The Liberal.

RICEMOND HILL, ONT., JULY 17, 1918

THE WITNESS' SUCCESSOR

Thousands of people throughout Canada who have been subscribers of the Montreal Witness will regret to learn that that great family newspaper, a newspaper that always took high ground on temperance and all moral questions, has been forced to sell out to another firm. A year or two ago the then Publisher of The Witness made an urgent appeal for the support of friends of moral reform, and plainly told its readers that if financial help was not forthcoming he would be obliged to close the doors and give up alosing battle. Many well-wishers hoped that the paper would weather the storm, but in spite of an honest trial, failthre was the result from a financial point of view.

To say that The Witness was d'narrow" in its policy and principles might sound unsympathetic, yet had ift taken a "broader" view as a news--paper it might have continued for many more years its valuable as sistance in fighting the drink traffic, and kindred evils. The Witness was probably the only Metropolitan daily in Canada that refused to publish reports of prize fights, horse racing, theatre plays etc., and would not insert what is known as liquor advertisments. To exclude the above from a church paper or other religions journal would appear to be the properthing, but in ordinary newspapers, we believe more latitude may well be taken in giving the news of the day. Surely a Publisher can consistently condemn in its editorial columns, gambling on a race track, and report a horse race in its news Columns.

The Witness is succeeded by The Daily Telegraph, and judging by its salutatory on Saturday last the new paper will be worthy of its predecessor. The Telegraph will stand for Liberalism in its broadest sense, and the following paragraph in its opening number will indicate the stand it will take on moral questions.

"We shall enlist heartily and for the whole war in every crusade against social and moral evils, and for the elevation of human character both by humanising its environment and inculcating worthy principles. We propose to be an active ally of all the progressive religious and social reform movements which promise to Lake for a more moral Montreal and a cleaner Canada. We shall stand for financial honesty, for commercial plain dealing, and against monopoly in every form.

Colonel Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia, has been dealing in some very plain talk relative to some of his officers indulging too freely at a dinner given by the Colonel. It appears that the minister gave orders to the hotel management that no liquor was to be served at dinner, and none was to be brought into the room on the private order of any guest. In spite of his order, however, waiters took whiskey into the room, and a jollification followed. The act was considered a breath of good taste, and in all probability resignations will follow.

The North Grey bye election on Monday went Conservative by a majority of 278. The general policy of Sir James Whitney's Government was the subject of discussion, but the foremost plank in Mr. Rowell's platform was the abolish-the-bar plank. The result is somewhat discouraging for the Liberal party, indicating as it does that in too many cases party politics are placed before principle.

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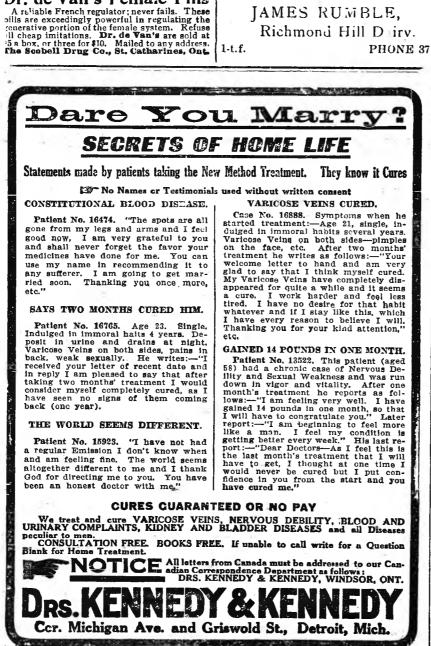
street, near Innes's Mill.



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MR. ROWELL'S COMMENT ON THE NORTH GREY BYE-ELECTION.

"My information convinces me that the result in North Grey was due to the open combination between the Whitney Government and the liquor interests, with unlimited financial resources at their disposal. For the sake of Mr. McQuaker who was an exceptionally fine type of candidate, and the workers who stood so valiantly by him, I regret the result. The lcss of the seat, however, will have its compensations if it helps to awaken the people of the Province to the unnounted fact of an offensive and defensive alliance between the Whitney Government and the liquor interests. When the people realize that this combination exits I do not believe that they will stand for it. This bye election is but an incident in the fight which will go on with unabated vigor for a progressive Government and the abolition of the bar. We need the crusading spirit. It may require events like North Grey to awaken the people to the situation and develop this spirit,"



JAMES RUMBLE,