to the British preferential tariff to provide revenue to meet war expenditure.

Federal income tax act.

Business profits war tax act.

Revision of the Dominion insurance act.

The finance act, 1914, which empowers the issue of currency to meet conditions arising in the event of war, panic or financial stringency.

Several acts relating to the currency.

Legislation providing for the war borrowings of the Dominion.

Partial revision of tariff, 1919.

Legislation providing for the establishment of credits aggregating several hundred million dollars for Great Britain and other European countries for the purchase of the wheat and other natural and manufactured products of Canada.

Legislation providing for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Co. receivership.

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