

and policies some statement of the party's past and present position with respect to these various matters. The first Liberal convention took place in 1893. It was held in Toronto. Sir Wilfrid Laurier was leader of the party at the time and leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons. Three years after that Convention was held, the Liberal party came into power and remained in office for a period of fifteen years. The next Liberal convention was held in 1919, a little over two years after, the Liberal government again came into power, and remained in office - with a brief interregnum of a little over two months - for nearly nine years. I believe it is true to say that while the Liberal government came into office in each instance at a time when the country was suffering a real depression - industry and trade being alike depressed, that there were no periods in the history of our country when there was greater happiness or a greater measure of prosperity among the people of Canada than during those two periods of Liberal administration. Both in 1911 and in 1930 the Liberal party was defeated on issues than which none more in the interest of a country were ever presented to its people. In the case of each the issue was essentially one of wider markets, greater freedom

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