

**THE FRONTENAC TORIERS  
HOLD ANNUAL MEETING**

Addresses by Members and Ex-Members—Freeze-out for U.F.O. Spectators.

The annual meeting of the Liberal-Conservative Association of Frontenac, held at the court house on Thursday afternoon, was marked by a large attendance of the "Old Guard," young men being conspicuously absent. There were several notable addresses, the speakers being: Joseph Thompson, M.P.P. and Hon. W. D. McPherson, M.P.P., Toronto; W. F. Nickle, K.C., M.P., Kingston; W. D. Black, M.P.P., Addington; Andrew Gray, M.P.P., Leeds county, and Hon. Dr. J. W. Edwards, ex-M.P. The business consisted of the election of officers and the appointment of township chairman.

James Webb, president, occupied the chair, but before business was fairly started Hon. Dr. Edwards rose to demand that persons present who were not of the Conservative party, or in sympathy with the aims and principles of the party, withdraw. He directed attention to the published notice calling the convention, and he observed persons (U.F.O. leaders) present. "If their presence means that they have seen the error of their

ways and have had a change of heart we are glad to see them for this is a Conservative meeting." He requested the chairman to call upon all to stand who were there as supporters. All stood except two U.F.O. county workers. They were thereupon told to withdraw. One of them, a well-known resident of Pittsburg, stepped to the centre aisle, bowed, and retired. Great applause followed this compliance with the doughty doctor's demands.

The minutes were amended by changing the name National Liberal and Conservative Association to "Liberal-Conservative Association." The constitution was adopted.

Two resolutions were passed, one expressing condemnation of the Liberal government for ignoring pledges made during the election, and expressing confidence in Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, and the second condemning the wasteful expenditure of the Drury government and expressing confidence in Hon. H. G. Ferguson, leader of the Ontario Conservatives.

**Officers Elected.**

The following officers were elected: President, C. G. McKnight, Hinchinbrook; first vice-president, W. E. Anglin, Battersea; second vice-president, Fred Dennison, Portland; secretary, Harvey Shannon; treasurer, T. V. Stuart; township chairman: Kenebeck, E. L. Parks; Oso, Archie Gray; Bedford, Geo. Bottrell; Clarendon and Miller, Thos. Topping; Barrie, Chas. McGlynn; Storrington, John Taylor; Loughborough, David Walker; Kingston, W. Aylesworth; Portland, Thos. Kerr; Olden, Melville Drew; Pittsburg, R. Donaldson.

Joseph Thompson, M.P., congratulated the association upon such a large gathering, and also upon the presence of the ladies, who were to have an increasing share in public affairs. Hon. W. D. McPherson severely criticized the U.F.O.-Labor government for large expenditure and for shirking responsibility for legislation by using private members to introduce bills. He was supported by W. F. Nickle, M.P.P., who made a lengthy address in which he reviewed the development of the "class movement" as shown in the Progressive party today, and dealt minutely with the last session of the legislature. He severely denounced the government, and especially the provincial treasurer upon the condition of the finances. He declared that there was no such thing as responsible government in Ontario or at

Ottawa, and condemned group government. Mr. Black confined himself to criticism of the government's expenditures on roads and of the method of assessment upon the townships that get no benefit from the highways. The dairy standards act, he said, was forced upon the dairy industry at a most inopportune time, when the farmers did not want it and when the price of cheese was low. The cost of Hydro development and the failure to distribute power to farmers at moderate rates was also dealt with by the speaker. Lt.-Col. Andrew Gray congratulated the association upon the enthusiasm manifested.

**Great Enthusiasm Shown.**

Before the speakers were called upon, J. F. Sowards, Kingston, was introduced and he conveyed greetings from the Kingston Conservatives and congratulated the association upon the large gathering. Applause greeted Mr. Sowards.

Joseph Thompson, M.P., paid a high tribute to W. F. Nickle for "helping to patch up the half-baked and slipshod legislation introduced by the Drury government during the recent session and endeavoring to make the best out of a bad article" (Applause.) Hon. W. D. McPherson, K.C., M.P.P., made a strong impression on his audience and evoked repeated applause. He declared that the record of the Conservative party was a record of progress, and the people of Canada had nothing to be ashamed of for reposing their confidence and their fidelity in the principles of that party. "All great public undertakings are directly attributable to that party and also in no small way to the men whom Frontenac county has sent to represent it in the legislature and the commons."

(Applause.) W. F. Nickle was a tower of strength to Hon. Howard Ferguson and I am proud to be here to show my respect to Hon. Dr. Edwards and to W. F. Nickle. (Applause.) Proceeding the speaker said "While we are not in the throes of an election I don't know when there will be one, but we have in the last twelve months been very close to one in Ontario." He went on to tell of the government's enormous expenditures, and of dragging the session over eighty days. In the days of Hardy, Mowat and Ross the expenditure was \$5,000,000, but today it exceeds that every month! It will be difficult for Premier Drury to face the people at the next election when he has to justify his expenditures. As this was the criticism directed against the previous government it is the standard by which the present one should be judged."

**Inefficiency of Government.**

Hon. Mr. McPherson told of the unpreparedness of the Drury ministry to administer the affairs of the province, and of shirking responsibility for legislation by introducing bills through private members, sometimes members of the government voting against them. At Ottawa we have a government that exists only by the indulgence of the groups in the house. We have not the old two-party system by which a government had to resign upon an adverse vote. Group government is weak government, because there is constant compromise." He advised his hearers to be ready to give their whole support to Hon. Dr. Edwards, or whoever the candidate might be when an election came.

W. F. Nickle covered much the same ground as the previous speaker, directing the criticism against what he considered the inefficiency of the Drury government. He traced the development of the Progressive movement from class consciousness originating in the west and spreading to the farmers of the east. It was a symptom of the conditions following the war, and few governments anywhere survived the war. They had to go because of the accumulation of grievances, such as conscription, discontent and injustices in the war excited. He explained the parliamentary system of government in Canada from which he saw a departure in the present group government at Toronto and Ottawa. Mr. Nickle gave a most minute account of the deliberations in the legislature last session and declared the members of the government to be most inefficient and wasteful in expenditures, citing the Chippawa Commission. The supremacy of the courts was assailed by the attorney-general in the action he took to upset a judgment of Judge Riddell in the race track betting matter. He explained how the government hid its deficit of \$2,500,000 and showed a surplus of \$600,000 in the financial statement. "The books were closed respecting expenditure on Oct. 31st, 1921, but kept open for revenue until Dec. 8th during which time \$990,000 was taken in and credited that should have appeared in the statement for the present year. "If I could get hold of those books," said he, "I would show the deplorable state the finances are really in." (Applause.) But these group governments are only a passing phase of class consciousness. Enthusiasm is a mighty motive power and you have got to get organized and use the platform and present our policies to the people as freely as our opponents. The next election will be won by organization, and you must get ready now and work." Mr. Nickle was applauded repeatedly at the conclusion of his address.

**A Lively Corps.**

Hon. Dr. Edwards in opening his address congratulated the audience upon the high character of the addresses heard. "I am one of the liveliest corpses you ever gazed upon in your life," said he referring to rumors that he was down and out, and the remark brought applause. "It is true that the other fellow got more votes than I did, but I want you to

remember that there were 2,560 not cast last December. Hundreds of ladies thought Dr. Edwards was all right anyway and did not go to vote. It was said that I did not stay in the county as much as I should have, and it is true that I was absent helping those in other places two thirds of the last six weeks. It was a part of my responsibility as a cabinet minister. I think certain unfair means were employed in the north part of the county by the Drury people who in December employed hundreds of voters to dig up trees for highways. They dug up 4,000 trees before the election and covered the roots with dirt to keep them from spring planting on the highway. Proceeding Dr. Edwards declared that in his thirteen years at Ottawa he never cast a vote against the interests of farmers. (Applause.) He said he opposed the importation of oleomargarine whereas the present member voted for it. He claimed that the Conservative government made greater reductions in the tariff than the Liberals did in fifteen years. "But what do you find today? You find the Progressives voting with the King government on the budget, one of them being the Frontenac member!" (Applause.) I hear Mr. Reed has made a speech. It was in Hansard and he asked for a government grant for the Kingston Fair because the Kingston Fair needed the grant (laughter) but I suppose he has earned the everlasting gratitude of a certain individual who supported him in his election." (Laughter.)

Widow-burning, now virtually extinct in India, is said to exist still in parts of Africa. Widows were immolated on the husband's funeral pyre as a sign of virtue, and to provide the dead man with attendants in the next world.

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**Feeding Largest Family in the World**

Dr. Barnardo's Homes are making their annual appeal for half-crowns for the Founder's Day Food Fund in connection with their anniversary, which will be celebrated on Saturday, 24th June, at the Model Village for Girls, Barking, Essex. The Barnardo family is the largest in the world, 7,290 children (of whom 1,191 are babies). All these growing children need food to turn them into A1 citizens. Since the Homes were founded 55 years ago over 93,000 children have "passed through." Over 93,000 little people have been rescued from circumstances which threatened, nay almost promised—death, moral, physical, or both, and they have been converted by love, care, and training into healthy profitable citizens of the realm. At this moment 7,290 are undergoing that same process of transformation. It is those 7,290 who look for a generous public for food. Last year 302,894 Half-Crowns were collected, sent in by 45,211 friends. The Barnardo child has started her long climb up the ladder: 300,000 Half-Crowns is the goal. Will you help her to climb quickly so that the needs of her 7,289 brothers and sisters may be provided? After all, there is no joy equal to the joy of giving, there is no satisfaction equal to the satisfaction of helping those who really need your help. The children of the Barnardo Homes do need it, and they need it very badly. Cheques and orders payable "Dr. Barnardo's Homes Founder's Day Fund" and crossed, should be addressed to the director, Rear-Admiral Sir Harry Stileman, at headquarters, 18-26, Stepney Causeway, London, E.I.

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