

MR. WENDALL P. JONES K. C., OF
WOODSTOCK CHOSEN LEADER
OF THE LOCAL OPPOSITION

(Continued From Page Five)
Report on Leadership.

A. F. Bentley, at the conclusion of the Postmaster General's remarks, stalked across the stage and presented the chairman with what he described as the report of the committee on leadership. The committee said it had pleasure in tendering a unanimous nomination to Mr. Dysart, which of course was nothing but a fine piece of camouflage.

Dysart Declines.
Mr. Dysart, the leader pro tem, was heartily applauded as he rose to give an account of his stewardship and render his decision on the honor conferred upon him. While some of the knowing ones swapped winks the rank and file settled back to hear the promised flood of oratory. Mr. Dysart said that he had carried on for four years with the loyal support of his colleagues in the House. Their work, he said, had not been of a spectacular nature, but he had kept the party united and in shape for such a gathering as he now saw before him. He regretted that he could not accept the honor which had been offered him, but took pleasure in recommending for the position one whom he was sure would have the unanimous support of the convention. He closed by moving that the leadership be tendered to Hon. Wendall P. Jones of Woodstock.

The motion, which had several seconders was put to the meeting and unanimously adopted.

A Search Party.
Senator Copp, after paying a tribute to Ex-Leader Dysart, asked if Mr. Jones was in the hall. Receiving no reply he asked that a committee go out and look him up, whereupon Mr. Dysart, accompanied by J. E. Michaud and A. J. Doucet, arose and made their way to the Mayor's office on the first floor, where they found the new leader settled back in a chair calmly awaiting the future, and ushered him back into the limelight. The new leader was given a carefully planned ovation as he made his way in triumph up the aisle and emerged upon the stage, where he learned from Chairman Copp that greatness had been thrust upon him by the convention.

The Leader's Speech.

Leader Jones, addressing the convention, said that he had been thrilled by the great honor that had been conferred upon him, an honor which he appreciated very much, and he could assure them that he would be faithful to the trust. He gave assurance that the platform to be adopted and any statements he might make in the way of promises would be faithfully carried out. It had not been his intention to re-engage in politics, and he would have been glad to have given his support to Mr. Dysart had he chosen to accept the position. He was sure, however, that as leader of a new government he would have Mr. Dysart at his right hand. After paying a tribute to the deposed leader he went on to say that a breach of trust on the part of the present government would be the paramount issue in the approaching election. He was sure that the people would not stand for broken pledges on the part of public men. "If my government", he went on, "does not carry out its pledges we will not ask you to put us back into power," which statement was heartily applauded. In his opinion Premier Baxter had not carried out his pledges and had been compelled to go back to the days of Sir Robert Peel and the repeal of the corn laws for a precedent. The policy of the present government, he said, was not cheaper whiskey, but plenty of it. This statement brought vociferous applause from all except a few ultra dries, who of course are unfamiliar with prices.

Hard Surfaced Roads.

The new leader referred to the government's hard surfaced road policy as an attempt to bribe the people, and promised that nothing would be done until there was a scientific investigation by competent engineers. He approved of the proposal of the government to provide old age pensions and mothers' allowances. He thought the public had a right to know about the agreement with the International Paper Company, and he was not in accord with the government's action

in fixing the rate of stumpage for five years. In closing he intimated that in the near future he would outline his policy in a manifesto to the election.

The Resolutions.

At this stage Senator Foster tripped lightly forward, handed a bunch of resolutions to the chairman and then made his way back to a place of obscurity at the back of the stage.

The first resolution, expressing appreciation of Mr. Dysart's services while holding the position from which he had been ousted, was carried unanimously.

The second resolution "viewed with alarm" long termed leases and declared that the rate of stumpage should be fixed yearly instead of every five years.

A Slight Ripple.

This resolution brought the Postmaster General to his feet with the declaration that the government should retain absolute control of all lumber not manufactured into pulp.

Mr. Dysart, who had helped frame the resolution, replied that he was opposed to the making of vote catching promises that would embarrass the incoming government. He added that vested rights must be protected.

Hon. Mr. Veniot said that Premier Baxter had promised to regulate this very matter by order in council, but had not done so.

Leader Jones assured the Postmaster General that the resolution had been carefully considered and was broad enough to permit the government to investigate the matter and find a remedy if one was needed.

Hon. Mr. Veniot—I will be glad to accept the statement of my leader

Crown Lands.

The crown land resolution having been disposed of another relating to hydro development from coal and water power was agreed to after Hon. Mr. Veniot had explained that the Department of the Interior was conducting an investigation in regard to the relative cost.

The resolution respecting the construction of hard surfaced roads was adopted without discussion.

The Liquor Problem.

The fun started when the resolution supposed to express the views of the convention on the liquor problem came under fire. This resolution was rather lengthy, contained several whereas, and quoted alleged statements by Premier Baxter prior to the last election. It resented charges of hypocrisy levelled against the christian ministry and promised a plebiscite on the Prohibition question.

A Dries Views.

An old gentleman Rev. M. Rutledge who said that he had lived in York and Northumberland Counties, and did not fancy the resolution. He was for making temperance the main issue at the next election. He was a Conservative, he said, and was positive that the temperance question would down the Baxter government. He wanted a definite pledge for a plebiscite within three or six months.

Leader Jones explained that it would be impossible to arrange for a plebiscite until after the first session of the new House.

Not Clear Cut.

Mr. Lister of Hartland complained that the resolution was not clear cut. The people should be asked if they wanted government control or prohibition. He wanted no vote like that taken in Halifax.

A Wet Opinion.

Arthur Keith of Kings County said that he was a Liberal and had been interested in politics all his life. The trouble with plebiscites was that only a small portion of the vote was polled and he was not disposed to allow himself to be controlled by twenty-five per cent of the population. He had been in Ontario last year and had met many Liberals who stated that they would not vote with their party on the temperance question.

C. N. Vroom was of the opinion that the Baxter government would not have won in 1925 but for its stand on the temperance question. He thought that all the opposition had to do in this occasion was to say that if returned to power they would repeal the Liquor Control law and victory would be theirs. In his opinion there was no need of a plebiscite. The people having been fool-

ed once did not want to be fooled again.

Amendment Moved

Mr. Rutledge moved an amendment to the effect that a plebiscite should be taken within six months after the first session of the Legislature, and that the ballot should contain only two words "for" or "against" government control.

Hon. Mr. Veniot, scenting trouble, suggested that the amendment be divided into two parts in order to avoid a mix-up.

Plebiscite Favored

Mr. Rutledge then moved that a plebiscite be taken within six months after the first session, which was seconded by Leader Jones and carried, unanimously.

Mr. Rutledge then moved the last clause of his amendment that the words for or against constitute the ballot.

Ex. Council H. C. Greenlaw, of Millville seconded the amendment.

Leader Jones said that a year might elapse before the plebiscite was taken. In the meantime conditions might arise which would make it necessary to add additional questions to the ballot, and test public opinion on some other phase of the liquor question. The government would not embarrass the electors by two many questions. The vote would be governed by the N. B. Elections' Act. He would assure them that the resolution would be carried out faithfully.

Chairman Copp backed up the statement of Leader Jones and added that the government should not be embarrassed by being prevented from adding an additional question if it was deemed necessary. He urged the withdrawal of the amendment.

A Voice From Minto

A delegate from Minto said he preferred the open bar to government stores. He liked a drink of whiskey but did not care to purchase a bottle at a time. When he wanted a drink he liked to drop into a bar and get it and then go home.

Mr. Bentley Heard

A. F. Bentley, of St. Martins, a pronounced prohibitionist, who was displaying signs of nervousness, as the debate proceeded, finally got the floor after several unsuccessful attempts and declared himself satisfied with the original resolution. He was confident that all promises made would be faithfully carried out.

Mr. Rutledge said that he would withdraw the amendment on condition that the government consulted the Temperance Alliance regarding the questions for the ballot and acted on its advice.

J. J. F. Winslow, K. C.—Oh, get out.

Leader Jones—As leader of the party I will allow no organization to run my government. (great applause)

Mr. Greenlaw said that he would withdraw as seconder of the amendment.

Amendment Squelched

This gave Chairman Copp his opportunity and he squelched the troublesome prohibitionist by announcement that the amendment had become a dead one. Prominent members of the Temperance Alliance who were present excepting Mr. Vroom, took no part in the discussion.

Resolutions regarding education and colonization were unanimously adopted. The convention also expressed approval of Old Age Pensions and Mothers' Allowances.

Senator Foster was nominated as chairman of the Provincial Executive and accepted the honor. Louis Robichaud, of Kent was nominated as secretary for the French speaking districts to act with Thomas O'Leary of St. John, the English speaking secretary.

An invitation to the Charlotte County delegates to meet in Room 57 in the Queen Hotel was issued by the chairman on behalf of somebody, possibly the Postmaster General.

Some instructions on organization work were read by the chairman and Senator Copp was tendered a vote of thanks in appreciation of his services as presiding officer.

The meeting was brought to a close with the singing of the national anthem.

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CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
Changes in Train Schedules. Effective April 27, 1930.

Train No. 47 Arrive Fredericton 7:00 P. M. instead of 9:40 P. M. from Saint John (leave St. John 3:30 P. M.)
Leave Fredericton 7:15 P. M.
Leave Woodstock 10:00 P. M.
Arrive Centreville 10 P. M.

Train No. 48 Leave Centreville 5:30 A. M.
Leave Woodstock 6:42 A. M.
Arrive Fredericton 9:30 A. M.
Leave Fredericton 9:40 A. M.
Arrive Saint John 1:15 P. M.

This service will be daily except Sunday until May 17th when it will operate Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Train No. 45 Leaving Fredericton for Centreville 4:30 P. M. Daily except Sunday, CANCELLED.

Train No. 46 Leaving Centreville for Fredericton 7:40 P. M. Daily except Sunday, CANCELLED.

Train No. 237 Arrive Fredericton 11:15 P. M. Mon. Wed. & Fri. from Newcastle, instead of 11:40 P. M. (Leave Newcastle 5:30 P. M.)

Stanley
Motor service on the Stanley Branch will be resumed as follows:
Leave Stanley 10:50 A. M. Daily except Sunday.
Arrive Stanley Jct. 11:20 A. M.
Leave Stanley Jct. 11:45 A. M.
Arrive Stanley 12:15 P. M.
Leave Stanley 7:45 P. M.
Arrive Stanley Jct. 8:15 P. M.
Leave Stanley Jct. 8:35 P. M.
Arrive Stanley 9:05 P. M.
Service by Train No. 237 and 238 between Stanley and Stanley Jct. CANCELLED.

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