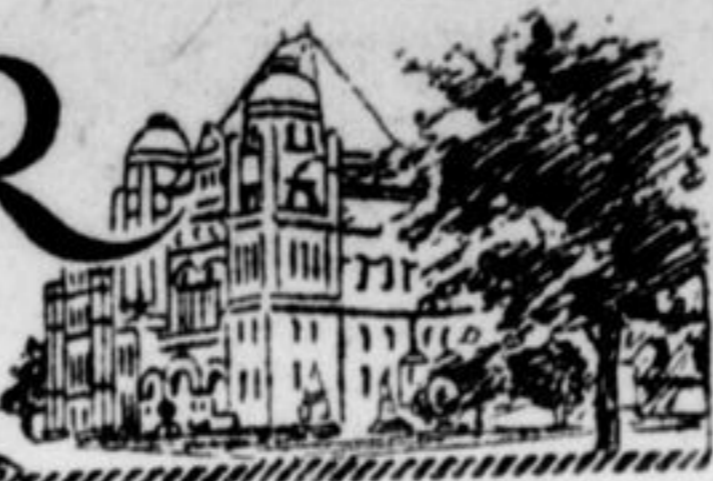


The OBSERVER IN QUEEN'S PARK



Efforts are being made to effect a political reconciliation between Premier Drury and J. J. Morrison. Several important people are attempting to find common ground between broadening out and class consciousness. Friends of the third party movement see danger ahead, now that the Province begins to take an interest in elections. They know if Drury candidates are nominated, and Morrison candidates and Liberal candidates, the chances are that Hon. Howard Ferguson will be dictating affairs before many months. These same friends of the third party movement are disappointed at the lack of progress in amalgamating the Drury wing with a certain section of Liberals under the name Progressive-Liberals. They now have grave doubts if any such understanding can be attained, and to some extent negotiations or discussions with that end in view have been dropped. The next logical move has been to get Premier Drury and J. J. Morrison to bury the hatchet.

They Talk It Over.

During the last few days, so The Globe is informed, a meeting between these rivals for supremacy took place. Among others present were Hon. Manning Doherty, Minister of Agriculture, and R. W. E. Burnaby of the Canadian Council of Agriculture. It is said that progress was made at this meeting, so much so that the U.F.O. will present a united front. As evidence of the arrangements for a truce, the speech of J. J. Morrison in the Premier's own riding, Halton, may be cited. Had Mr. Morrison wanted to continue warfare on Mr. Drury, that was the place and the occasion to stage a frontal attack. Instead of a spectacular performance, Mr. Morrison was unusually mild in his criticisms at the Halton meeting.

A more convincing bit of proof that something of importance has been arranged was related by a Legislature member yesterday. He said the Premier had been billed to speak at a U.F.O. meeting in the eastern part of the Province, the date still being some days ahead, and now Mr. Morrison was going in his place.

Mr. Doherty the Peacemaker.

It is believed that Hon. Manning Doherty has acted as intermediary, a role which he has assumed on some former occasions with more or less success. Had it not been for Mr. Doherty's efforts the breach between the Premier and Mr. Morrison would have been much wider. The Minister of Agriculture, it is said, never looked with any enthusiastic favor on a Drury alliance with the Liberals, and he did not care for any Progressive-Liberal party name. Mr. Doherty, before his conversion to U.F.O. principles, was a Conservative. When Hon. Robert Rogers was at the height of his power and popularity at Ottawa Mr. Doherty was quite well acquainted with many of the inner secrets of Conservative policies and Conservative plans. At present no person doubts his absolute loyalty and fidelity to the U.F.O., but any political development providing for a Progressive Liberal party would create too sharp a curve for the amiable Mr. Doherty to take.

If the arrangements now being undertaken are brought to fruition the U.F.O. will present closed-in ranks in the majority of ridings against both the old parties, with Mr. Drury leading on the platform and Mr. Morrison doing organization work in his customary efficient manner. It is undeniable that

some of the Government members look upon a portion of the present Liberal group in the Legislature in much the same light as the Progressives at Ottawa appear to some Liberals. That is, they may be trusted not to vote the Government out of power.

The above is an outline of the latest political twist in Ontario. It may come to nothing, like so many other plans that have been put forward during the past few years. Supposing the Premier is questioned in the House about it, doubtless he will add another nomination to his now famous "Anti-poke-your-nose-in Society."

Workmen's Compensation.

Very little was accomplished in the House yesterday, though the session lasted till 5 o'clock. Not enough members care to remain in Toronto Friday afternoon and evening to make that day's sitting worth while. True, they all get there at 3 o'clock, but they rapidly disappear soon afterward. Yesterday the resolution standing in the name of M. M. MacBride (Labor, South Brant) occupied nearly the whole afternoon. This motion would empower the Labor Committee of the House to investigate all complaints against decisions under the Workmen's Compensation Board. Everybody agreed that the present Workmen's Compensation Act was an excellent measure, but the fault found was in its administration.

Hon. Walter Rollo, Minister of Labor, said he was opposed to sending these complaints to the Labor Committee, but thought the Public Accounts Committee was the proper body to deal with them. Then Premier Drury, just to show the freedom of thought within the Cabinet, told the House it did not matter to him which committee heard these complaints. The Premier was rather impatient. His trusted lieutenant, Hon. Mr. Raney, was absent, a victim of flu, and down in the railway yards they were making up the train for Crown Hill. "The chief trouble is that the members of this Legislature know nothing of the workings of the Workmen's Compensation Act. If these complaints are heard by a committee the Chairman of the Compensation Board can come before the committee and explain. Educational work is needed," added the Premier.

Major Lewis (Conservative, Northeast Toronto) alleged that Chairman Price of the board tried to do too much, and was operating an espionage system to keep himself posted.

Break Up the Quorum.

Finally the Premier slipped away, and Hon. Peter Smith, the only Minister present besides Mr. Rollo, moved over to lead the Government forces. It was nearing 5 o'clock, and any person in the galleries could see the word being passed to members to leave their seats and break the quorum. A few of the legislators did pass out into the lobbies, but when Mr. Speaker called for the vote twenty-two members were still in their seats. A standing vote was taken, the motion of Mr. MacBride being beaten by ten to twelve. Then the South Brant member, along with some others, demanded a recorded vote. The division bells began to ring. Members hurried back to ask why the disturbance, and no person could have told how the division would result. It was suggested to Mr. MacBride that he allow the vote to stand over until next week. Hon. Peter, as House Leader, was agreeable to that; in fact, he was quite pleased at such a way out. The division bells were stopped, and the Workmen's Com-

pensation issue may be aired all over again, for the fifth time. So far as anyone knows, this is the first occasion the division bells have been started and no vote as a result. Perhaps no Parliamentarian ever heard of an adjournment at such a critical moment. But, as has often been stated before, this Legislature can smash and create precedents every working day. The least worried man appeared to be Hon. Peter Smith, who moved the adjournment until Monday, lit his pipe, and went his way.

A kindly inquiry was made of the Premier concerning the absence of Hon. Mr. Raney. Mr. Drury said the Attorney-General had the flu, but hoped he would be back on Monday or Tuesday. Applause from all sides greeted the latter part of the Premier's statement. Mr. Raney has been working very hard of late, and no member is more assiduous in his attendance in the House.