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THE POPULAR CHARACTER OF THE POLICY OF THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT IN DEALING WITH CORPORATE POWER.

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BY

MR. HARTLEY DEWART, K.C.

BEFORE THE YOUNG MEN'S LIBERAL CLUB AT

TORONTO, JANUARY 22ND, 1906.

One of the favorite stock-charges made by our opponents against the Laurier administration is that it is a Corporation Government. This is so reiterated without proof that it may not be unprofitable to examine the facts that rebut this charge and the record of the Government during the last nine years in dealing with corporate power and the rights of the people in Canada. There is a common tendency to hit at all corporations simply because they are corporations, without regard to the question whether they have or have not abused their powers. But it must not be forgotten that even in our own time there has been a remarkable change in the methods of transacting the business of every-day life. The corporation is now the recognized form of institution through which the combination of individual interests exercises its influence and conducts its multifarious business enter-