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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29th, 1940.

MULOCK RECORD MERITS SUPPORT

Voting day is only three weeks from next Tuesday but despite the short time before the election, the political pot in North York is unusually quiet, due no doubt to the fact that it is a foregone conclusion that Col. W. P. Mulock the former member will be returned. The service rendered to North York by Col. Mulock has been so outstanding that of all candidates seeking election on either party tickets he seems most sure of re-election. Wherever politics are discussed the return of Mulock in North York is taken for granted.

There are few men in public life in Canada today who have devoted themselves so whole-heartedly to the interests of their riding as has Bill Mulock. This service has been given to members of all parties and this is the reason the candidature of Bill Mulock has such widespread support. No one truthfully can say that Bill Mulock has been narrowly partisan in his duties as a representative in Parliament. In his desire to be of service he has not stopped to look at party labels. When industries in North York needed someone to go to bat for them in matters of tariff adjustments or whatever it might be, there was never a more willing and effective advocate in Parliament than Bill Mulock. When he saw that under former administrations North York did not receive any consideration in the matter of extra employment on the postal staff at Christmas he got busy with the result that hundreds of North York young men receive work every year. If a veteran's problem needed the help of an influential hand, Bill Mulock didn't question whether it was for a Liberal, a Conservative or a C.C.F. These are only a few examples of the non-partisan service rendered to this riding by its former member, but they explain the reason that Col. Mulock's re-election is so generally conceded in North York.

The nomination paper of Col. W. P. Mulock when it is presented on nomination day will bear the names of hundreds of citizens of North York not at all interested in the success of any political party, but who recognize that sincerity in public life should be recognized, and that on his record of service Col. Mulock merits endorsation in this constituency.

THE COMING ELECTION

A lot of foolish talk is emanating from the opponents of the King Government, particularly from Col. Drew, about the cowardice of the government in calling a wartime election. It was only last September that the opposition leaders were challenging the government to go to the country and charging it with cowardice if it refrained. Therefore, in the opinion of the opposition, the government is cowardly if it doesn't go to the country and it is cowardly if it does go to the country. (From the Burk's Falls Arrow.)

ONE DAY LONGER!

Leather medal for the best wisecrack of the week goes to Shelburne Free Press and Economist, which says that women's dresses are to be worn longer this yearone day longer .- Picton Gazette.

NATURE'S INSULATION

There are no limits to man's ingenuity. We read the other day of an Ontario man who insulated his house by spraying the outside walls with a hose. The water formed a coating of ice, which of course gives him perfect insulation so long as the cold weather lasts. It is a simple plan for keeping a house warm in winter, but how many people would think of it?-Orangeville Banner.



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Minister.



The Conservative Party--Whither Away?

(By W. R. Givens, former Publisher of The Kingston Standard.)

hope will not be fulfilled, and believe brainy gentlemen! that as a party we would have emerged from this coming election our flag hereafter is to be, like | Conservative point of view. Joseph's coat, of many colors. Apparently we are to "turn the Ottawa rascals out" by turning many of our own number out, and thereafter di- a pig in a poke without opportunity vide party responsibility with lead- to examine the creature. But wheers as yet unnamed and unknown, and whose policies likewise are unknown.

* * * *

Let us look at the record of the past dozen years or thereabouts, and note the beginning and the continuing of the "drift," which, if it progress much further, may see conservatism in Canada in as sorry condition as liberalism is in Great Britain. The first drift began under Premier Bennett, and will likely go down in history as the Oligarchical Drift, since it was in this period that Premier Bennett, chosen as Leader in Winnipeg, decided that the best kind of leadership was to ignore the party which he was to lead its rank and file, its local leaders, its Parliamentary representatives and even the Cabinet Ministers and put on an amazing one-mangovernment act, in which he and he only was at once party and leader, with all others but flies on the wheel. The harrowing results we all of us know only too well - not a single Conservative Provincial Premier in the wide, wide Dominion, and in the Commons a mere skeleton of a party. Not only that, but we were left almost leaderless, since under Mr. Bennett's one-man domination no new leaders were developed, while those who might have come along went down to their political deaths in the election holocaust that the Bennett dictatorship precipitated. Like it or not, these are the let us at least not be silly. facts, and there is no gainsaying them.

- a drift singularly enough occasioned by the action of the man chosen by the Ottawa Conservative convention to lead the Conservatives Hon. Dr. Manion. That was his mandate, and that only-to lead the Conservative Party. He had no mandate to do other - no mandate, certainly, to hybridize the party or change its hue from a Conservative to a chameleonic color or its texture from solid Conservative to a sort of crazy-quilt patchwork. Here again we have a new mandate and one-man dictation, and here again many of the party followers are meekly goosestepping into line, no matter Bennett - goosestepping to another defeat, for it must be clear to any thinking man that i we ever had a chance in this election it would have been as a vigorous, united, fighting party, and not as one suddenly jumbled together, under the banner of nationalism.

It is quite true, as some contend, that matters might be different if Dr. Manion would tell us who are to be the leaders, with himself, of the new party. Then, at least, we would have some justification or excuse for jumping overboard and taking a chance on the water being warm. We do know, of course-or so we are told-that these leaders are to be "of the best brains and the best minds" in the country. Perhaps even those two political gems of purest ray serene, Premier Hepburn of Ontario and ex-Premier Duplessis of Quebec, will be included in the Brain Trust - the former Richmond Hill

For the second time within the who seems to think his war with last dozen years the Conservative Premier King of greater importance Party in Canada has slipped its an- than the World War, and the latter cient moorings, and, beset by con- who apparently does not believe that trary currents, is drifting somewhat | Canada should be in the war at all. uncertainly to an unknown destina- The mere surrender of some of their tion, clinging to the hope that that long-cherished principles would, suredestination will be on the sunny side ly, be as nothing to Conservatives, of the stream. Quite frankly I think as compared with the blessed boon it will be found that there are many and privilege of being cheek by jowl Conservatives who feel that this with these two distinguished and

The very fact that one hears menmuch stronger in number and more tion of these two men as among uplifted in spirit if we had held fast the "best minds" must surely imto the faith of the founding fathers press upon Dr. Manion how necesand remained loyal to the traditions | sary it is, if he hopes for sustained and the principles of their party. It support, to name the men whom he is the belief of these men — and I proposes and who have consented to share that belief - that we should act with him in the new party have emulated the example of the those from Ontario, those from Quegallant officers and men of the bec, those from the Maritimes, those Rawalpindi, held fast to our colors, from the Middle West, those from and, nailing them to the masthead, the Far West. Manifestly that is not kept them flying to the end, no mat- too much to ask, especially as it ter what the odds, so that if we went | may not yet be too late to satisfy down, as the Rawalpindi, we should doubting Conservatives and swing have won a glorious victory even in them into line. That certainly is defeat. Apparently, however, we better than asking them to vote are not made of that stuff, and just blindly, and should produce much as evidently under the new party more satisfactory results from a

> Were that done we would not feel that we were like a man buying ther it is done or not, we cannot hope to win the election by abuse or by destructive criticism. To say that the King Government has made a shocking mess of its conduct of the war will not get us anywhere, because any sane man who has studied conditions and followed the doings of government knows that is not so. The British Government does not think so - and our contingents already overseas, and their splendid condition, reinforce that view. Fully as much to the point is the declaration of the last Conservative Minister of National Defense, Hon. Dr. Sutherland, who only the other day, in a statement at Woodstock deploring the shocking resolution of the Hepburnized Ontario Legislature, said: "I think the Government has been doing everything that could possibly be done -- I am convinced of that." Here is an authoritative voice - and a Conservative one at that - that cannot lightly be laughed aside.

Manifestly, then, vitriolic, insensate abuse of the King Government will avail or profit little. The Government, to be sure, has made mistakes, but what Government has not? In any event, to say that it has constantly fumbled the ball, and even has been guilty of criminal negligence, is to make friends for it rather than enemies, because such charges are as preposterous as they are partisan. If we cannot be fair,

The overshadowing duty before us at the moment is to do our bit as And now we are in another drift citizens of Empire to help win the war-for win it we must. Can we do that better by putting in power a new party whose elements and policies are as yet unknown? Or Party out of the wilderness, namely should we continue in power the King Government, already well along in its war work and in close communion and understanding with the Government of the Mother Country? In other words, can a yet unformed party carry on better than one already in the saddle? That is the all-important question for Canada at the moment. It transcends all others and removes it quite out of the sphere of partisanship.

Let Dr. Manion, then, produce his what their personal feelings-goose- men, and they their policies, their stepping just as they did under Mr. plans and their wares, and thus give the people of Canada a full and fair opportunity to judge of the respective merits of this presently nebulous party and the Liberal Party now in power. Only under such conditions can men vote intelligently and not blindly-only under such conditions can Conservatives determine whether their surrender to, or merger with, this new party will prove to be best for Canada and the Empire and assure victory over the common enemy that now menaces the world with its brute force.

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