

it will at all times be impartially and uncompromisingly enforced? That indeed is the real problem. With the vast majority of Canadians, however, desiring the enforcement of such a law, it ought not to be impossible to provide effective machinery for its enforcement. There should be established for the express purpose of supervising the enforcement of such a law a department with a special staff of officials and, most important of all, directed not by a Government or any of its Ministers, but by a resolute and independent chief or "General Superintendent of Elections" who could not be removed from office except by a two-thirds vote of the House of Commons, and whose energy and determination in enforcing the law would soon make him a terror to the whole chain of corruptionists,—not only to the man at the end of the chain who pays out the bribe-money or distributes the liquor to the voter, but to the "respectable" Committee which hands it over to such men and the other "respectable" Committee which collects it, and also those others who may be at the beginning of the chain,—the corporations, bonus-hunters, and others whose liberal contributions sometimes go beyond proper limits and should in any event be disclosed to the public.

It is true that there is no such provision in the British statute on this subject, but it must be remembered in comparing the British and Canadian law that owing to the special conditions prevailing in Canada there will always be more intimate relations here between the Executive and members of the House of Commons on the one hand and contractors and promoters on the other. Corporations and others having close relations with a Government should be compelled to publish a sworn statement of their campaign contributions.

Instances have been alleged of corporations contributing generously to the campaign fund of leading men who were candidates of one political party in certain constituencies and also contributing with lofty impartiality equally large sums in various other constituencies to assist other candidates who were of the opposite political party, the purpose of the investments being to secure grateful and influential friends at Ottawa in any event. While on this point touching publication of contri-