

that without the aid which our manufacturers rendered to Sir John Macdonald at that time, his pet policy would have died a bornin'. It might have been pointed out that a large proportion of these manufacturers were not adherents of the Conservative party, and that even until this day they have no special affiliation with that party except in Dominion elections when the National Policy demands and receives their support. It would perhaps be well, therefore, if Mr. Newsome and his young Conservative would bear in mind the fact that in Dominion politics, where the National Policy is always an issue and where the manufacturers are always the friends of the Conservative Government, that party invariably wins; while in provincial politics, where the National Policy is not and cannot be an issue, let the Conservatives fight as they may they cannot dislodge that party of which Sir Oliver Mowat has been its trusted leader for a score or more of years.

This fact somewhat accentuates what Mr. Newsome has to say regarding his Association, the principles upon which it is governed, and the means by which its influence for the Conservative party may be best made to be felt throughout the country. In the first place he declares that, as its name implies, it must be conservative, whatever that may mean. He sits down quite heavily upon what he calls independence in politics, saying that as between the two existing parties the independent man has no choice, but stands, as it were, to one side and views the actions of both of them, giving praise or blame as they seem to deserve. If this is the correct definition of the independent in politics, says Mr. Newsome, then the independent man can have no place in a party organization and commits an act of dishonor when he professes to affiliate with either of the political parties. He applies this test to the Young Men's Conservative Association because it is a portion of the great Conservative party; and he declares that when a man can no longer follow that party he should not continue a member of his Association but immediately withdraw. And then Mr. Newsome points out how "it is better at all times to have an open enemy than a false friend," explaining that if a man cannot go with his party or with a party at all times, and under all conditions and circumstances, the more honorable course for him to pursue is not to go with it at all.

This is indeed quite rough upon all concerned. We observe that Mr. Newsome's Association now numbers among its members men quite old enough to vote but who were not born when Sir Oliver Mowat's party acceded to that which has not yet been surrendered in Ontario. If Mr. Newsome's Association has no other reason for its existence than to take part in Ontario politics, we have no necessity for further discussing his address. But he takes pride in declaring that his Association is an integral and important part of the Conservative party that includes the whole Dominion; and we have already shown that that party is in a large minority as far as Ontario politics is concerned; and that as far as Dominion politics goes, where the National Policy is affected, and where thousands of those whose interests and sympathies are with that policy, and who, in that matter at least, are independents in politics, and who Mr. Newsome declares that, as honorable men, they should have no affiliation with his party, without

the substantial aid of their independents, the Conservative party would never have acceded to power, and the National Policy would never have been more than the fair fabric of a political vision. The fact is, Mr. Newsome is a young politician who has not yet cut his eye teeth. Perhaps he represents the ideas of the young men who compose the Association of which he is president; but he may be assured that unless he modifies his views very materially he will never attain the success as a political leader achieved by Sir John Macdonald. Sir John drew all men unto him—Mr. Newsome would drive out of the Dominion Conservative party all men who are not inclined to cast Mr. Mowat into oblivion.

The true friends of the National Policy can never find much to admire in the political creed of Mr. Newsome; and the wise heads of the Dominion Conservative party will probably take the young man into a back room and give him a good talking to before the coming on of the next general elections.

THE TORONTO FAIR AND CONVICT LABOR.

At the recent Toronto Fair there was one very prominent exhibit displayed in the Agricultural Implement building that should not have been allowed upon the grounds, and the like of which it is to be most sincerely hoped may never again be seen there. We refer to the exhibit of binder twine manufactured by convict labor in Central Prison, and entered in behalf of the Ontario Government by their selling agent Mr. John Hallam. To allow it there was a disgrace to the Exhibition and an insult to all manufacturers who made displays there, and to all free working men and women whose labor produced the articles shown by the manufacturers. The Toronto Industrial Exhibition Association was not called into being for the purpose of displaying the manufactured products of our prisons, and of impressing upon the minds of visitors the fact that binder twine made by convict labor could be sold at a slightly lower price than similar twine made by free labor. That is not what the Exhibition is for. Canada has hundreds of thousands of dollars invested in plants and machinery for the manufacture of binder twine, and if it were left to these establishments to supply the demand, regular and remunerative employment would be given to hundreds of free Canadians—men and women, boys and girls—in the factories. Besides the larger concerns engaged in the manufacture of binder twine, the raw material of which is, almost all of it, imported, there are quite a number of other twine mills which produce the article, or have done it, and would do it were it not for this outrageous governmental interference with the industry. The raw material of these latter concerns is the native Canadian flax grown in Canadian fields, cultivated by Canadian labor, harvested and manipulated by Canadian men, women and children, who find, or found, employment thereat during the growing and harvesting seasons, and who, when cold weather made outdoor work impossible, found steady and good employment in well warmed factories in the manufacture of this flax into twine of various descriptions. Professional politicians and their dupes, in an endeavor to carry favor with the farming class, instigated and kept alive an insane and unreasoning demand