

ROOTING OUT CORRUPTION

Hon Geo. W. Ross on Election Irregularities.

The Premier's Suggestions for Preventing and Punishing Fraud.

Premier Ross, in the course of his reply to Mr. Whitney, leader of the Ontario opposition in the legislature, and in referring to his Whitty speech, reminded the house that the promise was there made of the appointment of a commission to inquire into the West Elgin irregularities. That promise, he claimed, had been fulfilled to the very letter. In the same speech the statement was made that the Liberal party at present in power in Ontario had taken the first step through the constitution of a government. Under the controversial elections act, the premier went on to say, the county attorney was authorized to proceed against persons reported for corrupt practices, and the judges were authorized to issue summonses against persons shown during a trial to have been guilty of corrupt practices. Furthermore, it was the privilege of any citizen to enter an action against any person reported for such wrongdoing. The government promised to bring persons reported for corrupt practices for trial, and also to issue a commission. In regard to the first matter, prosecutions had been begun in the order in which the cases were reported, beginning with South Ontario.

The roa judges who had to try the cases were occupied also with other suits, but they were proceeding as fast as they could. The government had

FULFILLED THEIR PROMISE

to bring others to justice as promptly as was in their power, and nothing more could be done in that connection. Mr. Ross declared that the preservation of the political morality of a community was as important as the preservation of any other form of morality, and he lamented the fact that many people who would scorn to cheat their neighbors of a sixpenny bit, sometimes had very loose opinions as to what was proper or improper in election contests. Such being the case, they had to deal with the evil as best they could. He did not know why there should have been such an epidemic of corruption as there seemed to have been in Canada for the last few years. Not only in provincial but Dominion elections. There were, for example, the corrupt practices reported to in Winnipeg, Brandon, Portage la Prairie and other places in 1898, the ballot-stuffing in North Ontario, and the irregularities in South Grey, East Northumberland and elsewhere, all in connection with Dominion elections. Whether the

PRACTICES OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY

in the House of Commons for so many years had anything to do with infecting the Liberal party was more than he could say. There was no doubt that "evil communications corrupt good manners," and the communications in this instance were corrupt indeed. It was under such peculiar circumstances as he had enumerated that the general elections of 1898 were begun. He admitted that corrupt practices on the part of the Conservatives did not excuse Liberal wrongdoing, but in view of the government's determination to cleanse the political atmosphere of Ontario, the opposition should see to it that no offences were committed on their own side. The Conservative party could not be identified with any systematic or continuous efforts to preserve the purity of elections, but the Liberal party had

ALWAYS STOOD UP FOR ELECTORAL PURITY.

Under these circumstances it was unfair of Mr. Whitney to try to create the impression that the Liberals sought to countenance or encourage political immorality.

The purchase of a man's vote, although bad enough in itself, was not to be compared in enormity with the tampering with that vote after it had been cast. The ballot-box should be regarded as

A SACRED TRUST.

but apparently it was not so respected in West Elgin. There were other cases of ballot irregularities in connection with the provincial elections of 1898, but the only case of the character reported by the judges was in West Elgin. Mr. Whitney, by the way, had argued that North Waterloo should also be included in the law, however, provided that no commission of inquiry

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Suffered From Throbbing of the Heart Choking Sensation and Weakness.

Nothing Relieved Her Until She Took Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills.

Nervous prostration, more than any other disease, is rendering invalid many of the fairest and best women of the land. Dozens of remedies have been suggested and issued as a cure for this disease, but none have proved of such positive value as Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills. The proofs of the efficacy of this remedy for nervous disorders are abundant and there is the statement of Mrs. R. J. Arnold, Woodstock, N.B.

"I have been troubled for some time with nervous prostration and general weakness, feeling irritable, debilitated and sleepless all the time.

My entire system became run down from the effects of this nerve and physical weakness.

As soon as I began taking Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills I realized that they had a calming, soothing influence upon the nerves. Every dose seemed to help the cure. They restored my sleep, strengthened my nerves and gave tone to my entire system. I think them a wonderful remedy and cheerfully recommend them to every one requiring a heart or nerve tonic.

Now, if every nervous, weak, run-down, worn-out woman would take Mrs. Arnold's advice and use Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, what a change there would be in the homes of this province.

Weakness would be replaced by strength, pale cheeks would become red and rosy, the lines of care would disappear, pains, aches and nervous spells vanish, and good health return.

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are 60c a box, or 3 for \$1.25, at all druggists or sent by mail. T. Milburn & Co., Toronto, Ont.

should issue except where no petition had been presented against an election, or where a petition having been presented, the proceedings had terminated. Now, the proceedings in the North Waterloo case had not yet terminated, and so the government were debarred by statute from making inquiry into it. The impression might exist in the minds of some that the government should have issued a commission to inquire into corrupt practices generally. How did matters stand in that regard? Mr. Ross then pointed out that a commission of such sweeping scope would have entailed the investigation of nearly three-fourths of the elections held in 1898, and another election would have been due before the judges had got half way through their work.

Had they proceeded to investigate in every riding they would have been filling the air with the misapprehensions and irregularities, when the air was already full enough of it. There were 56 petitions, and the reports, when laid upon the table of the house, would have been exceedingly discreditable, would involve the country in endless expense that would serve no good purpose. The honorable gentleman could give no reason why they should appoint a commission to deal with every case. They would be superseding the courts of the land, a position which no government could take. There were no irregularities so glaring as in West Elgin, and when the report of the commission was received it would be for the house to deal with the matter. Mr. Whitney had much to say of Duncan Bole, but he NEVER MENTIONED WM. SMITH, who spent \$12,000 in corrupt practices in South Ontario. Mr. Whitney had two measures of political morality, one for his political opponents and another for his friends. No fault had been found with the personnel of the commission, though he found some objection to the counsel, on the ground that Mr. Watson had been president of the Reform Association. "That objection need not occupy much of my time, nor the other objection that Mr. Grant, who is acting in a similar capacity."

Mr. Whitney—In a similar capacity? "As the assistant counsel, so far as I understand," replied the premier.

These two men are acting as counsel to deal with such matters as may be properly brought before them. If the honorable gentleman has any information with regard to the ballots that has not been brought out, let him submit it to the commission at the next meeting.

"To Watson and Grant?" queried Mr. Whitney, with an evident sneer.

AN IMPROPER INSINUATION. "Yes, to Watson and Grant," replied the premier, with vigor; "gentlemen of quite as high character as the honorable gentleman. It is a slur upon the honorable gentleman does not fail to hurl across at every opportunity, that because a man is a Liberal, he cannot be an honest man. It is an imputation of dishonesty, and it is unworthy of him to say that a distinguished gentleman, such as Mr. Watson, will discredit and dishonor himself because he is appointed a counsel for the crown. That is what it implies. (Cheers.) The honorable gentleman would not dare to say that to Mr. Watson in his own presence. (Renewed cheers.) The honorable gentleman is

INSULTING HIS OWN PROFESSION

That insinuation could not be made in any court in this country. The judges would call him down, they would show him the door, he ought to be shown. He might just as well say that the commissioners would be guilty of a breach of faith." (Cheers.) After reviewing the case of a number of commissions appointed by the late Ottawa Government in which the counsel were chosen from the dominant party, Mr. Ross continued: "The investigation has begun and has brought out one very important fact, namely, that

THE BALLOTS WERE ACCIDENTALLY BURNED.

The honorable gentleman smile, as if that statement were not correct. Perhaps they know better; perhaps they know what happened to those ballots. However, my impression is that those gentlemen, who were sworn, swore the truth.

Mr. Whitney—Did they swear that they were burned?

Hon. Mr. Ross—They swore that they were so far as they knew. If the honorable gentleman believes that or not, he can go before the commission. (Government applause.) If these ballots were stolen, or taken away for some improper purpose the honorable gentleman may perhaps be asked to go before the commission and tell what he knows. Then perhaps we will have his evidence under oath. We have the evidence of eight persons to the effect that they believe the ballots were committed to the flames. If they were stolen, I suppose it is no worse. The ballots cannot be found for the purpose of justice. It is of very little importance whether they were burned or stolen away. They are not in the possession of the clerk of the crown in chancery. The honorable gentleman intimates that the acts of some of the persons concerned in the election.

PROSECUTION NOT HINDERED.

"To what extent does the burning of the ballots affect anybody? It did not affect Mr. Macintosh's election. He was unseated after the ballots were burned. The ballots were examined by the solicitors before the registration of high court. They were returned to the vaults from which they were taken. Will the loss of the ballots affect any of the issues now before the court, Duncan Bole and Mr. Cahill. In Bole's case the charge is perjury, and the prosecution can go on without the ballots. In the other case the charge is perjury also, and it can very easily be proved or not without the ballots. The loss of the ballots will have no effect upon the trial of these two men."

Mr. Macdarmid, interrupting, said that Cahill was not charged with perjury.

Mr. Ross, quoting from the information, said that Cahill was charged with assuming to act as deputy returning officer in the place of some other person. Clearly that was a case of perjury. As to whether the government had done their duty in this matter, the premier pointed out that Bole, who was an official in a minor capacity, was relieved from office at a very moment the judges reported that he was concerned in the West Elgin irregularities. The government could not enter a prosecution against him, because proceedings by a private party were already pending. With respect to the clerk of the crown in chancery, that official did not receive the subpoena the first time he was summoned before the police magistrates until the very morning of the trial, and so could not attend. At the time of the Cahill investigation Col. Clarke was absent from the United States, but had it been possible for him to do so the government would have been only too willing for him to attend the judicial proceedings and answer any questions put to him. In the

Macintosh trial, Col. Clarke was present in court, but was not examined. Had he been examined, the evidence would have been different. The whole of the irregularities would have been fully investigated and the trial proceeded, but the position was dropped.

GOVERNMENT NOT GAINERS.

The government had nothing to gain by the burning of the ballots. He could not conceive of any government under the British system proving so reckless to their trust as not to scoop up the commission of such a tremendous charge as was brought by implication against this government. In due time the commission's report on the West Elgin irregularities would be laid before the government, and it would be for them then to determine what action they should take, further than had already been resolved upon. Mr. Ross advanced the proposition that it was the bounden duty of both parties in the house to deal with the question of corrupt practices in the most determined and heroic manner, no matter what the consequences to individuals might be.

The attorney general had already been in communication with the judges who had presided at recent election trials, with a view of ascertaining what, in their opinion, was the best way of strengthening or improving the law in regard to corrupt practices, and the government would not be slow to accept suggestions from the opposition in the same direction.

Mr. Whitney had suggested that on account of the irregularities the government should dissolve the house and appeal to the country. The government could not suggest any such course in view of the fact that it had a majority of eight. Mr. Ross believed that if the lives of himself and colleagues were spared, and they were enabled to carry out the policy which had been enunciated by himself, there would be very few Conservative members left after the general election of 1902. (Loud ministerial applause.)

THE SAME STORY

Mr. Marter Continues the Debate on the Address.

Toronto, Feb. 21.—In the legislature today, Mr. Geo. F. Marter continued the debate on the address. He spoke for over two hours. He made a feeling reference to the sad news which had been received from South Africa—the announcement of casualties in the Canadian contingent during the fighting on Sunday last. He was sure the house would take the earliest opportunity of expressing its deep sympathy with the families who had lost relatives and friends in this engagement. While feeling sad on account of the news, they could not help rejoicing that the battles now being fought, and in which the Canadians were taking part, were bringing victory to the British arms. He then went on to deal with the address. He said that the premier last evening had said that the forests of this country were being depleted. That was true, and it might be said it had been going on for years and years. He thought the government had at last got its eyes open, possibly through the change in the commission of crown lands. The time was coming when the forests would be totally depleted, and when that came nothing remained for this province but to resort to direct taxation to a very large extent. Mr. Marter deplored the rapid party spirit which was the curse of Canadian politics. Mr. Marter said the province had gone back \$112,767 each and every year during the term of office of the Liberals. He asserted the government had furnished correct statements of the financial position of the province, and, according to the instructions given to the commissioner, we were not going to get the information we ought.

The Premier—We will get everything.

Referring to electoral corruption, Mr. Marter said it had been going on for many years, and winked at by the government. He held the ministry directly responsible. They had been derelict in their duty. Mr. Marter said he did not think it too much to assume that W. T. R. Preston was promised an appointment by the Dominion government if he had got through with his work for the Ontario government. The premier, on the previous night expressed a desire that both parties in the house should get together and devise some means to put down corruption and party spirit. The opposition, if the government were sincere in making that offer, would accept it, and Mr. Marter made a number of suggestions to that end. The government, he thought, should have a stamp out once and for all the carnival of corruption and crime which has been so rampant during the last few months.

When the debate resumed at the evening session, Mr. Pattullo spoke. His opening remarks were a eulogy of the new government. He passed over the financial question, because he preferred to wait and hear what the report of the commission would say, and then he hoped the deficit was surplus dispute would be settled. As to the question of railway and transportation, Mr. Pattullo criticized the leader of the opposition and his stand taken last session in opposing the housing of railways. The real policy of the opposition was in which they were trying to get into office was the cry of corruption in the Liberal party. Mr. Pattullo spoke of the system of voting before the ballot was brought into force, and he made the argument to show the legislation which the Liberal party had passed, with the view of purifying politics. Mr. Pattullo declared that he would not support his leader, he did not believe him to be sincere in his desire to prosecute and clear up corrupt practices brought to light in the Liberal ranks. He claimed the opposition were trying to create a wrong impression inside and out of the country by this corruption cry, and it was a slander upon the intelligence of the electorate who would not be so easily deceived. The government, he thought, was strongly supporting the government, as the result of the objection had shown. He hoped that any laws that were passed with a view to purify politics would be thoroughly considered, and that no unfair legislation would be passed. He believed that the remedy was to give the electors something high and worthy to think about, great leaders to follow, true heroes, and a high standard of morality. Mr. Macdarmid followed in the same strain as Mr. Marter, and Mr. Pettibone moved the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Hay denies that United States Consul Macrum reported the censor's meddling, or that there is any secret alliance with Great Britain. The Commercial Cable Company, New York, makes the following announcement: "We are advised that telegrams for Kimberley can now be accepted at sender's risk."

Admiral Dewey says that fortifications on the Nicaragua Canal would be useless. The canal should be free, and the United States guaranteed an account of smallpox, by the officials of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, Oscar Blackman attempted to break through the quarantine guard last night, and was shot dead.

Time Cannot be Delayed

Opportunity Neglected is Dangerous and Expensive.

A Cough demands prompt attention. You cannot recover the time you have wasted trying worthless remedies nor can you recover the money you have expended on them. The Cough is all you have left to show. Your Doctor prescribed—you got the medicine and took it. Still your Cough remained! The Doctor tried another tack and prescribed again, with no better result. Suppose you say to him: "Doctor! your treatment has done me no good. I am worse, if anything, than before; you ought to return me the fees!" Do you know any Doctor who would do so? Shiloh's Consumption Cure is sold on a "No Cure No Pay" basis! The Druggist will return your money in full if it fails. Everything is in your favor, a guaranteed unfailing remedy! It has cured innumerable cases counted as hopeless and brought joy into the lives of multitudes during 50 years of its existence. Permit me to testify to the value of your Shiloh's Consumption Cure in treatment of bad Coughs. For years I was troubled with a terrible Cough and it was only relief I could find.

Yours truly, Mrs. J. Jutmann, St. Paul, Minn.

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VOTED DOWN

Proposal to Establish a Sick Benefit Branch in the A. O. U. W. Defeated Gratifying Report Presented.

Toronto, Feb. 22.—The grand lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen met in their 22d annual session in Conference Hall yesterday morning, and was called to order by Mr. George P. Graham, M. L. A., grand master workman, of Brockville. Grand Recorder M. D. Carter called the roll of officers and delegates, and, besides the members of executive named above, there were representatives present from the 425 subordinate lodges in Ontario.

Messrs. Thomas A. Hastings, W. R. Stroud, Stephen Grant, G. F. Maxted and J. Donovan were appointed a special committee to recommend what remuneration shall be given to those employed by this grand lodge. The reports of the grand master workman, grand recorder, grand receiver, finance and audit committees, grand medical examiner, relief board, proposed amendments to constitution and district deputy grand master workmen's reports were presented and ordered to be distributed.

Grand Master Graham, learning that some of our members have fallen in battle in South Africa, requested that the names of all such brethren be at once reported to this grand session, so that suitable resolutions may be drafted.

P. G. M. Workman F. G. Inwood presented the report of the special committee on a sick benefit branch for the order. The committee reported emphatically against the proposal. The report of Mr. M. D. Carter, grand recorder, says 4,323 beneficiary certificates were issued last year, for \$200, 2,250 for \$1,000, and 594 for \$2,000, showing a large percentage in favor of the \$1,000 certificate. Beneficiary certificates in force and temporarily suspended Dec. 31, 1899, are 33,043. There have been 300 deaths reported; 256 adjusted, and 3 partially adjusted, leaving a balance still due of \$4,321.43, which is provided for. All claims where profits were complete have been promptly adjusted.

Subordinate lodges contributed \$623,720.21, out of which \$568,178.57 has been paid. Only twelve assessments were made in 1899.

Total lodges, Dec. 31, 1899 415
Total certificates issued 53,124
Total deaths 2,820
Total claims paid \$5,594,136.81
Total death rate \$1.29 per 1,000
The total cash received from all sources during the year is \$670,134.83. Beneficiary fund is \$623,720.21. This, with the balance on hand, Jan. 1, 1899 (\$37,210.79), makes a total of \$660,931.00, out of which we have paid \$568,178.57, and transferred to reserve fund \$57,210.79, leaving a balance of \$55,541.64 in the Imperial Bank.

On general fund account, \$43,216.80, with balance on hand Jan. 1, 1899, \$2,641.28, makes a total of \$45,858.08. Out of which there has been paid \$4,588.46, leaving a balance of \$41,269.62.

Total number of beneficiary certificates in good standing is 35,993.

Total number of beneficiary certificates suspended is 1,048.

A dispatch having been handed Grand Master Graham that Lady Smith had been relieved, the members arose and gave three lusty cheers and sang enthusiastically "God Save the Queen."

The debate on the proposal to organize a sick benefit branch occupied over four hours. The proposition was overwhelmingly voted down.

Amusements.

POOR SLEDDING.

The New York Telegram says of the "Greek Slave" Opera Company, which recently appeared in this city: "In these wintry days it is painful to learn that even a 'Greek Slave' finds it rough sledding through Canada and the icy Northern States. Despite the fact that Ed. Bloom manages the company and Harry Selby Fulton left Kirk Lake to go as advance for it, according to Herbert Sparling, the show is having a rough time. They lost Inze Rae because she sat too vigorously on a toboggan slide at Quebec, and other shining lights of the company also experienced trouble."

"Mr. Sparling says that half has not been told. Not only he, but Minnie Ashley, who made such a pronounced hit in the piece in this city, have quit the organization and are now 'at liberty' and are willing to be engaged by any manager who can give bond for salary."

"Mr. Sparling says that he still lacks two weeks' pay, and that he would like to get it, so he could play the New Orleans races without fear of financial disruption."

"It is a good show," says Mr. Sparling. "In fact, it is so good that

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Extract from Sir Wm. MacCormac's report to the "Lancet," after the battle of Tugela:

"We walked to the Field Hospitals of the 4th, 5th and 6th Brigades, situated about three miles from Chieveley, under the crest of a hill about 400 yards outside the fire zone. Awaiting their turn, the wounded were lying outside in rows which were being continually augmented by the civilian bearers coming in from the field. AS EACH WOUNDED MAN REACHED THE HOSPITAL HE WAS SERVED WITH A HOT CUP OF BOVRIL, LARGE CANS OF WHICH WERE BOILING OUTSIDE THE TENTS."

The above report will be found in the "Lancet" of the 20th January, and in most of the London papers of the 19th January.

86c yw

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"On the other hand, there were nights when the show did not go well. Its usual vim, but it was a good production, just the same. We did not get all that was coming to us in the way of salary. When mine was two weeks in arrears I quit, and have come back to New York to await the coming of the show to this section. I think it will make out to be a winner, but just now I am looking for work elsewhere."

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