

everything. A stringent temperance measure to satisfy the Prohibitionists, and no further interference with the trade to hold the liquor vote. We had to tell the farmers that we'd give no more subsidies to corporations, and here we are committed to give the Grand Trunk I don't know how many millions for their assistance in Stratford."

Ross: "Well, what else could we do? It was all that saved us."

Harcourt: "It would have been cheaper in the long run to buy the votes singly, even if they come to \$20 apiece."

Stratton: "The great trouble with that method is that the party workers are such a—oh—a rascals you can't trust one of 'em. They put nine-tenths of all you give 'em to spend down in their own pockets. Whereas, if you make yourselves solid with a corporation they deliver the goods every time."

Ross: "Well, gentlemen, the brunt of it all will fall on me. The office-seekers are worrying my life out, and I fairly tremble to think of the rush we shall have during the session. Every man of the gang will want something."

Latchford: "I'm sure I don't know any one who can jolly them along, and put them off with promises better than you can, Mr. Premier."

Ross: "We shall have to appoint some of the most useful—and, therefore, the most dangerous—of them as sessional writers. That ought to keep them quiet for a while. I'm sorry the old Parliament Buildings have been pulled down."

Latchford: "Why so, Mr. Premier?"

Ross: "Well, you know, in the old days when we used to appoint a hundred or so sessional writers, for whom there was absolutely no work, we could utilize the old buildings as a sort of tank, where they could be safely put away out of sight of the public. Now, if we make a large number of unnecessary appointments, as I fear we shall have to do, they'll be tumbling over each other, and loafing around in the corridors, and the public will get the impression that we are appointing too many officials."

Harcourt: "I hope, Mr. Premier, that you do not intend to interfere with the rule adopted of late years of appointing lady stenographers and typewriters for sessional work. The system has worked well and saved money."

Stratton: "We all know Mr. Harcourt's weakness for

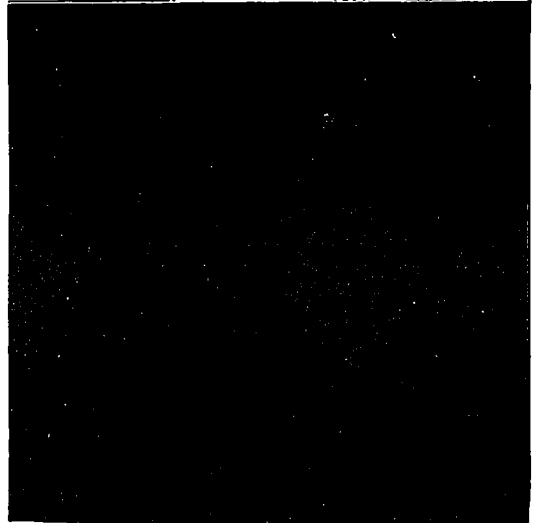
the fair sex. It's an amiable quality—but business is business. We can't make any appointments on the ground of friendship or sentiment. Though we've carried the elections, we must use every bit of patronage we've got, however small, to strengthen the party. Women have no votes, remember."

Harcourt: "You don't mean to say that you're not going to appoint any more lady typewriters?"

Ross: "Oh, no, not at all. We can't lay down hard and fast rules. But we must use all such appointments to strengthen our position, and it must be understood that those have the first claim whose fathers, brothers or other relatives have done good work for the party. We have more than enough who have party claims, and can't afford to give anyone a position merely on the ground of personal merit."

## How the I. O. F. Grows

### In Membership and Financial Strength



This Block represents the Accumulated Funds of the Order in 1902.

This Block represents the Accumulated Funds of the Order in 1881.



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# He Who Runs May Read!