

THE HERALD

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The Provincial Elections.

It appears to us difficult to understand why there should be any strenuous opposition to the new Conservative Government, now appealing for endorsement to the electorate of this Province. All reasonable men, having in view the welfare of our Province, should weigh well the deserts of the Government and Opposition before they cast their votes. Assuming that the electors approach the question in this serious, business-like fashion, let us consider what they must, of necessity, find themselves up against.

In the first place, the record of the Liberal opposition who have just left office, after twenty-one years of administration of our public affairs, is the most damaging that could well be conceived. Their administration of our affairs was most disastrous to our Province. They falsified all their promises, mismanaged the business of the public departments and sank the Province in debt to the very verge of bankruptcy.

In brief, as we have frequently repeated and reiterated, the late Liberal Government, now in opposition, came into office on the plea that our revenue and expenditure should meet; that there should be no more deficits, and that the day of taxation was far off. Instead of redeeming any one of these pre-election promises they increased the Provincial debt to \$907,722; that is, they added \$780,000 to the trifling debt they found standing against the Province when they took office. They increased the annual interest charge from \$2,697 to \$39,188. \$40,000 a year in interest is altogether too much for a Province such as ours, that has no great sources of revenue to draw from. While the late Government were piling up this huge burden of debt and allowing the annual interest charge to grow to such outrageous proportions, they collected over a million dollars from the people in taxes. During fifteen years of their term of office they were in sympathy with the dominant party at Ottawa, and they always claimed it was of the greatest possible advantage to have the two Governments in line. It will thus be seen that from no point of view can the damaging record of the late Government be condoned. They falsified their promises; they deceived the people; they mismanaged the public services and they saddled the Province with a ruinous debt. But now they are down and out.

Turning to the other side of the question; we have a new Government, with no political sins to answer for, ready and willing to exert all their energies for the uplifting and advancement of our Provincial interests. Hon. Premier Mathieson and his Executive associates desire to retrieve the prestige of our Province and to elevate it to its destined position in the Confederation. Their energy and their ability they are prepared to exert for the benefit of the people, and all they ask is a full and enthusiastic endorsement of the electors at the polls. That this endorsement shall be registered in the most emphatic manner on January 3rd no

reasonable man for a moment entertains a doubt.

The new Government has the great advantage of being in line with a new Government at Ottawa. This was always the strongest argument put forth by the late Government at election times; and it cannot fail to be of equal or much greater advantage under the new order of things. For twenty years our Province has been sunk in the slough of political despond; the blighting shadow of the late Liberal Government hung as a pall over the land, and the administration of our public affairs was little short of a veritable quagmire of political corruption. All this has been changed; we have cast off the bonds of this political thralldom, and we are emerging into the light of political sunshine; we are entering upon an era of political regeneration. In view of all these facts we feel sure the people's endorsement of the new Government will be the most pronounced and emphatic that has ever been registered in this Province.

In the Second District of Kings the campaign is in full swing; all four candidates are at work hammer and tongs, from day to day.

The Provincial election campaign goes merrily on, and our Liberal friends are engaged in the rather futile occupation of "whistling to keep up their courage."

Little sign of life is manifest among the Liberals in a number of districts. The candidates who have been selected are not much in evidence. They are evidently in a state of torpor.

Mr. John Richards, Commissioner of the Public Works, is the late Liberal Government, has been chosen by the Liberals as the new Provincial Leader of their party. We extend our sympathy to the new leader.

As the great Feast of the Nativity shall have come and gone ere we again have an opportunity of addressing our readers, we avail ourselves of this occasion to wish all our friends, in the time honored salutation, "A MERRY CHRISTMAS."

At Souris a few days ago, the Liberals had a meeting; made speeches about the bright outlook of their party in the coming fight, and wound up by declining to put any candidates in the field. They considered discretion the better part of valor. Hon. Mr. McLean and Mr. John Kickham go in by acclamation.

The Patriot quotes, with extreme satisfaction, the statement of the Toronto Globe that "Liberalism has made a new start in Ontario." We wish our Liberal friends much joy in all the satisfaction they can extract from this announcement; but so long as Sir James Whitney, the Conservative Premier of Ontario, has a majority of 60 in a House of 106, Conservatives need lose no sleep over the matter.

The last year, for which the Conservatives were responsible for the public business of this Province, before the Liberals took office in 1891, the interest charge on the Provincial debt was \$2,697.44. The interest charge for the year ended Sept. 30, 1911, the last of Liberal rule, was \$39,188.91, as we showed last week from their own report. That is an increase of \$36,491.51 over what was paid the year before the Liberals

came into office. All this by the party that was to equalize revenue and expenditure. The electors have had more than enough of this manner of financing.

Some of our Liberal friends complain that they were not afforded sufficient time to bring about the equalization of revenue and expenditure. Well they had over twenty years to carry out the promise made on assuming office, that revenue and expenditure should meet, and that there should be no more deficits. That was the promise; but the performance was the increase of the Provincial debt from \$128,000 to \$907,000, an increase of \$880,000, according to their own reports. The Liberals were given altogether too much time to demoralize our finances and pile up a huge public debt. The electors of this Province want no more deception of that kind.

News from the Capital.

OTTAWA, Dec. 14.—Premier Borden's return to Ottawa on Saturday will be followed by a week of the hardest work tackled by the new government. The Premier has refused all engagements that would take him away from the east block next week, and the intention is to rush the work of preparation for the re-opening of the House in January.

Probably the first thing to be done, will be the appointment of the promised tariff commission, and the commission which is to study the needs of agriculture with a view to co-operation between the Dominion and the provinces. The tariff commission will be established without loss of time, and will at once get to work. There will be no tariff legislation this session.

The departmental investigations which the Borden government has decided upon will not be started till after the close of the session. Every department of the inside service will be thoroughly investigated before the work is done, and the report of the commission supported by the evidence of experts will likely be ready for the second session of parliament.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

It is learned tonight that the government intends to work out a comprehensive plan of civil service reform. Complaints have been made that the re-creating of the civil service act by the late government and the establishment of a civil service commission, have not rid the service of abuses growing out of personal and political favoritism.

There has been, it is alleged, a lot of juggling of grades, for the benefit of Liberal favorites, and to the detriment of older and more experienced officials, appointed by Conservatives. The present government proposes to tighten up the act and to extend its operation to the outside service. Under the contemplated changes there will no longer be a short cut into the service by way of temporary appointments.

MILITARY SCHOOLS.

Hon. Sam Hughes is ready with another one. This time it is in regard to the annual schools of instruction for officers and non-commissioned officers. In future the schools will be brought to the men instead of the men being compelled to go to the school.

In the past these schools have been held at different points throughout the Dominion and so scattered that the men have been obliged to travel considerable distance to reach them. Under the new arrangement the instructors will do most of the travelling into outlying districts.

On the permanent staff there are now available seventy-five instructors, who will try by instructing the officers to remedy what has been recognized as a great deficiency of the Canadian militia service, that of properly qualified officers. The first of these schools of instruction will open in St. John on January 1. Lieut. Col. Marden has been appointed inspector of arms and ammunition for the Dominion. This is a new office established under the present regime.

The Author—Would you advise me to get out a small edition?  
The Publisher—Yes; the smaller the better. The more scarce a book is at the end of four or five centuries the more money you realize from it.

Naval Policies.

The decision of the Government to abandon the naval policy of the late Administration has been very favorably received by the British press. While there is some speculation as to the future policy that will be pursued, the expediency of giving full and careful consideration to the subject is generally recognized. The attitude of the British press towards the naval policy of the Laurier Government was one of polite acquiescence. Regarding it as the Scheme which was endorsed by public opinion in Canada, they did not criticize it, but strove to make the best of it. But it was clear from the first that they did not regard it with enthusiasm. The attitude of the Imperial navy authorities was the same. The Laurier scheme was not the one they had suggested when their advice was sought; it was not even the second alternative scheme; it was the third. Naturally they now hope for something better from the Borden Government.

The underlying difference between the policy of the Laurier Government and the policy which was advocated by Mr. Borden is thus set forth by the London Times:

"The Laurier Cabinet, after consultation with the Admiralty at the naval conference of August, 1909, drew up a plan for a squadron of small protected cruisers, destroyers, etc., to be controlled by Canada alone—an armament, as Sir Wilfred described it, 'to defend, if necessary, the rights of Canada and to be of assistance to the old Mother Country if ever it is required,' though he added, ten days later, that the Canadian navy would not go to war unless the Parliament of Canada chose to send it. Almost at the same moment, Mr. Borden was demanding that the Canadian unit should be made 'powerful and effective, and declaring, 'if the Empire fights, we must fight.' In those two phrases lay hid the germ of the Borden, as distinguished from the Laurier, naval policy. Sir Wilfred Laurier, mainly concerned with maintaining local control, was content with a squadron that could be useful only for minor operations along the Canadian coast-line. Mr. Borden, mainly intent on getting efficiency and power, grew month by month more discontented with the petty ships on which the then Government proposed to spend the country's money. When the Australian Parliament, which had at one time favored a local squadron for coastal defence only, began to consider seriously the development of the 'unit' agreed on in 1909 (which even then was to be a much more powerful squadron than the Canadian unit) into something approaching a first-class battle fleet, the inadequacy of the Laurier scheme must have become overwhelmingly apparent." St. John Standard.

American Beef Rejected.

The agents in the British Isles of the prominent American meat packers, who have up till now secured large contracts for the supply of meats to the army and navy have received the following notification from the war office: "Pending the ultimate result of the legal proceedings in the United States court in most packing firms, it has been decided by the British government that none of the firms involved shall be invited to tender for army supplies. The decision of the government is due to the opposition of labor and the advanced radical members of parliament to the American trusts. The contracts are now expected to go to Argentina meat packers."

Steamer Sinks.

Halifax, Dec. 17.—The coasting steamer Avon sank at her dock this morning. The cook had put on a fire in the galley stove at 6 o'clock, returning to his bunk. He was called by the mate an hour later, who said that the steamer was sinking. The cook rushed to the deck without any clothes on his body and got on the wharf just as the boat went down. The other members of the crew were on shore at the time of the accident. The steamer was beached last night and an examination will be held this morning. It is supposed that one of the sea valves was left open.

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No. 1 Minks in Muffs at \$25, \$29, \$35, \$50, \$55, \$58.  
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Handsome Sable Muffs \$12.75, \$14.50, \$15, \$19, \$21, \$25.  
Finest Sable Scarfs \$12.75, \$17, \$22, \$25, \$35.  
Persian Lamb Muffs \$18, \$26, \$37.00.  
Persian Lamb Scarfs \$15, \$16, \$19.50.  
Marmot Muffs \$3.95, \$5.00, \$7.50, \$9.50.  
Marmot Neckpieces \$3.95, \$6.00, \$7.50, \$9.50.

Gifts of Dainty Handkerchiefs Special Hand'f Sale Savings

THE HANDKERCHIEF SALE BRINGS YOU a great opportunity to choose dainty gifts at a very moderate price indeed. Some of the loveliest hand-made handkerchiefs you ever saw at half what you would expect.

Cheap handkerchiefs at 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 7c, 8c, 9c, 10c.  
Nice embroidered handkerchiefs 8c, 10c, 15c, 18c, 20c, 25c.  
Hand embroidered handkerchiefs, 35c, 45c, 50c, 58c, 75c, \$1 to \$2.  
Initialled handkerchiefs, hand worked, 18c, 20c, 35c.  
Hemstitched handkerchiefs for men, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 50c.  
All sorts of Excelsas for men and women.  
Get our special prices per dozen on all lines. Buy wholesale.

She'd Like Gloves

You're always sure when you give gloves. Even if you do not know the size, send any size, and change after Christmas.

Countess kid, all shades \$1 00  
Marcell kid, all shades 1 25  
Olga and Suzette, all sizes 1 50  
All sizes in Dogskin 1 00  
Grey Dogskin 1 50  
White Chamois 1 25  
Long Kid Gloves, \$2.25, \$2.75 up  
Kaysar Silk Gloves in the long length at \$1 25

Give Him Ties

"So hard to choose for a man," the ladies all say. Nonsense—it's easier than "rolling off a log." Never was there a man who had ties enough—try yours and see.

Christmas Ties at 50c, 75c, \$1.00  
Silk Sox and ties to match put up in a handsome box.  
All ties bought for Christmas will be handsomely hemmed free of charge.

SALE OF COATS WORTH \$12.00 FOR \$8.00

Mortgage Sale.

To be sold by Public Auction, at the Court House in Charlottetown, on Friday, the Twenty-ninth day of December, A. D. 1911, at Twelve o'clock, noon: All that certain piece or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being on Lot Twenty-three, in Queen's County, bounded as follows, that is to say:—Commencing at a stake fixed on the west side of the Road leading from the Gulf Shore to New Glasgow, and in the southern boundary of one hundred and seventy acres of land in possession of Mary McNeill and Clementina McNeill; thence running along the said last mentioned boundary westerly to the eastern boundary of land in the possession of David McNeill; thence running along the said last mentioned boundary to the northern boundary of land in possession of Dennis Higgins twenty-five chains, more or less; thence along said Dennis Higgins' northern boundary to the Road aforesaid; thence along said Road northerly to the place of commencement; bounded on the north by Mary and Clementina McNeill's land; on the south by Dennis Higgins' land; on the east by said Road, and on the west by the land in possession of David McNeill, and containing thirty acres of land, more or less. Also all that other tract of land situate on Lot Twenty-three aforesaid, bounded as follows, that is to say:—Commencing at a stake fixed in the south west angle of the thirty acres of the land above described, conveyed by David McNeill to the said Jane Jack, and in the northern boundary of Dennis Higgins' land; thence running north twenty-five chains; thence west twelve chains to land in possession of William O. H. McNeill; thence south twenty-five chains to land of said Dennis Higgins, and thence east to the place of commencement, containing thirty acres, more or less.

The above sale is made under and by virtue of a power of sale contained in an Indenture of Mortgage bearing date the Twenty-seventh day of May, A. D. 1902, and made between Jane Jack, of Mayfield, Lot Twenty-three, in Queen's County, Spinster, of the first part, and the undersigned of the second part.

For further particulars apply to McLean & McKinnon, Solicitors, Charlottetown.

Dated this 5th day of December, A. D. 1911.

FLORA McNEILL, TOMBS, Mortgagee.

December 6, 1911—31

FOR WOMEN

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