

The Planet.

Business Office 53
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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, '04.

THE SITUATION

Mr. J. S. Willson, life-long Liberal and biographer of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, writes as follows in the Toronto News:—

The reputation of the Liberal party has been greatly shattered by recent events. The time was when Liberals stood out as the guardians of public morals in Canada. Even thousands of Conservatives who boasted and frankly believed that their leaders had an inherited genius for government, half-confessed that they represented lower ideals and a poorer code of ethics than Baldwin and Brown, and Mackenzie and Blake, and Laurier and Mowat, and their associates in the leadership of the Liberal party. But that day has gone and with it the chief glory of a great historical organization. The determination of the Liberal government of Ontario to retain power at any cost has compromised the party for a generation. There is nothing in the history of the Conservative party which outranks in deliberate villainy the gross scandals which disgrace all the recent history of Liberalism in this province.

Two and a half years ago the government came out of the general election with one of a majority in the Legislature, and facing a majority of seven or eight thousand of the popular vote recorded in favor of its opponents. The government was morally, if not actually, defeated, and should have promptly resigned and thrown the responsibility of the situation upon the Opposition. For thirty years the Liberal party had governed Ontario, seized every appointment, and absorbed every office of honor and emolument, and in all decency could not afford to resort to unfair methods in order to prolong a tenure of office, which was then unparalleled in the history of free institutions. But the official managers of the party, the patronage-mongers, and the secret service workers determined otherwise, and deliberately set themselves to carry the Ross Government through another parliamentary term at any cost to the reputation of the Province and at any sacrifice of the traditions and pretensions of Liberalism. The story which follows is one of almost incredible infamy.

Conservatives were unseated in North Norfolk, North Perth, Centre

Bruce, and Sault Ste. Marie, but in every case excepting the Sault only trifling irregularities were discovered. In Centre Bruce something very like a craft and a cold disregard of fair play was brought home to the Liberal organization. In South Oxford a deliberate attempt was made by the Central Liberal agency, which it must be understood, acts under the direct orders of two or three of the Ministers, to purchase the evidence necessary to unseat the Conservative member. In North York a Minister of the Crown, not daring to face the election court, confessed judgment and handed over ten or twelve hundred dollars to his opponents. The net result up to the first meeting of the Legislature after the general election was that North Norfolk and North Perth were recaptured by the Liberals, that they won the bye-elections in North Grey and North York where Liberals had been unseated, that Sault Ste. Marie, where the Conservative member was unseated, and North Renfrew, where the Liberal member had died, were kept vacant, and thus the Government was enabled to struggle through the session with three or four of a majority.

The session was made memorable by Mr. Gage's charges, backed by conclusive proof, documentary and circumstantial, that he was purchased by agents of the Government, and that in ratification of the transaction he was vested with control over the patronage of his riding, and by the abortive work and unsatisfactory judgment of the Royal Commission, which was arbitrarily and improperly substituted for inquiry before a Parliamentary committee. But the Government survived the session, and thus had another twelve months in which to increase its majority in the Legislature. The Sault was vacant, and later Muskoka became vacant through the death of the Liberal member. Bye-elections in these constituencies were finally ordered, with the result that the Sault was won by the Government, and Muskoka carried by the Opposition. At length North Renfrew also, which for a year and a half, in gross violation of public decency and constitutional principle, the Government had kept disfranchised, was likewise permitted to resume its right of representation in the Legislature, and returned a Conservative by a substantial majority. Protests were entered in North Norfolk, North Grey, North Perth, North York, the Sault, Centre Bruce, Muskoka and North Renfrew, and dates of trial were fixed. But the Government in sheer desperation, and again in flagrant defiance of constitutional principle, called the Legislature for the very day on which the first of



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PEACE SOLE AGENT for Chatham

these protests was to be heard, and thus under the provision of law which secures a member in his seat while Parliament is sitting suspended the action of the courts, forced the judges to fix new dates of trial, and secured the Government in a majority of three for the session. At every step there was fraud, trickery and abuse of constitutional prerogatives. We are now learning how this majority was obtained. In North Perth, the Liberal member confessed judgment and surrendered the seat. In Sault Ste. Marie the seat has been voided after one of the most sensational election trials in the history of Canada. In North Grey, which has witnessed an amazing exhibition of perjury, the trial is still in progress.

What we now most desire to say, however, is that the responsibility for the distressing revelations of political immorality which we have had during the last few weeks rests primarily upon the Government. The machine, whose tracks in North Perth the Ministers dare not have uncovered, and which devised and engineered the purchase of the Sault, is nothing less than an outside department of the Administration. The agents in Toronto are appointed by Ministers, its funds are collected by men in confidential relations with the Government, often under the direction of Ministers themselves, and mainly from office-holders, contractors for supplies to the public institutions, and the receivers of pulp and other public concessions.

In the Sault, as was established at the election trial, there was a compact between the Government and the representatives of the Sault industries which made every dollar paid out to workmen and officials contribute to the election of the Ministerial candidate. Fourteen or fifteen hundred dollars were paid directly to the candidate by Mr. Connors, who had a great financial interest in the resumption of the bold plan for the demoralization of the constituency were laid by these outside agents, who are the absolute creatures of Ministers acting under the nominal control of the central party organization. This organization, as has been said, receives its character and takes its instructions from the Government. The Sullivan and the Sutherlands simply interpret its spirit and carry out its orders. It is, therefore, sheer hypocrisy to denounce the creatures and shield the masters, and simple treason to the country to curse the machine and defend the Government under

whose inspiration and authority its works are conceived and performed. It might be unfair to hold a Government or a leader of Opposition responsible for the operations of individual candidates, or for the proceedings of local workers, but they cannot evade responsibility for the character of their central organization and the methods which it employs in the constituencies. This is surely beyond dispute, and yet all over this Province preachers and public journals, and pious partisans will pour out their wrath upon the instruments and embrace the authors of such infamies at the Sault has revealed.

There may be some efficacy in compulsory voting, in legislation against the outside worker, and in enforced publicity of election contributions. But surely we have lived long enough to know that there is no adequate remedy except in a sensitive and energized public opinion, and the summary overthrow of politicians and Governments which profit by electoral corruption. We are so bedevilled by party that our pulpits are dumb, our press shackled, and our publicists habituated to cant and subterfuge. The instruments which perform the tasks of the central organization expect to be denounced. That is part of the service for which they receive their wages. They merely shrug their shoulders and chuckle at the transparent hypocrisy of their accusers. So the Government stands firm as the storm goes by, well content to have its agents pilloried and callously cynical at the moral attitude of people who profess a consuming zeal for integrity in public affairs and yet burn with indignation at the suggestion that a Government which appoints the agents of corruption and profits by their infamous practices should suffer the natural penalty of ejection from office.

THE STAGE

"All he world's a stage and all the men and women merely players."

Prices 10, 20 and 30 cents. Seats on sale at Brisco's.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

At Chatham Grand.

Mack & Armour's Comedians—Sept. 19, 21.

Romeo & Juliet—Sept. 25.

Geo. F. Hall in "A Ragged Hero"—Sept. 28-29.

Real Widow Brown—Oct. 1st.

Princess Chick—Oct. 4.

(Supplied to The Planet, by Press Agents.)

ROMEO & JULIET — A PLAY TO PLEASE ALL.

Shakespeare's genius was at its best in his creation of the marvelous characters in this play. How skilful is the contrast of the Nurse's subtle humorization with Mercutio's scoffing cynicism, a creation of high comedy, with the fragrant innocence of Juliet, and the romantic enthusiasm of her lover, Romeo. All the very best features of dramatic composition and poetry are to be found in Romeo and Juliet. The interest is absorbing, the pathos most deeply touching, while the humorous element, never so prominent, affords that contrast so essential to a really great drama. Simvel's production carries all new scenery complete, properties and electric effects, and will be given in its entirety at the Grand Opera House on Monday, Sept. 26th.

THE PROPER TREATMENT FOR A SPRAINED ANKLE.

As a rule a man will feel well satisfied if he can hobble around on crutches two or three weeks after spraining his ankle, and it is usually two or three months before he has fully recovered. This is an unnecessary loss of time, for in many cases in which Chamberlain's Pain Balm has been promptly and freely applied, a complete cure has been effected in less than one week's time, and in some cases within three days. For sale by all druggists.

LEGAL

McGillivray vs. Township of Lochiel—Judgment (C.) on appeal by defendants from the judgment or report of Drainage Referee, in an action for damages caused to plaintiffs' land by flooding, owing, as alleged, to ditches constructed by defendants. The Referee found plaintiff entitled to \$500 damages and an injunction if defendants failed to provide an outlet within nine months. Appeal allowed with costs as to defendants sued as parties to third and fifth award drains. Appeal dismissed with costs as to defendant sued as party to first and second award drains, but damages reduced to nominal damages. Appeal by defendants, who were dismissed from action by referee in respect of their costs, also allowed with costs, and action dismissed as to these defendants, with the usual taxable costs. MacLennan, J. A., dissented, holding that the appeal should be altogether dismissed with costs. M. Wilson, K.C., E. H. Tiffany, (Alexandria), and F. T. Costello, (Alexandria), for appellants. J. Leitch, K. C., for plaintiff.

FALL MILLINERY OPENING

TO-DAY and TO-MORROW AND FOLLOWING DAYS OF THE WEEK

As a fashion event you will find the Northway Millinery Opening an Exposition of the most Charming Millinery Styles—a display of Millinery that is replete with art and grace—the culmination point of miles of travel and months of search through Europe and American fashion centres and weeks of preparation by our expert Milliners and Designers. From a practical point of view you will find this Fall Exhibition of Millinery a most exclusive showing and a vast wealth of millinery materials in all its branches, and by no means the least attractive feature is the very moderate scale of prices

A Striking Feature....

In this magnificent display will be our New York Ready-to-Wear Hats. Never before has there been such a gathering in any one store in Chatham. Hundreds of chic styles to select from—styles that will not be shown elsewhere in the city. These hats were personally selected by our buyers when in New York. Bought direct from the largest and best manufacturers, you will find the prices surprisingly low

Other New Goods

That await your inspection In addition to our millinery there will be

Grand Display of New Dress Goods

Including all the latest novelties in weaves and colorings.

New Trimmings

In Persian effects, braids, appliques, insertions, laces, Gimpures, all-overs, etc.

New Silks

In taffetas, Louisines, Beau de Soie, Grosgrain, Liberty, Surah, Merv, Gros de Tour.

French Flannels

An immense range of new and novel designs in rich, color effects for waists, kimonoes, etc.

New Kid Gloves

We are agents for two of the best French makes, "Trefousse" and "Rouffion." Every pair of these gloves are fully guaranteed. Our present showing includes all the latest styles and colorings.

New Waists

In silk, flannel, lustre, satana and other fancy waisting materials in great variety, all made in latest styles; you will be agreeably surprised with our prices.

New Skirts

We are safe in saying that no store in Western Ontario has such a fine showing of ladies' tailored skirts as we have at present. Every garment our own make and fully guaranteed in every respect. All sizes for ladies' and girls in stock.

New Furs

Of every description; our buying and selling of furs in seven store quantities enables us to buy and sell furs at lower prices than any firm hereabouts; see our immense range of stylish furs; get our prices before you buy.

New Fall and Winter Coats

For ladies, misses and children, hundreds to select from, every garment new and of latest cut, Northway made, the best values your money can buy.

You are Invited to Come and inspect, admire and criticize this Exhibition of Fashions, latest dictates. Bring your friends with you, all will be made welcome.

The Northway Co'y., Limited.

Seven Stores and Two Factories.

TENDERS

Tenders will be received for repairing the roof of the Chatham Collegiate Institute subject to the instruction of the Architect, Mr. Rutley. Also tenders for painting the said roof one coat of oxide of iron. Tenders to be sent to T. R. Harris, Secretary C. I. B., up to 24th September, 4th

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bulk and separate tenders will be received by the undersigned architects, addressed to C. Bechard, Esq., up to seven o'clock p. m., Saturday, Sept. 24th, 1904, for plastering, carpenter work, plumbing, heating, wiring, gas fitting, painting and glazing, for two brick veneered dwellings to be erected on St. Clair street. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

C. BECHARD, ESQ., Prop.
JAMES L. WILSON & SON, Architects,
Chatham.
Chatham, Sept. 15th, 1904.

PEACHES

Persons desiring peaches of the celebrated Crosby will please leave their orders with my agents, C. D. Wilhamson and Thos. French, or personally to myself. Special attention paid to putting up orders for shipping away. The season will open about the 20th of September.

MILTON BACKUS.

STOVES

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OUR ADVERTISEMENTS PAY.

IMPORTANT

Sale of Household Effects

H. P. NAYLOR, who is about to leave for Winnipeg, has instructed Mr. Andrew Thomson, Jr. to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, at his residence, WEST STREET, head of Cross Street, on THURSDAY NEXT, SEPT. 22, commencing at One O'clock, all his household effects, without reserve. This will be a fine chance to procure Carpets, Furniture, Stoves, etc., and no one should miss the opportunity

Carpets, Rugs, Linoleum.

25 yards fine English tapestry carpet.
3 all wool bedroom carpets.
28 yards wool carpet.
One hall carpet and stair, almost new, pad, stair plates, etc.
20 yards best quality Scotch linoleum.
One American moquette rug.
One Axminster rug, large size, finest quality.
One Japanese verandah rug.

Dining Room Furniture.

One extended oak extension table.
Six oak dining chairs, upholstered in leather.
One walnut sideboard.

Bedroom Furniture &c

Three bedroom suits, springs, mattresses, etc.
One iron bed.
One lounge.
One fine solid walnut wardrobe.
One child's cot.
One baby Go-Cart.
One Singer sewing machine.
One umbrella stand and hall tree.
Eight pairs lace curtains, poles, trimmings, etc.
One pair chenille curtains.
One parlor lamp.
Three hanging lamps, a number of small lamps.
Two children's high chairs.
Number of nice pictures.

Parlor Furniture

One large chair upholstered in blue silk.
Two rocking chairs, upholstered, fancy chairs, tables, etc.

Back Parlor Furniture

One book-case and secretary combined, almost new, quartered oak.
One open book-case, four shelves, one Morris chair, upholstered in brown corduroy.
One quartered oak reading table.
One bamboo table.
One small student's secretary.
Number of fancy chairs, etc.

Kitchen Furniture

One Happy Thought Range with water front, good as new.
One American Jewel Gas Range.
One large size fine American Refrigerator, new.
Two kitchen tables, chairs, kitchen utensils, fruit jars, etc.
One Royal Peninsular Base Burner.
One Jewel Heater, coal or wood.
One Oil Stove Heater.

Books

50 volumes Choice Books—fiction, travel and adventure.

Carpenters' Tools

One tool chest, filled with the finest carpenter's tools, one carpenter's bench, with vise, garden tools, screen doors, etc.

Remember the day, Thursday Next, Sept. 22nd.

Andrew Thomson, Auctioneer.

H. P. NAYLOR, Prop.