

THE HAILEYBURIAN

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They Like Wes. Gordon

The Border Cities Star recently had the following to say about Hon. W. A. Gordon, which will be heartily concurred in by all who know him:

"Hon. Wesley Gordon, Minister of Immigration and Mines in the Bennett Cabinet, has been taking well in Ottawa ever since he came down from the North country nearly a year ago. The better they got to know him and his works the higher he rose in the regard of his chief and Cabinet colleagues, and the others who have had to do with him found him measuring up to his job and more.

The Beauharnois inquiry committee, of which he is chairman, has afforded a better opportunity to observe him in action, and the closer examination only enhances the general estimation of his capabilities. There is nothing developing in the committee, no significance or shade of meaning that he does not grasp. It is evident that he will get out of the inquiry just about all there is to be got."

The Proposed New Ontario Council

The proposal emanating a few weeks ago from Sault Ste Marie, and endorsed by the cities of Port Arthur and Fort William, that a "General Council of New Ontario" be formed in order to co-operate all sections of the country north of the French River in an attempt to solve their several problems, looks alright on paper. As it is outlined in letters from J. W. Curran, who was appointed to send out invitations and arrange for a general meeting in August, the proposal reads well, but whether it is practical or not remains to be seen.

We have carefully read all the available information so far, have had a short talk with one of the sponsors of the movement, Mr. J. A. McPhail, also of Sault Ste Marie, and have watched the progress of a convention of northern municipalities last week, and we have rather grave doubts of the benefits to be derived from such an organization. It was made plain at the highway convention in North Bay on July 8th just how much chance this section of the North has in any argument with the people from the Soo, when the question goes to a vote. Sheer weight of numbers would eliminate the Temiskaming and Cochrane districts from any hope of carrying any controversial point in a general council such as is proposed.

In the literature sent out it is stated that "The three largest cities in the North have undertaken the project". That's just the point. When the three largest cities in the North come to a convention which was to consist of three representatives from each municipality, one of them with 23 delegates, what can the more sparsely settled districts hope to gain? Does it not look more like something originated chiefly for the benefit of the "Three largest cities in the North?" We may be too critical too suspicious, but they did not do much last week at North Bay to inspire confidence in their altruistic motives in regard to the general welfare of New Ontario.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Estate of Ignacy Kuzneruk deceased

All persons having claims against the estate of the above named who died in the Township of Lebel in the District of Temiskaming, on August 9th, 1929, are required to file proof of same with the undersigned on or before the 11th day of August, 1931. After that date the Public Trustee will proceed to distribute the estate, having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have had notice.

Dated at Toronto this 11th day of July, 1931.

A. N. MIDDLETON, Public Trustee, Osgoode Hall, Toronto.

Northerner Writes of Hon. W. A. Gordon

By E. NEWTON-WHITE

A Northerner, back from a visit to Ottawa, and from experiencing a glimpse of the functioning of government and the framing of our laws, might well wonder, as does this writer, whether Temiskaming, and North-Country people generally, fully realize just what manner of man they chose to represent them in the Federal Parliament. We can afford to lay politics and political opinions aside and consider him.

But a few months ago, Mr. W. A. Gordon was one of our local business men, to whom we went with our law troubles, large and small, and received at times some human advice that was not necessarily in the statutes. Today, the Honorable W. A. Gordon, K.C., Minister of Immigration and Colonization, Minister of Mines, Representative of the Ministry of Labor in the House of Commons, for a time Acting Minister of Justice, and now, in addition the Chairman of the Beauharnois Commission, is in Ottawa, unique in Canadian political history, and with perhaps few parallels anywhere.

That this is no exaggeration, a review of the situation will prove. With no previous parliamentary experience, Federal or Provincial, Honorable Wesley Gordon has been given so many high duties of State that his task has become a tremendous one.

One has only to consider the importance of the issues of Immigration, Colonization, of Soldier Settlement, of Mining, of Labor and Unemployment, in the present Canadian situation, to realize the job which is Mr. Gordon's, and so the man himself. At the time of the election last August he was unknown to Ottawa and the nation; today he holds the aforementioned positions in a Cabinet in which eight or ten men have had long years of parliamentary experience.

It could be elaborated upon. The Ministry of Justice is third in importance in the Dominion Government, yet Mr. Gordon was Acting Minister for a period within a few weeks of his first election. The Beauharnois Commission is one of the most important commissions ever appointed in Canada, yet Mr. Gordon is its Chairman. We are inclined to think that because Immigration has been halted, there can be little to do in this direction. Yet even here the fact is that the work and problems of exclusion are far and away greater than unrestricted entry.

But, whatever our perception, down in Ottawa there is full realization of the man we have given them, this among both friends and opponents, not to speak of the administrators of the Departments under his charge. To his Government he is a real "discovery". Parliamentary experience in years he lacks, but no work yet offered him has presented the slightest difficulty. He is popular among his colleagues, his staffs, and on the other side of the House. He holds himself, in spite of his manifold duties, continually at the disposal of the private members of both sides who may wish to discuss some issue with him. The Honorable Gideon Robertson, Minister of Labor, having, as a Senator, no seat in the House, is represented there by Mr. Gordon, who answers all the questions, and transacts the business pertaining to that Ministry. No light task at the present juncture.

Parliamentary experience, indeed, must be coming thick and fast. The Immigration portfolio, for instance, naturally attracts more criticism than most. Criticism comes from letting people in, and for keeping them out; for deporting them, and for not deporting them; and so on. One feature common to migration, colonization and settlement issues may when stated, convey much to the discerning, and that is the extent to which the human element enters. Those who know the Minister will have no difficulty in supplying the reason for his success.

And herein is another angle from which to view the man who was one of our ordinary Northern citizens a short while ago. It has been the custom for Ministers in his position to go to confer with other big people when vital matters were to be discussed. At his invitation they have come to him!

Perhaps enough has been said to indicate the possibilities ahead of W. A. Gordon. He is still a young man in the middle forties in spite of the twenty-three years spent among us in his law business at Haileybury. In Or-

tawa they hint at his future with confidence. Physically strong as he is, however, he will have to watch his health. The work involved in the activities indicated is tremendous.

Let us here say a word in the political relation. Party politics demand that continual attack be directed against the side in power, and as a result there are people who honestly come to believe that the policies of that party are deliberately designed to wreck the country. Actually the party system is only a manifestation that there are two sides to every question. Our public men, of any political conviction, despite attacks which would make it appear otherwise, are working solely toward the good of the State, but from different angles.

Witness, for instance, the halting of immigration and the recent inception of the "back-to-the-land" movement; and about the latter we are liable to hear and see much in the near future. Politics apart, could better remedial and constructive policies be conceived to meet the present need?

I had the privilege of reading the original copy of the Honorable W. A. Gordon's letter to the Canadian Provincial Premiers, dated February 14th, 1931, in which he reviewed the immigration and colonization situation and the policy of his Government. I had the further privilege of reading the originals of the replies of the Premiers to this letter, and they make a file of real historical value. The unanimity of concurrence and agreement expressed in these letters from British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec, is nothing short of remarkable.

We are here, however, not discussing policies but one of our local men. What constitutes a great man may be a large question, but here is one definition in the form of a statement of fact:

You can go to Ottawa and there meet one of the busiest and most prominent men in Canada: a man with the weight of several distinct administrations, complicated by the times, on his shoulders. A man in constant associa-

tion with the biggest men and the greatest issues in Canada, and living in the peculiar environment inseparable from the seat of government of a big country.

Yet this man can find time, inclination and memory to enquire after you and yours, and his friends and acquaintances in your locality, and will ask you if you have seen this or that show-place of the House or the City, and—more—make personal arrangements so that you will see them. And as far as you are made aware of his being worried or hurried, you might not be one of the busiest, most important administrative offices in the Capital City of the Dominion, talking to one of the biggest men in Canada, but back in the law-office in Haileybury.

That is W. A. Gordon today.

—E.N.W.

The Temiskaming Farmers Association, formed last spring, now has almost complete control of the Kirkland Lake market and the Teck Township Council has ruled that only members of the Association will be allowed to sell goods there. One farmer from Uno Park is reported to have defied both the Association and the council and some developments are looked for.

The Cawley Best Ball and Aggregate Competition is in full swing at the Haileybury Golf Club, with twenty-four members battling for the handsome prizes (leather golf bags) donated by President H. E. Cawley.

Coming Attractions at The Classic Theatre, Cobalt

"Men of the Sky" The intensely dramatic romance of the days preceding and during the world war features Irene Delroy and Jack Whiting, as the young lovers whose fate hurls them as spies into the maelstrom of war. "Men of the Skys" plays the Classic Friday and Saturday, July 17th and 18th.

Bert Wheeler, and Robert Woolsey, the screen's merriest fun makers bounce back with grand new laughs in a joyous carnival of happy hocus-comedy. The boys by a revolution, go nuts dodging shells and senioritas

while waving their flag over cuckoo kingdom in "Cracked Nuts" at the Classic Monday and Tuesday, July 20th and 21st.

Loretta Young in "Big Business Girl", intriguing comedy drama of youth and love. Loretta Young is supported by Frank Albertson, Ricardo Cortez and Joan Blondell. Playing the Classic Wednesday and Thursday, July 22nd and 23rd on the same program with "Bad Sister". Booth Tarkington's smashing story of a girl who couldn't be good. Cast includes Conrad Nagel, Sydney Fox, Betty Davis, Zasu Pitts, and Slim Somerville.

Coming soon—"The Schmeling Stribling Fight."

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