

CHURCHES AND POLITICS IN PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

Anglicans Probably Seventy and Methodists Sixty Per Cent. Conservative—Presbyterians, Baptists, and Congregationalists Mainly Liberal—Catholics Normally Conservative.

At the Provincial election just over the organized influence of the churches, as a whole, found expression on the side of the liberals. But "was not ever thus," How do the churches, or their members in Ontario ordinarily align themselves in party conflict? The Toronto Star Weekly put this question to one second to none in his knowledge of political conditions in Ontario, and, indeed, in this country. His reply was as follows:

"While any estimate must be speculative, I should think that, normally, in Ontario the conservatives get at least 70 per cent. of the Methodist vote and 60 per cent. of the Methodist vote."

"Probably the liberals get something more than 50 per cent. of the Presbyterian vote—one would be inclined, on the face of things, to say a good deal more than that, were there not some reason to think that, of late the Presbyterians not having produced an outstanding leader of the George Brown or of the Oliver Mowat type in either dominion or provincial politics, a certain proportion of old-time Presbyterian gits might use their vote and influence on the other side. Of the Baptists and Congregationalists, about 90 per cent. possibly, are liberals—but the numerical adherence to these churches is comparatively small. The Roman Catholic vote is the most un-certain factor of all. Sometimes it goes one way, sometimes another. It is the natural tendency of the Roman Catholics to vote conservative, unless they have been particularly 'baited' by the Orangemen."

Reasons are Historic.

There are historic reasons for the way in which the various churches align themselves in politics. The largely conservative party in Ontario was largely Anglican, and held the view that "the episcopal system was interwoven and connected with the monarchical foundations of our government," Bishop Strachan, the Roman Catholic, was a great church-and-state man. He and those who thought with him supported the maintenance of the act of 1791, which provided for the "Protestant clergy" in Upper Canada. A quantity of land equal in value to a seventh part of the province had been made in the past or might be made in the future. The law was unjust. Even if the expression "Protestant clergy" signified clergy of the church of England only—an assumption, to say the least of it, debatable—it was unreasonable that the members of that church, who were certainly more than a third, and probably not more than a fourth, of the population of Upper Canada, should have this exclusive privilege. This law of 1791 had been framed by the then dominant caste in Canada, which had the ear of the authorities in England.

Then again the Anglicans favored denominational education—a system which was detested by George Brown and the gits. "I can conceive nothing more unprincipled," exclaimed George Brown, "than a scheme to array the youths of the province in sectarian hands, to teach them, from the cradle up, to know each other as Methodist boys, and Presbyterian boys, and Episcopal boys. We have enough of this most wretched sectarianism in our churches without carrying it further."

Brown and Presbyterians.

George Brown was a Presbyterian. And his sturdy opposition, whether on the platform or in the columns of his newspaper, to the exclusive claim of the Anglican church and the pretensions of the dominant caste which adhered to it, made a power-

ful appeal to the independent spirit of Presbyterians, although as regards the question of the "clergy reserves" a minority of them would have acquiesced in a settlement of the question which would have given part of these to their church, and Presbyterians was a Presbyterian, and Presbyterians have always been the backbone of the liberal party in the province.

"The 'Clergy Reserves' question aroused almost as much ire among the Methodists as it did among the Presbyterians. And Egerton Ryerson, whenever that question was raised for religious liberty and civil rights against state church and a political oligarchy. Also he took up the cudgels against Bishop Strachan when the latter took occasion, in published sermons, not only to advance the claims of the Anglican church to be the established church of Canada, but also to disparage other religious bodies as being imbued with republican and leveling opinions.

But Egerton Ryerson was no radical. While he sought equal rights for all churches, and efficient education for all the people, his political sympathies were with a moderate conservatism. As a United Empire Loyalist, he viewed with distrust the radical wing which has developed Canadian liberalism to have developed. It was his boast that not a single member of the Methodist church in Canada was implicated in the rebellion, and it was his object to awaken the loyal fears of Methodists to what he thought the dangerous objective of a section of Canadian Liberalism. It was largely owing to his influence that, once equal religious rights were established for all, the majority of Methodists joined hands with the conservatives.

Catholics Attacked.

Despite the fact that, in later days, the Hon. Sandfield Macdonald, the first premier of the province, was a Roman Catholic, the Roman Catholics were at first arrayed against the conservatives. But George Brown's anti-pope correspondence drove them into the ranks of the conservatives for a good many years. How Mowat were both always very conciliatory and diplomatic in their dealings with Roman Catholics, but in 1883 the conservative party probably still held the majority of them. In 1886 the conservative party made a rather ill-advised attack on the Mowat government not only for giving special privileges to the Roman Catholics in separate schools, but also for trucking to them in other schools—a lot was made of the exclusion of "Marriston" from the extension of the extension to Roman Catholics. At the same time, Mowat's Presbyterian support never wavered, and he used that as a defence to the charge of trucking to Roman Catholics—for instance, Principal Caven, of Knox college, was two Blakes, who, though Anglicans, were regarded as leaders of Protestantism.

Sir James Whitney, on becoming a conservative leader, dropped the anti-papist attitude of his predecessors. By an order in council, he received a provincial election, he receives a large measure of Roman Catholic support. The Baptists and Congregationalists of Ontario, while almost uniformly liberal, are so rather by reason of a general outlook on life and doctrine than by reason of any historic association, although it is true that the Hon. Alexander MacKenzie was a Baptist. In the maritime provinces, however, for various reasons, a very large proportion of Baptists are conservatives.

MOVING TO THE SUMMER CAMP



"FIGHT ON"

The Best Rallying Cry in the Temperance Forces.

The following from the pen of Miss Mary White, formerly of Picton, who conducts a department in the Toronto Globe, and writes over the pen name of Bride Broder, is an encouraging message to the women of Ontario.

"With 'The fight must go on,' Rev. Dr. Neal, quoted on the Globe screen last night, has struck the best rallying cry for the moment, which, defeated for the moment, because they are fighting for the right, Ontario's women have made a great record in the campaign; they can make a greater one up to another battle. The cause of temperance has not gone undisturbed, and those who espoused the Rowell policy need feel no shame over deeds, and the looker-on can see better, by far, its gallantry than those who were out under fire. If the election of June, 1914 has done nothing else it has brought many to find the points on which they agree, and to forget differences in a common cause of the triumph of great issues, as women know better, perhaps than men. There is no cause for real discouragement for the struggle has but sifted out the staff, and without the weaklings who were brave in speech and coward in act, the Temperance cause, which is steadily drawing to itself the 'common sense' of most, will be stronger and more secure.

Imposing funeral services were held over the bodies of the murdered archduke and duchess in Vienna.

WILL PROTECT DOUGLAS.

Englishman in Mexico Will Have Fair Trial.

Washington, July 6.—Assurance has been given to the British embassy here that George St. Clair Douglas, the Englishman condemned to death as a spy by the Mexican constitutionalists, will have a fair trial. U. S. Consul Bryan left Durango at last night, for the state department for Zacatecas, where Douglas is confined to use his influence in securing the Englishman's release.

VERY STRONG PEOPLE.

Strange Race of People in One District of Alps.

On the mountain slopes of the Bardonecchia district of the Alps, there is a curious race of powerfully built people. For some reason best known to themselves they build their dwelling in spots inaccessible to ordinary mortals. The people of the neighboring valleys are quite a different class of beings and are looked upon as weaklings, which they certainly are, compared with the sturdy men and women who ascend the steep and rugged roads leading to their primitive cottages. The physique that is extraordinary and boast a race of men and women who are not so remarkable as the women, who may be described as powerful Amazons.

Thousands Drowned In Floods

Ontario, July 6.—Reports received here say that 10,000 persons have been drowned in the West River floods, which this year are worse than usual, and that deaths from starvation in the affected districts have been numerous.

A Seat for Reame.

Ottawa, July 6.—It was reported here but could not be confirmed, that G. Howard Ferguson, M.P.P. for Grenville has offered to resign his seat in favor of Hon. Dr. Reame, Ontario minister of public works, defeated in the recent election.

At Sydney, N.S.W., "Jimmy" Clab-

by, of Hammond, Ind., won, Saturday night, on a foul, from "Eddie" McCourt, of Oskosh, Wis., the title of world's middleweight champion. The foul occurred in the eighth round. The battle was hard fought.

The Dominion government has

taken another step to facilitate the rehabilitation of the Southern Alberta Land company.

TAUGHT BY THE SWALLOWS.

How a Railway Tunnel Was Built Through a Sand Bank.

A colony of bank swallows taught a young but observing engineer how to build a tunnel, that his unlearned superiors had refused to undertake.

North of Burlington, Vt., lies a broad sand plain high above the level of Lake Champlain, through which the Central railroad was to be carried by a tunnel. The sand, destitute of moisture, would not cohere, but crumbled away as soon as an excavation was made. After several costly trials the engineers decided that the tunnel was impracticable.

A young man in the engineer's office said he could tunnel the sand bank at a small cost. He said he could build the tunnel for so many dollars a running foot, but that he couldn't expect the railway people to act upon his opinion when so many American and European engineers had declared the project impracticable.

The managers, however, gave him a contract to build fifty feet of the tunnel. On the face of the sand bank he marked the line of an arch larger than the proposed tunnel and on this line drove sharpened timbers into the bank. Then he removed six feet of the sand and drove in another arch of twelve foot timbers, removing six feet more of sand. This process he repeated until he had space enough to begin the masonry. As fast as the masonry was completed the space above it was filled, leaving the timbers in place.

He pierced the bank with the cheapest tunnel ever built, which now stands as firm as on the day it was finished.

He was asked whether there was any suggestion of the structure adopted by him to be found in the

books on engineering.

"No," he said, "it came to me in this way: I was driving by the place where the attempt was made and saw that the colony of swallows had made their colony in the bank. It occurred to me that these little engineers had disproved the assertion that the sand had no cohesion. As every swallow's home is a self-sustaining tunnel without masonry, I thought I could extend their method and could dig a larger tunnel. The bank swallow is the inventor; I am simply his imitator."—Boston Post.

PEACOCK WINS LAWSUIT.

Multi-Millionaires Quarreled Over Land at Thousand Islands.

Syracuse, N.Y., July 6.—Justice Crouch has decided in favor of the plaintiff in the law suit brought by Alexander H. Peacock, of Pittsburgh, against Gilbert T. Rafferty, of Philadelphia. Both parties to the action are multi-millionaires and members of the exclusive Alexandria Bay colony of the Thousand Islands.

The suit arose over a strip of land decided to Peacock by Rafferty, in 1904. The two men were owners of twin islands in St. Lawrence, opposite Alexandria Bay, and had been close friends. Mr. Rafferty deeded one island to his friend, and later added another strip of land on Wells Island on which Mr. Peacock erected a boathouse costing \$27,000.

At Wimbledon, Eng., Norman E. Brookes, of Australia, won the all-comers lawn tennis singles championship, Saturday, wrestling the title from Anthony F. Wilding, of New Zealand, the holder, in three straight sets, 6-4, 6-4, 7-5.

By an order in council the cold-storage act has been amended to provide that the public be given preference in the matter of storage under certain conditions.

WHY STICK TO THE OLD-STYLE BATHING DRESS? London "Sketch" designs for winking wavers, "The Classical."

THINGS THEATRICAL

Notes About Plays, Players and Playhouses.

"A Pair of Sixes" recently passed its one hundredth performance at the Lyric Theatre, in New York. William Harris will produce next season a new play by James Forbes, author of "The Chorus Lady" and several other successes.

David Belasco's first production of the season will be a three-act farce adapted from the German and entitled "The Vanishing Bride."

Pauline Frederick is to play before the motion-picture camera in Rome in a film production of Hall Caine's "The Betrothal."

Leo Dietrichstein is to star next season in "The Lone Wolf," a Hungarian play, which he has adapted. David Belasco will manage the venture.

Arthur Lewis and other well-known players have been engaged to appear next season in "Innocent," a play adapted from a Hungarian source by George Broadhurst.

Contrary to the reports that he would go to Chicago, Frank Craven in his successful comedy, "Too Many Cooks," now plans to remain in New York through the summer.

George Drew Mendum, a niece of John Fawcett, has signed a contract to appear in a comedy by the coming season under the management of Joseph Hart.

"The Vanishing Bride," with Janet Beecher heading the cast, is to open at Mr. Belasco's New York theatre about the middle of September.

Emily Stevens, a niece of Mrs. Minnie Madden Fliske, is to be starred by the Lieblers the coming season in "The Garden of Paradise."

"He Comes Up Smiling," a comedy by Byron Ongley and Emily Nyiray, is to be produced at Atlantic City next month with Douglas Fairbanks heading the cast.

A vaudeville show is now given nightly in the baseball park in Brooklyn.

The title of John Mason's new play has been changed from "Drugged" to "The Jail Bird."

Cyril Maude's second American tour will open in Boston the first week in November.

The Liebler company has secured the dramatic rights to Eleanor H. Porter's novel "Pollysanna."

Charles Frohman will feature Henry E. Day next season in a French play called "La Belle Adventure."

The Tallafiero sisters are to appear next season in a comedy by Harry B. Smith, the well-known lierretist.

Owen Johnson's "Salamander" is to be presented next season with Janet Baxter and other well-known players in the cast.

Clay M. Greene, a daughter of Mr. Greene, a member of a stock company playing in Cleveland this summer.

The Shuberts are to make a big production next season of a dramatization of Robert H. Davis' novel "The Battle Cry."

Charles Richman and Tully Marshall are to have leading parts in "The Trap," by Richard Harding Davis and Jules Eckert Goodman.

"The Fascinating Widow," in which Julian Eltinge stars, is to make a tour of the country next season with Hal Johnson in the title role.

May Robson is to be seen next season in a play called "Martha by the Day," which is a dramatization of the novel of that name by Julie Lipman.

Victor Herbert is finishing the score of "The Debutante," the new musical comedy in which John C. Fisher is to star Hazel Dawn next season.

The English critics speak well of Sam Barnard, who is appearing in "The Belle of Bohemia" at the Adelphi theatre in London.

Next season "The Yeoman of the Guard" is to be added to the repertory of operettas by Gilbert and Sullivan presented by the company at whose head is De Wolf Hopper. It is planned for the company to begin its tour in California early in the fall.

Alliance Secretary Resigns.

Montreal, July 6.—John H. Roberts of this city has placed his resignation as secretary of the Dominion Alliance in the hands of the president, Mr. S. J. Carter as a protest against the failure of the organization to support him to the extent he desired in his protest against the present personnel of the Montreal license commission.

L. B. O. Wakelam, a C.P.R. signalman was presented with a medal for saving life.

A Curious Punishment.

The Slovaks (Hungary) are a very peaceful, law-abiding community, but there are probably black sheep amongst their number and in front of the Roman Catholic church at Postyén may be seen an ancient pillar reminiscent of the days when punishment was meted out in much the same way as it was in England in those days. Fastened to this pillar in the center is a large iron clasp, and at the base two smaller ones close together. These clasps fitted around the waist and ankles of offenders, and when a man or woman had stolen something they were locked to this post on a Sunday and compelled to hold their hands whatever they had stolen. Every Slovak attends mass on Sundays, from which it may be gathered that this public exposure was no small ordeal. The post bears a terse inscription, the translation of which is, "I do not ask you to come, but if you come I receive you."—From "A Picture Hunter in Hungary," in the July Wide World.

The Ideal.

Little Frank was trying hard to sit up late, but had grown very sleepy. The visitor in whose honor bedtime had been retarded noted and made comment:

"I reckon you usually go to bed before you are small enough to get with the chickens," he smiled.

"No, I don't," snapped Frankie, insulted. "I have a room all to myself."—Exchange.

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