

HOW TO PRODUCE A FALSE IMPRESSION.

The purpose of Mr. Shepley appeared to be to connect the names of the above mentioned opponents of Government, especially that of Mr. Foster, with various business transactions, so far as he could do it by questioning other witnesses, in most cases those who knew little or nothing at first hand, so as to give an inference of wrongdoing, and allow the party press to do the rest, before an opportunity was given to contradict or explain.

The party press carried out its share of the programme, and every Government organ, beginning with the *Toronto Globe*, by flaring headlines, sensational reports and editorial verdicts, contributed toward the attack on obnoxious opponents of the Government.

A ONE-SIDED ENQUIRY.

After a sufficient time had been allowed to produce the required impression, Messrs. Foster, Fowler and Lefurgey were permitted to answer such questions, and such questions only, as Mr. Shepley, the prosecutor, chose to ask them. Their counsel was not allowed to cross-examine any witnesses. Mr. Foster was permitted to make a short statement under oath, but this is ignored in the report of the Commission.

In the end when the Commissioners were engaged nominally in drawing up their report, Mr. Shepley, the prosecutor, was continued at one hundred dollars a day salary, plus a retaining fee, amount then unsettled, to assist in their work. The Government seemed to see no inconsistency in thus employing the prosecutor to take part in preparing the judgment. In the House of Commons, and in the presence of the Minister of Justice and other Ministers, Mr. Fowler asserted that Mr. Shepley wrote the whole of the report and findings of the Commission. The Government did not deny it.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

The purpose of all this was to create an impression outside of Insurance matters altogether, adverse to certain aggressive opposition members of Parliament. It was hoped and expected that well meaning people would be led to doubt their integrity. By the Government press Parliament was called upon to purge itself of these Conservative members, and some of the organs went so far as to declare that Mr. Foster would not dare to face his opponents, or that if he appeared in Parliament he would not venture to attack the Government.

THE SCHEME DID NOT WORK.

Parliament met on the twenty-third of November. Mr. Foster was there. The Government soon discovered that he had not been silenced. On