

THE CANADIAN CLUBS

By BERNARD K. SANDWELL.

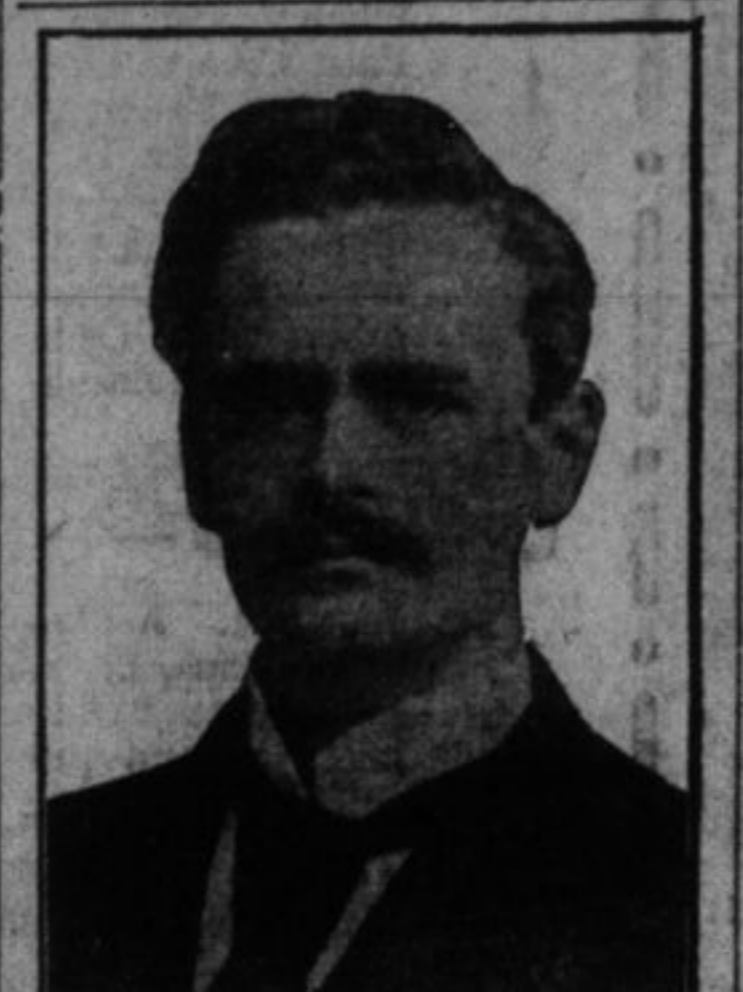
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The Canadian Clubs of the various cities of Canada, which to-day constitute the most effective machinery in existence for influencing and expressing public opinion upon all general questions of national concern save those of party politics, began their history in 1892, when the Canadian Club of Hamilton, Ont., was founded by Charles R. McCullough, originator of the idea, with the assistance of W. Sanford Evans, then a Hamilton newspaper man, but later a resident of Winnipeg, and now mayor of the western metropolis. To-day there are forty-one Canadian Clubs composed scattered all over the land in every city of any importance in the Dominion, to say nothing of the Canadian Clubs which have grown up in Canadian colonies in the great cities of the United States and of Great Britain. The resolutions of these clubs rank among the most important expressions of public opinion in the country, to be invited to address them is one of the most notable honors that can be extended to any Canadian or visitor, and their membership, which by no means represents the scope of their influence, is over 15,000. South Africa and Australia have both begun to imitate the model set in this greatest of the British dominions beyond the sea.

Each club is a purely local and autonomous organization, and until a year ago all efforts to form even a federation had failed entirely. At

berhip, soon began to appear in a more conspicuous manner. It was able to call upon very distinguished persons to deliver its addresses, and Dr. Goldwin Smith, Mr. C. M. Hays, Earl Grey, Rudyard Kipling, the Rt. Hon. James Bryce, and President Eliot were among its earliest guests. In November, 1903, it afforded an outlet for the expression of the profound feeling of dissatisfaction over the award in the Alaska boundary arbitration by tendering a great banquet to Mr. Aylesworth, the Canadian arbitrator, who had refused to sign the majority report. Ottawa and Galt, were then the only other cities with Canadian clubs; but the following year (1904) saw the rapid extension of the movement to cities of all sizes and in all provinces. The idea was already a proved success.

While devoted to the development of Canadian nationalism, and looked



MAYOR W. SANFORD EVANS, President Winnipeg Canadian Club and President of Federation.

at a glance by many in the early days as institutions of dubious "loyalty," the Canadian Clubs have as a matter of fact never done anything that was in the least degree calculated to weaken the British connection. They have listened to speakers of all shades of conviction as to the destinies of the Dominion from Mr. S. Ewart with his "Kingdom of Canada" and Mr. Bourassa with his anti-naval propaganda to Dr. Stephen Leacock, the chosen imperial apostle of the Rhodes.

present there is a central committee, which is more or less advisory, and does not in any way trammel the freedom of the local bodies. The extreme breadth of the movement, the simplicity of its ideals, is one of the chief reasons for its widespread success. The favorite form of meeting is a "business men's lunch," a light and inexpensive meal, followed by a condensed address by some recognized authority upon his own special subject, the whole concluding in time to allow the business man to get back to his vocation almost as early as ordinary. It is this unique device for utilizing the time when city men are collected together in the commercial centre which explains how the Canadian Clubs are able to assemble so large a number of the most active men of affairs in the country.

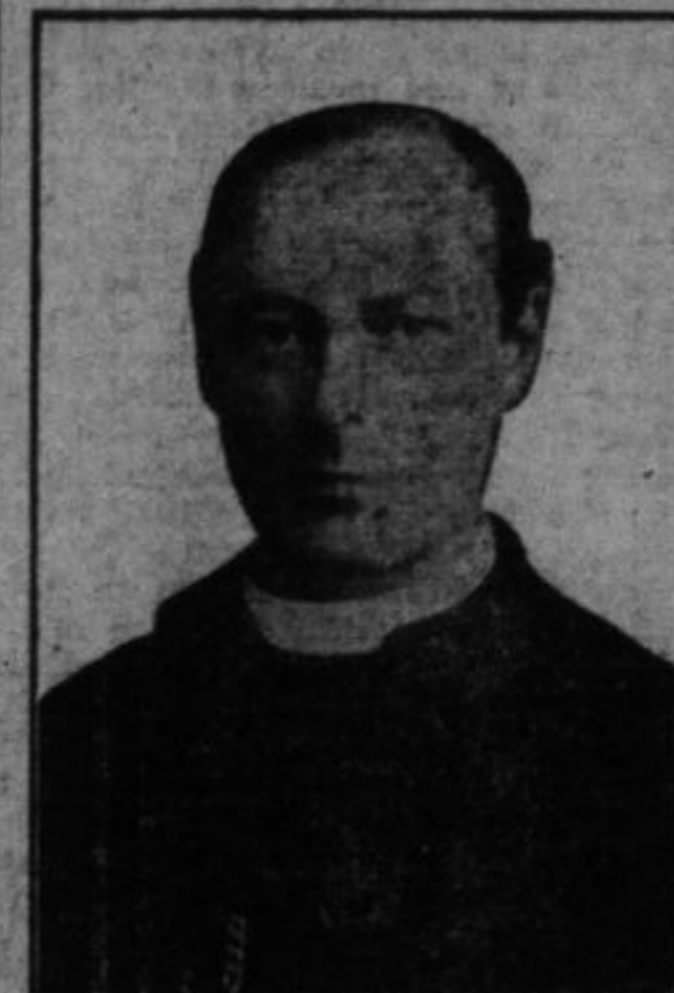
It was five years before the Hamilton example was followed by the men of any other city, and then it was owing to the energy of Mr. Sanford Evans, who had in the meantime removed from Hamilton, that Toronto organized the second of the Canadian Clubs. The foster-patriotism by encouraging the study of the institutions, history, art, literature and resources of Canada, and by endeavoring to unite Canadians in such work for the welfare and progress of the Dominion as may be desirable and expedient. Mr. John A. Cooper, then editor of the Canadian Magazine and now of the Canadian Courier, was the first president. It was here that the luncheon idea was first developed, about 1900, and immediately gave an immense impetus to the membership, which by 1907 had risen to 1,200, and was becoming too large for comfortable accommodation. The Hamilton influence still continued working, and among the charter members of many of the clubs which followed close upon the Toronto success may be seen the names of members of the such as Lieut.-Col. E. W. B. Morrison, D.S.O., of Ottawa; Mr. James Ferres, of Montreal, and many others. The influence of the Hamilton club had spread gradually and quietly through the personal work of its members and of those few in other cities who knew of its work. That of the Toronto club, its enormous mem-



MRS. R. C. FISHER, PRESIDENT MONTREAL WOMEN CAN. CLUB.

Trust, to Earl Grey, to Dr. Parkin, and to Col. G. T. Denison himself. Occasionally single clubs have taken action of a markedly imperialistic nature. The Toronto and Ottawa clubs refused to hear W. T. Stead on account of his attitude during the South African war. The Calgary club last year demanded the flying of the British flag on the Alberta schools. The Canadian Clubs afford an invaluable machinery for educational work among the Canadian people upon the topics of social and economic

importance. The spread of the juvenile court idea is largely due to the facilities they have presented. The conversation commission is now cooperating with the new association of Canadian Clubs with a view to a great educational campaign for the suppression of forest fires, excessive destruction of game and fish, and many other evils which threaten to eat up the national resources. Nearly all of the delegates to the imperial press conference of last year made known the results of their trip to the Canadian Clubs, and the influence thus exerted was perhaps the largest part of the fruits of the conference. The clubs have enabled the men of the extreme east to talk face to face with the men of the extreme west, and have contributed immensely to



THE VERY REV. E. C. PAGET, D.D., President Calgary Canadian Club.

the better understanding between the different parts of Canada. The chief limitation that now faces the Canadian Clubs in this day of their great prosperity is the difficulty of getting good speakers for the smaller clubs in the more out-of-the-way cities. It is easy to get distinguished men to address the big clubs, for there is no better way of reaching the people of Canada as a whole, and moreover the honor of addressing a club like that of Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Halifax, St. John's, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary, Vancouver, London or Victoria more than compensates for any trouble involved. But distinguished visitors to Canada do not always stop over in the smaller cities, and "men with a mission" are apt to think that when they have spoken in Toronto and Montreal and been fully reported they have done about all

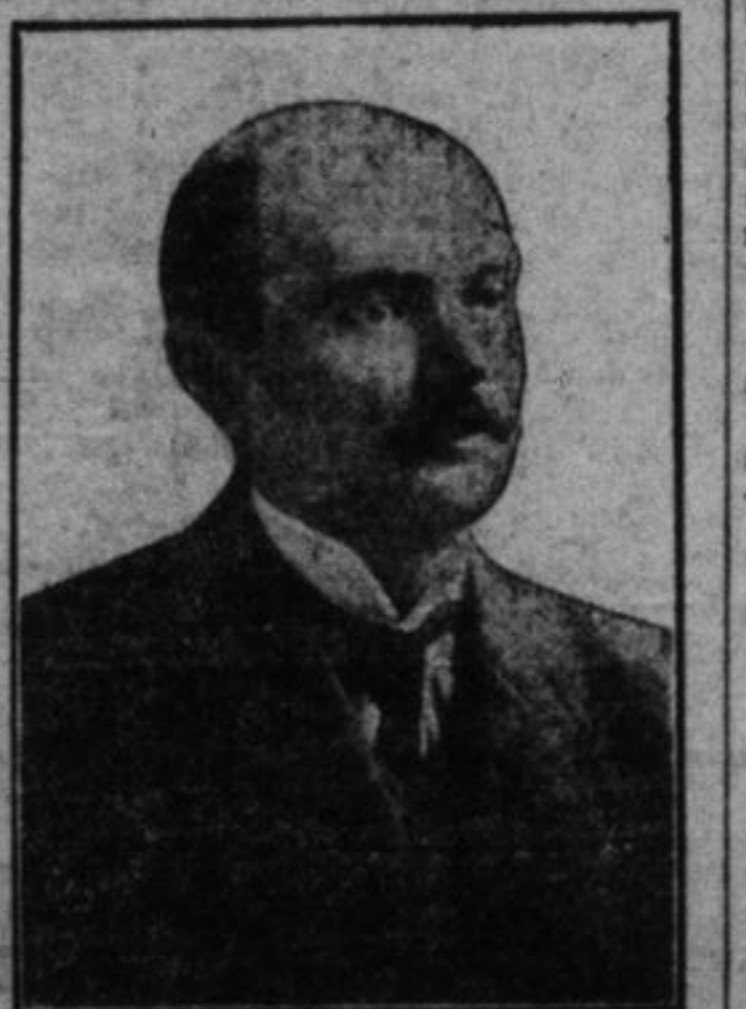
the autumn of 1907 Montreal took the lead by organizing the Women's Canadian Club of that city, with Lady Drummond as president, Madame Dandurand as vice-president, Mrs. Walton as treasurer, and Mrs. R. Wilson Reford as secretary. Almost at the same time a similar club was



BERNARD K. SANDWELL.

formed in Winnipeg with Mrs. Sanford Evans as president. Both clubs, together with the half dozen others which rapidly succeeded them, found immediate employment for their energies in the pushing of various patriotic projects and social reforms, notably the institution of juvenile courts, in which Winnipeg took the lead of all Canada. Many eminent women became officers of the new clubs, among them Lady Tilley in St. John, Mrs. H. A. Falconer in Toronto, and Mrs. C. S. Douglas in Vancouver. The present president of the Montreal club is Mrs. Rowell Fisher.

Under the title of Canadian Clubs should properly be included also some mention of the numerous organizations of Canadians in various cities



WM. GOU-PIEY, President Vancouver Canadian Club.

outside of the Dominion. These have, however, in the nature of things, a somewhat different purpose, namely that of keeping alive the ties uniting the expatriated Canadian to the homeland. Some of them, such as the New York and Boston clubs, are very large in membership and powerful in influence. Their number is constantly growing, and they are found in places as remote as Yokohama, Japan, and Mexico City, Mexico.

POEMS BY FATHER RYAN.

Comment on Volume by the Sweet Singer of the South.

By Prof. Paul Denys.

A friend who loves what is sweet and true in poetry and prose lent me a volume by Father Ryan—the sweet singer of the south—which I perused not without much pleasure and profit. And in examining its inspired pages I was at a loss as to which I should admire the more, the deep reflections therein contained or the enticing manner of their presentation. Another sentiment akin to the first surged in my mind as to how so many will wander from the delectable fountains of choicest thoughts and terms to seek the perilous productions of unauthorized, nay polluted pens. Beauty, in nature and in art, in song and verse, will be deserted for that which oftentimes is nothing more than degrading delineations of character and life, turning, as it were, their back on a sumptuous repast to feed their intellect with debasing, decidedly injurious nourishment.

In reading Father Ryan's poems I was vividly impressed with not a few of his sentiments, and it occurred to me that perhaps some observations thereupon might prove of interest to those of your readers who, like myself, may have missed an earlier peep

into its treasures. The one thing you experience after closing the book is a feeling of regret that the feast is over. Not that the author attempts to make you laugh; far from it, the permeating tone of his entire work being that of sadness and solitude, loving as he did to sing in a minor mode, as witness the following:

The surest way to God
Is up the lonely streams of tears,
That flow when bending 'neath the rod,
And fill the tide of earthly years.
And again—
Go list to the voices of air, earth and sea,
And the voices that sound in the sky,
Their songs may be joyful to some, but
To me—
There's a sigh in each chord and a sigh
In each key.

Yet, let it not be supposed that the



WM. THANT, President Regina Canadian Club.

gifted poet-priest lacked confidence in Him from whom all blessings flow. On the contrary; but fully convinced he was of the truth so beautifully told by a writer of repute that—"If you twine a few sad cypress leaves around the brow of any land, be that land barren and black, it becomes lovely in its consecrated coronet of sorrow, and it wins the heart. Crowns of roses fade—crowns of thorns endure. Calvaries and crucifixions take the deepest hold of humanity." All going to show that his was a rich, ardent nature, inclined to weep with those who wept, rather than to rejoice with the happy, anxious at all times to cast on the gloom of earth a gleam at least of heaven.

It is claimed that poets may roam as they please, that geniuses will not

of the suffering found a ready echo in his responsive, sympathetic soul. See how quickly and prettily one idle hour, when "night was digging the grave of day" and his host "a dream of rest" lay still on a calm sea, a mile or so off shore, he traced the lines—
On the dim, high altar of the dark
Stare, one by one,
Far, faintly shone,
The moonlight trembled like a mother's smile
Upon our bark.

No wonder his was a talismanic power to move multitudes. He touched others because he was touched himself. Shielding the feeble, bidding sad hearts be glad, his every word and act was clothed with consideration. To others he left the questionable privilege of wielding thunder. He knew that might, with injustice for a throw, is but a cowardly kind—that sorrow which he has caused will rise some day and, armed with the jeweled rapier of right, will smite the tyrant, and he shall sink, as he ought, into a grave ignoble and ignored.

But enough. Men of whom Abram F. Ryan is a type honor entire humanity. They belong not to a nation or creed, but to mankind, and thus we lay this imperfect tribute at



J. P. MACKAY, President Toronto Canadian Club.

his feet, thanking the white the good friend to whom we lay the copy of this issue, inclined to weep with those who wept, rather than to rejoice with the happy, anxious at all times to cast on the gloom of earth a gleam at least of heaven.

Some people manufacture groans for the purpose of exciting sympathy.



CHARLES R. McCULLOUGH, ORIGINATOR OF THE CANADIAN CLUB, HAMILTON, ONT., CAN. CLUB.

be tied down, but must, like the eagle, mount up at once to the sky and soar ever boldly aloft, feeling confined in all but the infinite. Well, there must be some verity in this, or else the zealous young priest whose parochial duties called him to the homes of the poor, the sick and the dying could never have found time to tread with such ease and grace and masterliness the craggy, steep heights of Parnassus.

But to his impressive mind a stream, a flower, a leaf, a very blade of grass suggested something Divine. Hence it is, the murmur of the sea, the sighing of the wind, the moaning

AND HE WAS RIGHT

COL. PELLETT SAID "SIR" TO THE KING.

Marquis De Fontenay Defends the Colonel From the Criticisms of London Press.

Col. Sir Henry Pellett, the commander of the Queen's Own Rifles, of Canada, who conveyed the entire regiment at his own expense over to England to take part in the annual manoeuvres of the English army, is taken to task by several London newspapers for having addressed King George frequently as "sir," on the occasion of the reception of the officers and a squad of the rank and file of his regiment, at Balmoral by the sovereign, writes the Marquis de Fontenay in the New York Tribune. The newspapers in question describe this form of address as embarrassing "Canada's democracy."

They are evidently unaware that this is the entirely correct form of addressing the King of England, as everybody who has lived at court or who has enjoyed any sort of intimacy with the reigning house of England perfectly well knows. The phrase "your majesty" is rarely used in ordinary conversation or even in current official business, being reserved for very ceremonial occasions, and formal documents. The king and all the princes of his house are invariably addressed as "sir," while not "madam," but "ma'am" is the form of address used in speaking to Queen Mary, to Queen Alexandra and to all the princesses of the reigning family. The nurses and



W. A. BUCHANAN, M.P.P., President Lethbridge, Alta. Can. Club.

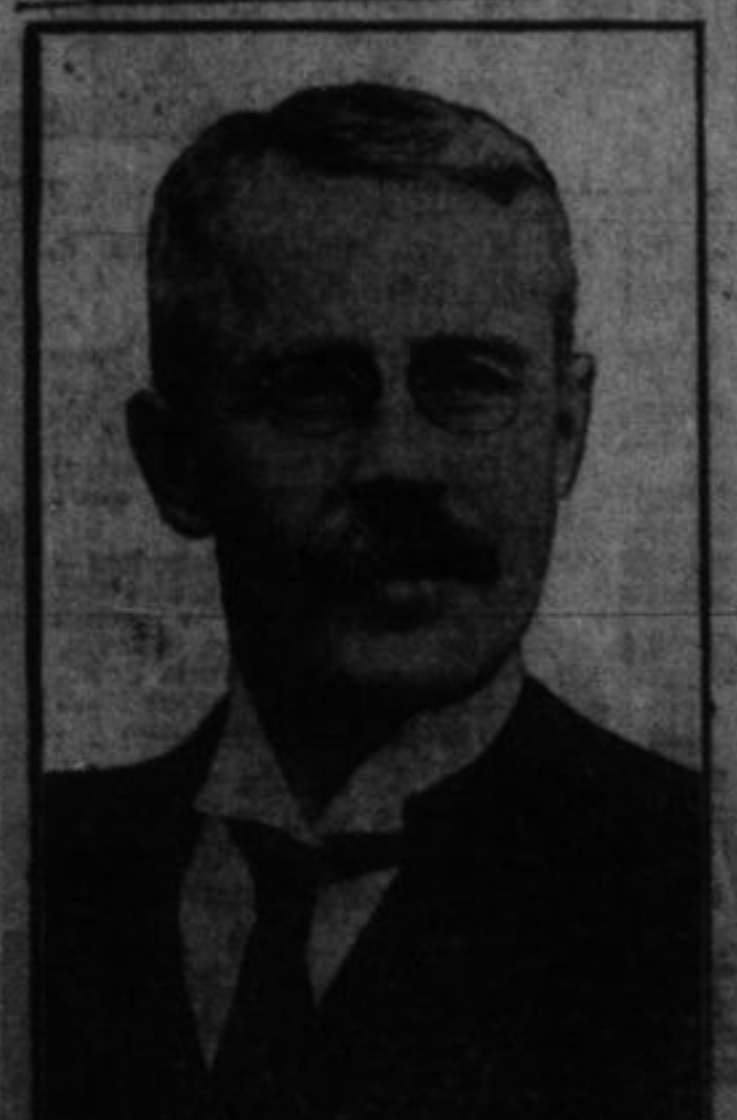
governesses of the only daughter of King George are accustomed to address her as "Princess Mary." But people who do not know her so well are obliged to address her as "ma'am" and there have been occasions when it has sounded quite odd to hear an aged dowager addressing a toddling princess as "ma'am."

It is a pity under the circumstances that the English newspapers should not have made sure of their facts before attempting to criticize Col. Sir Henry Pellett, and it only goes to show how little they know about such matters. Their ignorance is, however, by no means confined to themselves. It extends to many other professions, even to that of law, for when King Edward, as Prince of Wales, appeared in the witness box at the famous bacaret trial, Sir Edward Clarke, the former solicitor-general, excited much amusement during his cross examination of his future sovereign by his constant repetition with muchunction, of the phrase, "your royal highness," whereas Sir Charles Russell, afterwards lord chief justice, throughout his examination of the prince used the words, "your royal highness," only once, addressing him throughout all the other questions as "sir," but, then he was a member of the Jockey Club and one of the prince's personal friends.

Simpson is Cast Off.

Hamilton Herald.

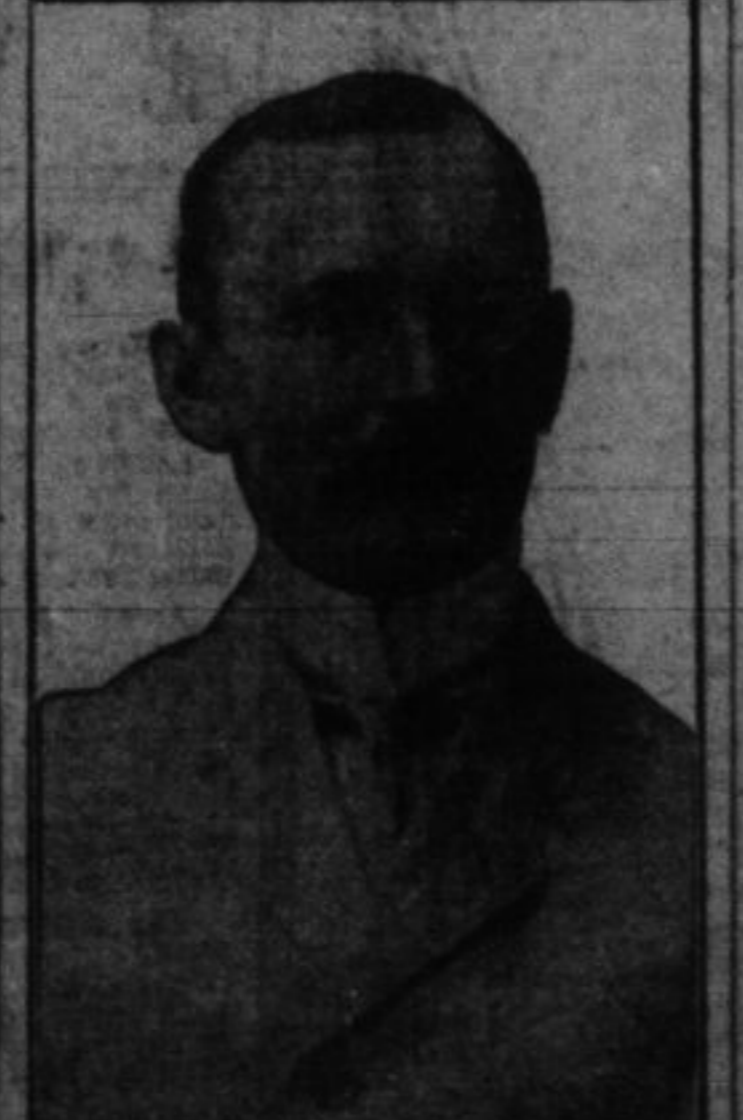
Jimmy Simpson, of Toronto, is no longer an official socialist, though he is still a socialist in principle. The local socialist organization to which he belonged made a demand on him that he, as a member of the Dominion commission on technical education, submit to the society a secret report of the work of the commission before any report was made to the government. Of course Jimmy could not comply with this demand, and so he has quit the society. It looks as though the demand was intended as a notice to him that he had better withdraw. The society's resolution, concerning technical education as a device to strengthen the claims that bind the "wage-slaves" to the car of capitalism, was virtually an expression of want of confidence in Jimmy.



C. R. ROWLANDS, Secretary London, Ont., Canadian Club.



DR. A. BEVERLEY WYLWARD, President Woodstock, Ont., Can. Club.



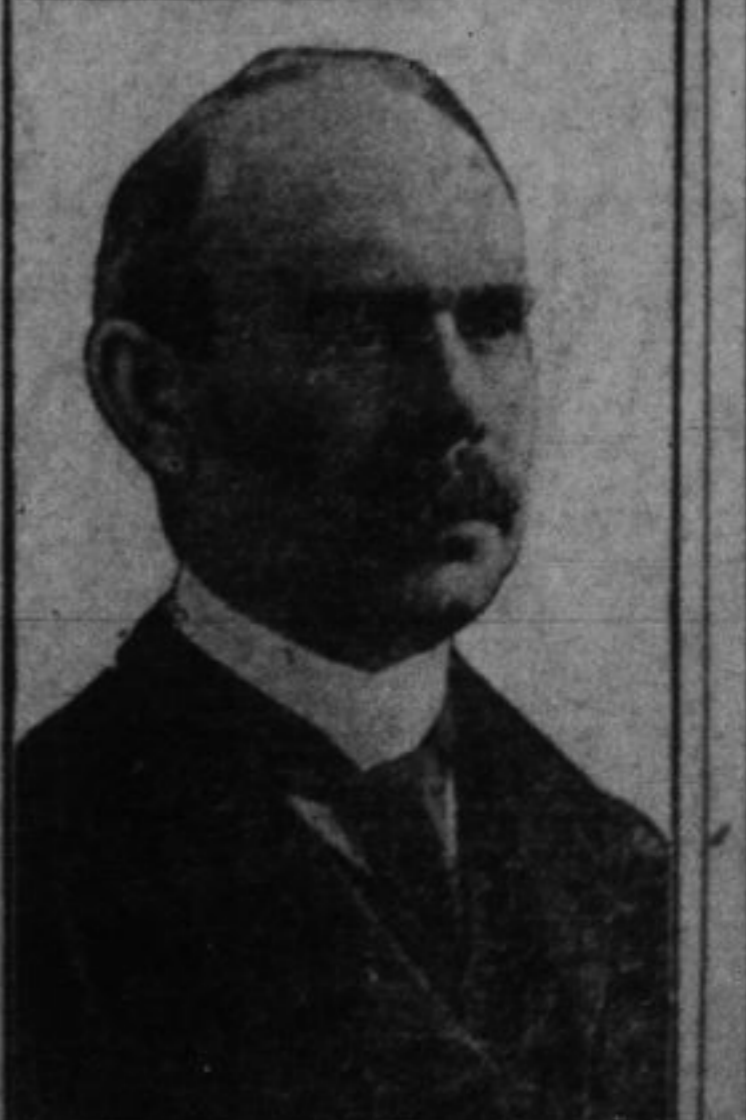
HIS HONOR JUDGE W. B. WALLACE, President Halifax Canadian Club.



E. P. SURVEYER, One of the organizers of the Montreal Canadian Club and vice-president of Federation.



C. W. HOWLEY, Representing Alberta Canadian Club in Federation.



JAMES F. BRIFFLEY, President Montreal Canadian Club.



MAJOR W. A. ORIESBACH, President Edmonton Canadian Club.