

The report of the Royal Commission on Mr. Brodeur's department, and the ghastly account given by the New York accountants whom Mr. Brodeur hired at \$75 per day to put his books in shape, show that the Opposition was abundantly justified in demanding full information.

The Royal Commission was not suspected of an intention to expose the offences of the department and so was not obstructed by the Government.

#### THE ARCTIC OUTFIT.

The most wonderful outfit of clothing, provisions, liquors and tobacco ever heard of in Arctic exploration was that which the little steamer "Arctic" with her crew of 34 men carried into Hudson's Bay in the autumn of 1904. For these 34 officers and men the clothing bill was \$23,998.76 or \$700 for each of the 34 men, the police force being otherwise provided for. This outfit included:—

1 uniform at.....	\$ 35.00
25 each.....	30.00
12 each.....	8.00
80 suits, pilot each.....	19.00
40 camel hair suits each.....	9.80
23 overcoats each.....	25.00
40 fur coats each.....	30.00
40 fur pants each.....	22.00
40 fur lined coats each.....	15.00
40 ulsters each.....	14.00
40 jackets each.....	5.50
40 leather jackets each.....	10.75
80 dos. shirts and drawers each.....	16.50
7 doz. shirts each.....	12.50
20 doz. overshirts per doz.....	15.00
80 pyjamas each.....	1.50
10 doz. guernseys per doz.....	18.00
40 furlined pants each.....	3.50

The smoking outfit included:—

8,500 cigars from 10 cents down.	
5,000 cigarettes.	
805 lbs. tobacco at.....	\$1.34 per lb.
200 lbs " " at.....	1.17
2,200 lbs. tobacco at.....	53 cents to \$1 per lb.

The liquor bill includes:—

10 cases of champagne.....	\$320.00
5 cases of port.....	65.00
42 gals. spirits.....	179.00
112 gals. rum.....	461.00
10 cases brandy.....	120.00
15 gals. sherry.....	60.00
5 cases fine old crusted port, vintage 1878	60.00

The following analysis of the Arctic supplies is given in the minority report of the committee.

Total supplies purchased.....	\$125,000.00
For clothing, over.....	23,000.00
For electric lighting.....	7,691.00
For medical supplies.....	4,827.00
For tobacco.....	3,500.00
For wines and liquors.....	3,000.00

Paid for 5,900 lbs. of Bovril, \$1.85 per lb. when the same article could be bought for \$1.10.

Paid for pemmican \$1.25 per lb. for 8,000 lbs. when the foreman for the William Davis Company swore that his firm would have supplied the same article for 35 cents per lb.

Up to January, 1908, the Arctic cost the country \$348,405.

What has she done:

Made three trips to the North.

Collected \$500 from 5 whaling vessels.

Collected \$900 customs duty.

Erected flags on thirteen small islands already under undoubted British domain to which no country in the world ever preferred a shadow of a claim.

Still the farce is continued.

## Election Frauds

### How the Laurier Government and its Provincial Allies have Encouraged, Protected and Rewarded the Perpetrators

In the sessions of 1906 and 1907 the Laurier Government promised in speeches from the Throne to introduce measures reforming the election law. Both promises were broken.

In the session of 1907 the government majority in Parliament, at the request of the Premier and his colleagues voted down a motion of Mr. R. L. Borden, declaring that legislation against electoral corruption and election fraud was necessary, and regretting that it had been delayed.

In the session of 1907-8 the Government promise was repeated, but it was not until Mr. George O. Alcorn, a Conservative member, had introduced a comprehensive and stringent measure for election reform that the Government took action. Then Mr. Aylesworth, brought down a measure containing some of the features of Mr. Alcorn's bill.

#### CONSERVATIVE PLATFORM

"The Liberal-Conservative platform demands effective provisions for the punishment of bribery and fraud at elections, to insure publicity as to expenditures; to prohibit election contributions by corporations, contractors and promoters; to make the trial of election petitions speedy and effective, and to punish offenders against the purity and fairness of the ballot."

By refusing legislation, by protecting and rewarding the perpetrators of ballot frauds and other election conspiracies, the Government and its allies in provincial administrations have steadily aided and encouraged this class of crime. Take the following examples:

#### HURON AND BROCKVILLE

In the session of 1900 Mr. Borden charged that by-elections held the year before in Brockville and West Huron had been stolen by some form of ballot fraud. Sir Wilfrid at once gave his solemn pledge to do what he could to bring out the truth and to punish the criminals. The matter was referred to the Privileges and Elections Committee, where for weeks leading government supporters, the most conspicuous of whom have since been rewarded with office, exercised all their ingenuity and legal skill to frustrate the inquiry and delay its progress. Though conclusive evidence was produced of ballot manipulation at more than one poll the obstructors succeeded in delaying the finding until the end of the session. It was then agreed that the inquiry should stand over and be taken up at the session following. When the next session opened Mr. Borden produced a sworn affidavit of J. G. Pritchett confessing that he had instructed deputy returning officers in the art of switching ballots for the elections at West Huron and Brockville. But when Mr. Borden moved that the matter be again taken up in the committee Sir Wilfrid, in direct violation of his solemn pledge, opposed the motion and called upon his followers to vote it down. The excuse of the Premier was that he intended to appoint a royal commission and make a thorough investigation of election frauds throughout the country. No such investigation was ever held, and the occupants of