

# SPEECH

DELIVERED BY MR. R. L. BORDEN

AT HALIFAX, 20th AUGUST, 1907.

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At this, the first meeting of a series which will embrace every province in Canada except the fair province of Prince Edward Island, and which will extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific, it is fitting that I should give to you some statement of the attitude and policy of the Conservative party with respect to certain great questions. Time compels me to leave for future meetings any extended arguments in their favor. The same consideration obliges me to postpone to-night necessary criticism of the misgovernment which has stained the record of the present Administration during the past three years.

## THREE ESSENTIALS OF GOOD GOVERNMENT.

There are three essential features of good government upon which all men should unite, and in respect of which they should feel themselves absolutely unshackled by the ties of any political allegiance:

**Honest appropriation and expenditure of public moneys in the public interest.**

**The appointment of public officials upon consideration of capacity and personal character and not of party service alone.**

**Elections untainted by the corrupting influences of bribery and fraud.**

These essentials are not to be denied, for they have a moral significance and they involve the future of democracy.

**We boast of our representative institutions, but these cannot be enduring if they develop a debased public service, or**