

# Liberals Sure to Win, Is U.F.O. Member's Hint

## Farquhar Oliver Ready to Support Policies Voiced by McQuibban — East Kent Member Attacks Educational Policy — Reid's Jocular Remarks Cause Chuckles

The present Opposition will be next year's Government, in the opinion of an Independent member of the Ontario Legislature, Farquhar Oliver. South Grey's representative and only U.F.O. member in the House, who yesterday announced he was ready to support the policies enunciated by Liberal House Leader McQuibban, providing the Opposition adhered to those beliefs after attaining power.

Mr. Oliver, one of the Legislature's best orators, was star Opposition speaker at yesterday's sitting. Other afternoon contributors to the dying debate on the Address were: Clifford Case, who concluded the speech he started Thursday with a milk-control proposal; D. M. Campbell, the new Liberal from East Kent, whose maiden speech in the Legislature attacked Government policies on education; J. F. Reid (Conservative, Windsor West), whose jocular contribution was warmly appreciated by his fellow-Conservatives, and Joseph St. Denis, who jolted the House with an interlude in French.

### North York Member.

Debate was inaugurated yesterday by Clifford Case (Conservative, North York). Speaking last week, Mr. Case had coupled an indictment of alleged West Toronto combines with a eulogy of the Conservative record. Yesterday he resumed, with a renewed citation of social legislation as a Government achievement, but was corrected when, after mentioning the Mothers' Allowances Act, he asked if any dared deny credit to the Government "for this great social legislation."

"You mean the Mothers' Allowances Act?" Hon. Harry C. Nixon asked. Mr. Case assented, and the Progressive Leader stated: "That wasn't passed by your Government," while a voice from the Liberal benches called out: "The Drury Government."

The Conservative speaker went on to laud Hydro as a monument to Sir Adam Beck and the Conservative Government; to contend that "we come to the House with a Budget balanced and even a surplus," and to reiterate that the money spent "has been spent honestly and wisely."

The Conservative member praised the Attorney-General's enforcement of the Liquor Act; Hon. Charles McCrea's development of mining; the relief activities of the Government, and the work of the Minister of Agriculture. In the latter connection he said after referring to the dairy industry, "I sometimes think milk is just as important an industry as Hydro. Some day, at least in the cities, I think it would be a good thing if the Government had absolute control over distribution and buying of milk."

Mr. Case renewed his attack on Mitchell Hepburn, but when criticising the activities of the Liberal candidate contesting his riding, he encountered Opposition fire.

"Has he written any letters for old-age pensions?" Mr. Nixon asked. The Conservative member answered by referring to his last election.

### Attacks Packers.

Mr. Oliver's forceful oratory was directed against the packers and the Conservative Party, and included a warning against too heavy an encouragement to hog production in Ontario.

In opening, he foresaw the farmers approaching their worst financial straits at the time when there was general improvement in industry. When the Moratorium Act is lifted, when farm lands become worth foreclosure, it will, he said, be beyond the farmers' capacity to meet their accumulated obligations. He notified the Government that it was essential to protect the farmers' equities in their property.

Cited as improvement in agricultural conditions, said Mr. Oliver, had been higher prices for hay and grain and for hogs. The former, he said, reflected only a scarcity, and the latter a scarcity plus the stimulation of improved trading conditions with Britain.

At present, producers were filling about one-fourth of the bacon quota allowed Canada by Britain, and the Provincial Government was doing everything in its power to increase output of hogs. "Is it wise, justified, feasible, for us to go ahead and, at the end of 1937, fill our whole quota?" wondered Mr. Oliver. Britain wanted only select bacon, and only one out of every four Ontario hogs graded as select. To complete the quota it meant that production must be stepped up 300 per cent., throwing an enormous surplus of the lower grades on the domestic market. He doubted that the Canadian market, in which the demand for pork varied with the price, could absorb three times as much as at present. Moreover, he warned, British producers were increasing output, and probably would force drastic diminution of the Canadian quota in 1937. The result would be chaos on the Canadian market.

Turning to the packers, Mr. Oliver styles three great Canadian firms "a giant monster that reigns supreme over the whole industry." The greater part of live stock was shipped by the producer direct to the packers, without any competitive bidding, and the rest of the companies' requirements were bought at prices already established. He understood now that buyers for the three firms divided the stockyards among themselves, none stepping into another's territory. "When they become so organized that on the stockyards their buyers refuse to compete, it's time for a show down," Mr. Oliver commented. Stockyard charges were so high, he said, that it took a quarter of the price of the cattle to pay for transportation and handling costs.

### On Eve of Election.

The Farmer member twitted J. Edgar Jamieson, Chairman of the Legislature's Committee on Agriculture, for a sudden determination to "turn the stock yards upside down" on the eve of the election, and he noted various other "radical" pronouncements from the Government side of the House. "They know that unless they say something sensational now they're doomed to disaster," believed Mr. Oliver.

The Government, he continued, as-

serted with truth that none starved in Ontario. "No," he commented, "but many hunger in the midst of plenty: a disgrace and crime in this civilization."

Mr. Oliver promised his support as an Independent to the present Opposition on the victory he confidently predicted for them, if they lived up to the policies outlined in House Leader McQuibban's speech. He warned them that they must tolerate no more of inaction and drift, but must blaze new trails, open new avenues of reform.

### "Talked to Death."

"It's a terrible death to die, to be talked to death," J. Fred Reid (Conservative, Windsor West) remarked as he began his contribution to the debate.

Toronto received special compliments from the member for Windsor. "You know, this is a wonderful city," he commented, with suspicious enthusiasm. "They're 100 years old, and one-half of the people don't know this House is sitting, and the other half don't know who represents them." The member for Windsor surmised "that they're still using some of the cars they had a hundred years ago, for they're as cold as a stepmother's kiss." He included the Bluenose in his survey of the city, but suggested that "perhaps some other kind of a schooner might do the city more good."

Occasionally Mr. Reid lapsed into seriousness, bearing witness that W. E. N. Sinclair, K.C., would have the respect of "right-bearing Liberals and right-thinking Conservatives." A minute later he was twitting Dr. McQuibban's bachelorhood and remarking: "I'd like to see him minding a baby on some election afternoon for a woman who is going to vote for him."

U.F.O. means "us for ourselves," and N.R.A. stands for "nuts running America," Mr. Reid explained. The member for Windsor West relegated Mr. Nixon to the nudist party, and likened the Liberal Leader to Mae West.

In a moment of seriousness, Mr. Reid described his home riding as one "which, perhaps, has suffered more than any other, not through our fault or anybody's fault." He suggested the possibilities of a moratorium on garnishments, remarking that, while his people were just beginning to get some money, the lawyers' desks were piled high with garnishees.

### East Kent Explains.

In his warmly applauded maiden speech, Douglas M. Campbell, new Liberal member for East Kent, sought to settle the long-standing controversy of how he won his seat without competition from the Government. "The Government forces were so shattered that their executive there saw the utter folly of putting up a man," said Mr. Campbell, advising his fellow-members that, if they wanted the whole story, they could get it from either of two people in the House, according to their preference, "the member for East Kent and the Premier of this Province."

In opening, Mr. Campbell regretted the death of his predecessor, Phil J. Henry, and paid high tribute to the late member's achievements.

The school problem first occupied the new member's attention. He saw no reason for the stress put on languages in lower-school courses. He thought that, instead of Latin, the boys and girls might well be studying practical agriculture, in an agricultural community. His proposal was for teaching of agriculture in the third and fourth forms of the public schools, gradually leading up from the story form to a systematic course covering the first two years in high school.

### Normal School Course.

Regarding the second year Normal School course, he estimated that rural teachers would earn an average of only \$600, and at this salary they could not afford the extra tuition. Turning to the demand for reduced interest rates, Mr. Campbell went further to suggest that tax penalties on the farmer also were too high. He asked "what policy the Government had in mind when it allowed a number of farms in Kent County to be sold for taxes in November, 1933, where the Agricultural Development Board had sold the mortgages. A private individual would have paid those taxes."