

# The Issues of the Day

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## SIR JAMES WHITNEY'S ADDRESS TO THE ELECTORS OF ONTARIO.

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### To the Electors of the Province of Ontario

Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to ask you to pronounce once more upon the acts and policy of the Government of which I am the head.

The current legislative term has not expired, but three sessions of the Legislative Assembly have been held, and according to constitutional practice it is considered not only wise, but proper, to consult the electorate when measures of more than usual importance are proposed or have been enacted—and indeed to keep, as far as practicable, in touch with the people.

With reference to this point, I draw your attention to the very important Act passed at the last session, known as the Act for Compensation for Injuries to Workmen; also to the Report of the Public Roads and Highways Commission; and to the legislation providing for the establishment of Radial railways by municipalities; all these foreshadowing action of tremendous importance to the people of the province. In our history there is no instance of legislation promising such great and beneficial results. As I have said, we desire to gather your opinions with reference to these great subjects, as well as other matters to which we have given our attention.

It has been by the tenure of faithful service that my colleagues and I have received and held the support of the people of Ontario for nearly ten years.

By that tenure we hold our official positions to-day, and we declare, as we have before declared, that by that tenure simply we shall endeavor in the future to hold and deserve a continuation of the support and confidence we have received in the past.

During our term of office we have abolished such devices as the numbered ballot and have restored clean and honest methods in the conduct of elections.

We have regarded agriculture as our chief industry and have largely increased the expenditure for agricultural purposes brought instruction in the latest methods and discoveries directly to the people by means of district representatives, and have co-operated with the federal authorities in extending agricultural improvements.