

New Ontario Demands Attention.

New Ontario is interested in the problems of old Ontario, and has also special needs of its own, such as are to be expected in a vast region with a scattered pioneer population. A great part of it is remote from the Provincial capital, and for that very reason it ought to be the subject of special care and attention. Mr. Rowell proposes for this country a comprehensive policy of publicity, selected immigration, transportation, and improved conditions of settlement. He has taken measures to acquire first-hand knowledge of New Ontario by travel and by contact with its people.

Actuated by the same progressive spirit, Mr. Rowell is in sympathy with the modern movement for tax reform, the aim of which is to relieve industry of taxation as far as possible, and throw the burden upon land held for speculation. Why should a man who serves the community by building a house or factory on his land, be more heavily taxed than his neighbor who has nothing on his land but weeds and signboards? Why, at least, should not a municipality have the right to reform its own mode of assessment and taxation? To all proposals for tax reform, Sir James Whitney and his colleagues are obstinately opposed.

Mr. Rowell is in sympathy with the modern movement for enlarging the opportunities for women. Here, again, we find the same motive as urges him to advocate tax reform, temperance reform, labor reform, industrial reform. It is the desire for social progress and the betterment of the conditions of the people. Women have a greater experience in the affairs of the family and the home than men; a keener insight into what is required to improve the daily life of the people. Men need their assistance, and there can be no broad statesmanship in this field, which fails to recognize this need.

These are some of the reforms which Ontario needs. Above all, we need the man, the reformer who is imbued with the spirit of reform. Such a leader has been found in Mr. Rowell.