

Building up a Powerful Liberal Opposition at Ottawa

(Harry W. Anderson in Toronto Globe)

It was Disraeli who exclaimed, in a vein of cynicism, "There is no gambling like politics." Five short months ago a decimated, dishevelled and disheartened remnant of Canadian Liberalism nervously crawled out of the cyclone cellar after a disastrous electoral hurricane. The world had a cold, grey hue. All was devastation and desolation. The Eden of power and prestige had been wiped out. Even tall Ministerial oaks had been uprooted and the smaller shrubbery was rent and torn and trampled almost beyond recognition. Nothing remained but a forsaken garden in which even Hope appeared to lie dead.

But the darkest hour comes before the dawn. The morrow's sun broke upon a new scene—a scene of life, of throbbing activity, of strong faith, of sound, healthy optimism. And Liberalism awoke with the sun to find its being battered but unbroken, to feel it was good to be alive, and to realize it had a day's work to do. It tackled its job with the old homely virtues, fearless of soul, cool of head and kindly of heart.

It survived the supreme test. It took its licking manfully and "came back" the public has little use for a party which, when beaten after holding office, sulks in its tent and gives itself the airs of a dispossessed heir. Liberalism girded its loins and came forth to its task. It proved its principles partook of no meaningless shibboleth, but were a reality to be maintained and developed by constant service. When it had won it was unafraid. The penulum swings forward and backward but the hands of the clock go only forward.

So Liberalism has loyally and confidently accepted its new duties. It has not sat down with its "back to the engine" to review the achievements of the past. It rejects the sweeping character of Lord Randolph Churchill's dictum that the business of an Opposition is to oppose. Its faith in itself has not grown cold. It is not content with a policy of negation, or with propounding maudlin platitudes—not untrue, but unreal and uninteresting. The Opposition of today is ready to build up where it pulls down—to remove obstacles which block the path of progress, and to point the positive goal to endeavor. And, whatever the effect of the change of seats may mean to the country, its temporary banishment from office has done the Liberal party no harm. The fighting freedom of Opposition is developing the rank and file of its membership, and the removal of the material from its considerations of public policy is resulting in the re-instatement of the Idea.

How much of the remarkable renewed confidence of the Canadian people in the Liberal party—manifested almost daily in the showers of communications pouring in upon its members from every Province—is directly attributable to the "Grand Old Man" at its helm will never be known. In defeat, as in victory, he appeals to the best of the cosmopolitan Canadian citizenship. His intense national enthusiasm, his ambitious dreams for the Greater Canada, his jealous guarding of the country's good name and his unwearied activity in all that makes for Canadian weal are characteristics which burn themselves upon the conception of all who come into closer contact with him. "He lives moves and has his being for Canada," was the verdict of a newspaperman the other day at the close of one of those rare intimate conferences with which "the Chief" occasionally favors his press "boys." One sometimes wonders whether Canada has yet grasped the real inspiration in the life of a greatest son whether she yet notes the delicate persistency with which his finger presses the public pulse.

There was little surprise among those who knew him when, toward the close of his memorable speech at the family gathering which celebrated the victory of South Renfrew, the septuagenarian smilingly observed: "I am prepared to remain at the head of the Liberal party so long as you want me and so long as God spares me." Sir Wilfrid has done more for Canada than give her good government. He has given her people high ideals.

It is "the Chief" who has created the new spirit which is pulsating through Canadian Liberalism from ocean to ocean. He is devoting himself with enthusiasm to two equally congenial tasks—fighting the enemy and developing a splendid (trained) force of aggressive young Liberalism. For fifteen years this great Canadian has consecrated his remarkable powers to the service of the country and the upbuilding of a happy, prosperous and contented people. Removal from the helm of the ship of State did not rob him of his ideals nor has his deft constructive hand lost its cunning. Readers of The Globe who have been following Parliamentary events for the past few months do not need to be told that the veteran Liberal has set himself to the development of progressive and purposeful young Liberalism; that he is using the greater time now at his disposal to lay deep and firm the foundation of the Canadian Liberalism of the eventful national morrow on lines broad in outlook, world-wide in sympathy and sound in economics. Within a few weeks he transformed a discouraged remnant into an enthusiastic fighting force, the spirit of which he characterized as "both confident and cocky." He has developed initiative, emphasized ideals, and given scope to the enthusiasm of youth, tempered by the wisdom of experience.

So Sir Wilfrid Laurier in Opposition has been finding men for the Liberal party and for Parliament. He has been allotting every man in the ranks something to do. He has been taking counsel with them all. He finds them both winning and able. The result has been that while there are fewer Liberals in Parliament than there have been for some years past there seem to be more. A year ago all the responsibility was with the Chief and his Ministerial lieutenants, today every man has an individual responsibility. It is a splendid conception of effective working Opposition. There are no dullards. Everything has something to do, and is doing it. And the process is making bone and sinew and vitality.

The advent of Hon. George P. Graham into the House completes the quintette of the "Old Guard"—members of the former Cabinet—who will surround the Chief. Hon. Messrs. Pugsley, Oliver, Lemieux and Emerson have already proved their effectiveness in Opposition. Dr. Pugsley, formerly Premier and Attorney-General of New Brunswick, keen, alert, capable counsel that he is, has proved invaluable in taking care of the legal and technical end of legislation. A braw and bonny fighter is Mr. Oliver in Opposition, with his western forcefulness and energy, while Mr. Lemieux, the eloquent French-Canadian, has demonstrated that his oratory can be used to telling effect. No men are more conscious of this than the present Minister of Public Works and the Postmaster-General. In the absence of Mr. Graham it has fallen to the lot of Mr. Emerson to handle problems of transportation and the Westmorland man has shown that he has not "lost his grip."

But it is in the remarkable development of the rank and file of the Liberal membership that the party finds its inspiration. The whole Opposition phalanx seems to be galvanized with currents of optimistic activity. "The Boys"—as the Chief affectionately designates them—are coming into their own. There is none of the traditional inertia of Opposition; nothing of the customary reactionary tendency. Each unit has a definite and not incoherent function of its own. There is no room in the Liberal party of today for the mere idler. From Chief Whip Fred Pardee to the humblest back-bencher they are eager, energetic and confident.

Ontario for the moment takes a very modest numerical position in the Parliamentary representation, but Ontario has no reason to blush for the calibre of her men. Mr. Pardee is working as he never worked before. Despite the fact that the Government majority is nominally fifty, only one division has shown the figures to be over forty, a tribute to the generalship of the Chief Whip. With him is associated Duncan C. Ross, son of a celebrated father and an ardent worker in the cause of Liberalism. In debating prowess the province has Messrs. Hugh Guthrie and A. H. Clarke, both of whom are able to hold their own in any combat with the Ministry. There is Hon. W. A. Charlton, wise counsel and experienced legislator, and "Johnnie Angus" McMillan and "Archie" McCoig among the younger men exercising a big influence through their lovable dispositions and shrewd political sense. It used to be a trinity before "Tom" Low resigned his Renfrew seat for Mr. Graham.

Quebec's contribution is an enthusiastic and eloquent one. Hon. Dr. Beaudry, for three weeks Postmaster-General is destined for a high place in the councils of the Liberal party. As a speaker he is a wizard, combining a quiet humor with an effective manner of presenting his case. He wins his way, rather than forces it. Mr. Jacques Bureau is a fighter. Every inch of his diminutive stature throbs with the love of conflict and he has more than his share of homely political sagacity.

From the Maritime Provinces comes a phalanx of stalwart gladiators. In the front row of the fighting forces Mr. E. M. Macdonald is located and woe betide the thoughtless Conservative who seeks to cross words with the Pictou man. Close behind sit Mr. F. B. Carvell, aggressive and dauntless and Hon. A. K. Maclean formerly Attorney-General of Nova Scotia, who is one of the most valuable additions to the present Parliament. Then there are Mr. G. W. Kytte and J. H. Sinclair, two other Nova Scotians who are prominent in debate, while Mr. D. D. McKenzie, one of the veterans, and Mr. J. J. Hughes who "came back" from Prince Edward Island at the last election, are always ready for a share in the combat.

The prairies of the great growing west have a splendid force of Liberal representatives. In Dr. Michael Clark of Red Deer they possess probably the most brilliant and effective debater in the House. Not a man on the Government benches, from the Premier down, relishes a combat with the sturdy Alberta man. In Dr. Molloy and Mr. Robey Cruise, the latter the conqueror of the stalwart Glen Campbell, Manitoba Liberalism sent two splendid and aggressive men to Parliament to represent their interests. Dr. Molloy is an effective speaker, while Mr. Cruise demonstrated in his maiden effort his ability to hold his own in the rough and tumble of debate. Prominent among the Saskatchewan men are Messrs. W. E. Knowles, J. G. Turiff and W. M. Martin, all warm advocates of the interests of the prairie producer and vigorous in battle for his rights. Alberta made a wise choice in Mr. W. A. Buchanan, who vanquished Mr. C. A. Magrath in Medicine Hat. "Billy" Buchanan gives promise of being one of the most able recruits of the new House, while "Jimmy" Douglas, the Alberta Whip, is one of its hardest workers and most popular representatives.

Make no mistake about it: Liberalism is very much alive, very much awake, and more than holding its own at Ottawa these days. The Chief is building up within it a sound and splendid sentiment. It is learning to rely less upon the advertising value of immediate success and more upon the deeper significance of true national service. It is concerned less in catching votes and more in convincing opinion. It is learning the truth of Daniel O'Connell's declaration that nothing is politically right which is morally wrong. It is realizing that Canada needs less of the fanatics of sectarianism and more of the unifying mind; that it is better to be concerned about the next generation than the next election.

It is so strange, under such circumstances, that sackcloth and ashes is not the prevailing mode among Liberal Parliamentarians. Strange as it may seem, the defeat of September 21 is the basis of much of their enthusiasm; for, from Sir Wilfrid down they have come to the point of rejoicing over that defeat, the manner in which it was brought about, and the way in which the country now regards it. Their daily successes in the House, and the tribulations which have followed the government ever since Premier Borden formed his Cabinet, have justified their leader's assurance: "Time is with us." They may make mistakes, but they fall in service. They are eager for the fray, confident of their cause, intensely loyal to their leader, and permeated with the conviction of ultimate triumph. It is a pretty hard problem to hold such a combination long at bay.

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Dr. and Mrs. Steeves, son and daughter are in St. John for Easter guests of Mrs. Steeves sister, Mrs. Raymond.

DON'T PULL OUT THE GRAY HAIRS

A Few Applications of a Simple Remedy will Bring Back the Natural Color

"Pull out one gray hair and a dozen will take its place" is an old saying, which is, to a great extent, true, if no steps are taken to stop the cause. When gray hairs appear it is a sign that Nature needs assistance. It is Nature's call for help. Gray hair, dull, lifeless hair, or hair that is falling out, is not necessarily a sign of advancing age, for there are thousands of elderly people with perfect heads of hair without a single streak of gray.

When gray hairs come, or when the hair seems to be lifeless or dead, some good, reliable hair-restoring treatment should be restored to at once. Specialists say that one of the best preparations to use is the old-fashioned "sage tea" which our grandparents used. The best preparation of this kind is Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Hair Remedy, a preparation of domestic sage and sulphur, scientifically compounded with later discovered hair tonics and stimulants, the whole mixture being carefully balanced and tested by experts.

Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur is clean and wholesome and perfectly harmless. It refreshes dry, parched hair, removes dandruff restores faded or gray hair to its natural color.

Don't delay another minute. Start using Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur at once and see what a difference a few days' treatment will make in your hair.

This preparation is offered to the public at fifty cents a bottle, and is recommended and sold by all druggists. For sale and recommended by George Y. Diblee, Druggist, opposite City Hall.

THREATENING LETTER TO MRS. BELMONT

New York, April 6—It became known today that the police are trying to find who sent a mysterious letter to Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, prominent as a suffrage worker, enclosing a \$10 bill and the text of a cable message which the writer instructed Mrs. Belmont to forward Mrs. Pankhurst, the prominent London suffragette. The message to Mrs. Pankhurst was as follows: "Easter greetings. A great financier in whom I have the greatest confidence, assures me that practical measures are being considered by the world's financiers, that promise better conditions within a year. Stop inefficient warfare. Remember the heroism of a battalion of women in China." The letter accompanying this was a rambling affair, threatening Mrs. Belmont, if the cable message were not sent as suggested. The police are inclined to view the matter as a hoax, but the \$10 bill enclosed in the communication was genuine.

ROLLER SKATER'S RECORD

Detroit, Mich., April 6—A world's record was established last night in the two mile final event of the international amateur roller skating championship tournament, when Carl Carlson, of Chicago, crossed the tape in 6.15, defeating Leon Kium of Grand Rapids, former champion, in a close finish.

The former record was 6.18, held by Harold Davidson.

A new record for one mile was set by Kium in the second heat, which was in 3.01.

HONORARY DEGREE FOR DR. FALCONER

Toronto, April 6—At the Knox College Convocation which will be held in Bloor Presbyterian Church next Tuesday evening the Honorary degree of D.D. will be conferred upon Prof. J. M. Falconer of the Presbyterian College, Halifax, who is a brother of the Principal of Toronto University, and Rev. Alex MacGillivray of Toronto, convener of the General Assembly's committee on Sunday Schools. A portrait of Prof. Ballantyne which has been presented to the College by the Alumni will be unveiled.

REBELS CAPTURED A TOWN

Jimenez, Mexico, April 6—Parrall fell into the hands of the rebels yesterday. The numbers of the enemy which looked so large to General Campa in the hour of his defeat, proved to be only 700. They escaped Thursday night leaving behind them a rapid firer and a mortar previously captured from the Liberals.

It developed that Generals Villa and Urbina the federal commanders fought alone on Tuesday when they routed Campa. They are relieved to have retreated to Mapiimi, where the main federal forces are said to be mobilizing. The wires to El Paso were restored this afternoon.

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NOTICE

The Board of Assessors of Taxes for the City of Fredericton in the present year, hereby require all persons liable to be rated, forthwith to furnish to the Assessors true statements of all their real estate, personal estate and income; and hereby give notice that blank forms on which statements may be furnished under the City Assessment Law can be obtained at the Office of the Assessors and that such statements must be perfected under oath and filed at the Office of the Assessors, within thirty days from the date of this notice.

Dated this 1st day of April, A. D. 1912.

A. A. STERLING

Principal Assessor.

163—April 8.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—One house on Church Street; also hotel St. Mary's. For terms apply to

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165—6 April.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The regular quarterly meeting of the Fredericton Board of Trade will be held at the City Council Chamber on Monday evening, April 8th at 8.30 o'clock.

H. S. CAMPBELL,

Secretary.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

On account of the transfer of the A. Murray & Co Dry Goods Business all accounts must be settled on or before Saturday April 6th

A MURRAY & CO.

168—April 10.

DAMAGE FROM FLOODS IN ONTARIO TOWNS

Toronto, Ont., April 8—Damage amounting to many thousands of dollars has been done by a flood in the Credit River. Within twenty miles fourteen dams and seventeen bridges were swept away, the railway and highway bridges at Port Credit were endangered and considerable injury was done to small shipping in Port Credit Harbor. Barber's paper mill at Georgetown, and other factories along the river were flooded, while others will be closed for lack of power due to the destruction of their dams. Reports of extensive damage also comes from Paisley, Durham and Douthampton on the Saugeen River, Beaverton on the Beaver River and Meaford on the Big Head River.

Mrs. W. S. Carter and daughter, Mrs. Hanbury, of Brandon are in Boston, where they will spend the Easter holidays.

Master Frankie Bridges today is entertaining a number of his young friends at a party in honor of his birthday.

"SALT RHEUM"

Had It On Hands For Two Years.

ITCHED SO DID NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO.

Tried Three Doctors and Went to Hospital.

All skin diseases are more or less occasioned by a bad state of the blood, and no one can expect to be free from some form or other of skin trouble unless the blood is kept in good shape. All skin diseases can be very easily cured by the wonderful blood cleansing properties of Burdock Blood Bitters.

This is due to the unrivalled purifying action of Burdock Blood Bitters on the blood, coupled with the thorough manner in which it cleanses and expels the impurities from the body.

Mrs. Richard Coutine, White Head, Que., writes:—"I have been bothered with salt rheum, on my hands, for two years, and it itched so I did not know what to do. I tried three doctors, and even went to Montreal to the hospital without getting any relief. I was advised to try Burdock Blood Bitters, so I got three bottles, and before I had the second used I found a big change, and now to-day I am cured."

Burdock Blood Bitters has been on the market for about 35 years and is manufactured only by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

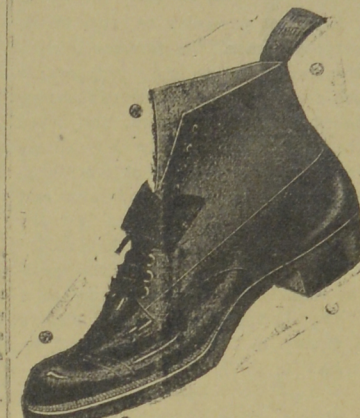
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