

parties. The people are tired of the graft, the corruption and the waste of public money that has been the leading feature of both parties at Ottawa during the past thirty years.

SENATE REFORM

Both Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Sir Robert Borden were great Senate reformers before they became Prime Ministers. After they came to power, however, neither one of them ever made the slightest effort to reform the Senate. Each of them filled vacancies in the Senate with faithful supporters of their own party, chosen nearly always from the privileged classes or worn-out politicians. The Senate, as at present constituted, is of no use to Canada, and as it represents almost entirely the privileged interests it is a decided menace to Democracy. It might be possible to reconstitute the Senate so that it would be of service to the country, but it is extremely doubtful if a second chamber of any kind could be constituted which would serve any useful purpose. The best way to reform the present Senate would be to abolish it. No bill for the abolition of the Senate could become effective unless it received a favorable vote from the Senators themselves. We believe that it would be a wise act and money well expended to give each Senator a pension of \$5,000 for the rest of his life, provided they voted themselves out of existence. At the present death rate in the Senate \$5,000 a year would cost the country less in ten years than the present salary of \$2,500 a year and the cost of maintaining the Senatorial institution. If a bill providing for such a pension were introduced, we believe it would pass the Senate. If Borden believes in Senate reform here is an opportunity.

C.M.A. ON GRAFT

We are authoritatively informed that as far back as last December the Canadian Manufacturers' Association officially placed before the Dominion Government their vigorous protest against the manner in which war contracts were being filled. At that time the C.M.A. pointed out to the Government that there was all kinds of waste and graft in the purchase of war supplies. The Government in reply to the C.M.A.'s statement and protest demanded proofs and the C.M.A. furnished the proofs. It will be remembered that shortly before parliament prorogued the Government was asked to bring the correspondence with the C.M.A. before the House of Commons and Premier Borden said this would be done if the C.M.A. were willing. We doubt if the C.M.A. has ever really been asked for permission to publish their correspondence, because it would reflect very seriously upon the Government. It would also keep the Government very busy explaining why no action was taken until the exposure came before the Public Accounts Committee in Parliament. The C.M.A. would be doing good service to the country if it published this correspondence.

Another philanthropic organization has come to light in Denver, Colorado, and has developed a keen desire to loan money on farm mortgages in Western Canada, at 6 per cent. interest. This latest production is known by the high sounding title of Continental Mortgage and Deposit Company, and the letter-heads describe it as having a capital stock of \$500,000, tho we do not know whether any of it is paid up, and the head office is supposed to be located in Philadelphia, while the farmers of West-

ern Canada are being operated upon from the Denver office. We fancy this is somewhat of a similar organization, or, indeed, it may be the same under another name, as the American-Canadian Securities Loan Company, which also had its operating department in Denver. The farmers in this country need money at 6 per cent.; heaven knows, but when money is so tight and when there is a great demand for it among the farmers of the United States, as well as in every city on the Continent, it looks fishy when 6 per cent. money is offered to farmers in Western Canada. Our advice to farmers is to leave it alone, because, instead of being "cheap money," we think it would be too expensive for farmers to indulge in.

According to newspaper reports, Hon. Robert Rogers, speaking at a public meeting in Montreal recently, described the Rev. Dr. Bland of Winnipeg as "a well known political hypocrite who has ever been ready to endorse, approve and applaud every crooked act that has ever been committed by a Liberal;" also that he has "never had any regard for either principle or truth." The farmers of Western Canada are well acquainted with Dr. Bland, and have every confidence in him as an able, pure-minded, fearless, and truth-loving man, who is sincerely interested in the welfare of Canada. Mr. Rogers' vile and uncalled for remarks will not injure Dr. Bland, but serve only to indicate the type of men who sometimes get into the Dominion Cabinet.

Those farmers who think present conditions are satisfactory should vote either for the Grit or Tory parties at the next Dominion election.



CANADA NEEDS A "CLEAN-UP" WEEK

Most of the cities of Canada have an annual "Clean-up" Week each spring, when the winter's accumulation of rubbish and filth is raked together and destroyed. It has been found that the health as well as the appearance of the cities is improved and flies and other pests are greatly minimized by this process. Here we see our artist's conception of the "Clean-up" week which is needed in the public life of Canada.