

# The OBSERVER IN QUEEN'S PARK



The Legislature contained few interesting developments yesterday, and such slow progress was made as to create doubts if the business can be finished this week. A large number of members had not returned from their week-end visits among the voters. Neither Premier Drury nor Mr. Ferguson was in the House during the afternoon or early evening. It was reported that the order paper would have to be further lightened by the withdrawal of measures if the end is to come by Friday.

## Advance Election Date?

One rumor heard in the lobbies, for which no information could be obtained, was to the effect that the election date would be considerably earlier than June 25. The present law requires that at least 30 days elapse between the issue of the election writs and the date of nominations, while elections are on the eleventh day after nominations, so that it is quite within the Government's power to hurry the election along if it so desired. Many expressions of opinion have been heard, claiming that the longer the Government puts off the day of polling the worse its chances will become. In view of the truce between Messrs. Drury and Morrison, it seems likely that the advice of the George street U.F.O. heads will be taken in connection with the fixing of any election date.

## Hon. Manning to Fight.

Hon. Manning Doherty faces a hard fight in East Kent. Conservatives there have decided to oppose the Minister of Agriculture, while the Liberals also intend nominating a candidate. In the 1919 election the U.F.O. majority was 1,026 over Major Mowbray, Liberal, and when the U.F.O. member-elect resigned Hon. Manning was given an acclamation. This was after he had run a poor third in the general election in Peel, his home county. Events prior to the acclamation in East Kent are chiefly remembered by an attack on the Minister, made by Mr. Hartley Dewart, then Liberal Leader. Mr. Dewart told the East Kent Liberals all about Hon. Manning's contracting adventures in New Brunswick and elsewhere, after the Minister had stated he always had been a farmer. However, Mr. Dewart's exposure had no effect, and the Minister was returned unopposed.

## Major Tolmie in It Again.

Windsor Liberals meet this afternoon in convention, when Major J. C. Tolmie will likely be renominated. Major Tolmie had almost made up his mind to retire from Parliamentary life, but is now going into this contest with his old-time enthusiasm. The Liberal Leader, Mr. Hay, leaves for Windsor this morning, to speak in behalf of the Major, whose services will be much sought for by other Liberals as soon as the campaign gets under way. Major Tolmie is regarded by men of all parties as one of the most effective stump speakers in the Province.

## Liberal Whip's Opposition.

The Conservatives of Lincoln have decided to run a candidate in that riding. As the U.F.O. are fairly well organized there, the chances favor a three-cornered fight. Thomas Marshall, the present Liberal Whip, had a majority of 507 in a similar contest in 1919, and chances appear bright for his re-election. Mr. Marshall is billed to speak at Milton on Wednesday, when the Halton Liberals will decide on a candidate to oppose the Premier. It is unlikely that the Whip will be able to attend, as he has been under the doctor's care for the last few days, though present in the House yesterday. An-

other speaker will probably be selected today.

## Events in Many Ridings.

A despatch from Mildmay last night stated that some South Bruce Liberals were desirous of having J. A. Johnston as their candidate. Frank Rennie of Walkerton won South Bruce for the Liberals in 1919 in a three-cornered contest, having secured a majority of 797. Mr. Johnston was defeated in 1914 by W. D. Cargill in the abolish-the-bar issue. According to last night's despatch, Mr. Johnston intimated he was not in the field, and it is believed that Mr. Rennie is desirous of again contesting the riding. Both of them are strong men locally, and both stand four-square on Liberal principles.

Another riding which will have a three-cornered fight, instead of two, as in 1919, is North Grey. Last election D. J. Taylor, U.F.O., won by 1,198 majority. Among the names mentioned by the Conservatives is that of Colin S. Cameron, who formerly represented the constituency. E. J. Creeper or W. E. Dicken are spoken of as Liberal standard-bearers.

West Simcoe Conservatives may have trouble in selecting a candidate to replace W. T. Allan, the present member, who wants to retire. Several men in the riding are said to be desirous of the honor, and a party fight is in progress. Mr. Allan's majority in 1919 was 885.

Considerable mystery still surrounds the situation in South Waterloo. Karl Homuth, the present member, has been renominated by the Labor party, while the Conservatives were to have held a convention last Saturday, but for some reason it was called off, though extensively advertised. It is a practical certainty that the Liberals will also contest South Waterloo.

Charles F. Swayze, the present Labor member for Niagara Falls, announces that he will run as an Independent at this election. Years ago Mr. Swayze was a Liberal, but he has accorded fairly consistent support to the Drury Government during the last four years. He will be opposed by both Liberal and Conservative candidates.

K. S. Stover, Liberal, at present representing Algoma, will not be a candidate for re-election. He has had considerable difficulty in attending his duties at the Legislature, owing to business engagements extending as far west as Winnipeg, and cannot see his way clear to fight another election. Mr. Stover is one of the youngest members, not being 32 years of age. A three-cornered fight is likely in Algoma, where Mr. Stover's majority was only 44 in the last contest.