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MR. W. E. FOSTER ACCEPTS LEADERSHIP OF THE PROVINCIAL OPPOSITION

Appeals Strongly to People of New Brunswick to Unite With Him in Giving New Brunswick Honest Government -Opposition Platform.

St. John, N. B., Feb. 10 .- W. E. of two important Royal Commissions; "They are talking about who would GOING TO TAKE THE ROADS OUT Foster, discussing yesterday the plans and no reliance to be placed upon form our government. They are OF POLITICS. We propose to

portant announcement that he had con- government since that time, then they I feel disappointed that I was not mensented to accept its leadership.

"In January, 1916, when the party his administration. But, on the constituency. IF HE leadership was first offered to me," trary, if they desire a better business mean or of the memorable by-election in Westmanland country or Mr. Smith of Westmanland country or Mr. Smith of Poster brings to his task many adhe said, "I did not think that my ex- administration of their provincial afperience and acquaintance with pro- fairs; if they want the utmost pub- Oromocto was not mentioned. vincial affairs were sufficient to war- licity concerning public transactions, Standing by Flemming. rant my acceptance of so important a then I ask them to support the opposition and my acceptance of so important a then I ask them to support the opposition and the I ask them to support the opposition rant my acceptance of so important a then I ask them to support the opposition. I did, however, accept the tion party and we will endeavor to imposition. I did, however, accept the tion party and we will endeavor to imposition. I did, however, accept the tion party and we will endeavor to imposition. I did, however, accept the tion party and we will endeavor to imposition. THAT WE SHALL NOT HAVE IN our platform was a temperance bill to

of New Brunswick, required much omy was never so great. Tens of thou-

devotion to business principles. If I Mr. 1 oster said as follows: fairs I will surround myself with men who are of known probity and ability.

an in politics. My interest in fact, does not date back further than 1911. My love for my native province and the misgovernment from which it has suffered induced me to take an interest in its affairs with the hope of bettering them. Those conditions have grown worse instead of better, and today the province of New Brunswick needs business men more than politicians. We must have less partizanship if we want improvement, and I appeal to men of both parties to unite with me to this end.

"In this campaign I do not propose to defend the government before 1908. The people gave their verdict then, and in 1912 sustained that verdict. The record of the government of the day-the government since June 20, 1912-is what I want the electors to consider when casting their ballots. If the electors are satsfied that the affairs of the province have been conducted properly; if they believe there were no reasons for the appointment

FOR

USE



of the provincial opposition party in their finding; if the electors are dis- rather premature, but still they must the districts, school districts, if you the present campaign, made the im- posed to approve of the actions of the feel confident that we will form one. will, elect road supervisors themselves. should support Premier Murray and tioned by them as a cabinet man, or

world.

"To give the necessary time for the cannot not succeed without the assistated and I believe will, after which should, and I believe will, after the general election, direct the affairs as well as mine. The need for econthic cannot not succeed without the assistated and I believe will, after the general election, direct the affairs as well as mine. The need for econthic cannot not succeed without the assistated appears to the best means the temperance wave had in the sentiment province condemnent of this time. And if ever the province in all its history meads a change of that a new this time. time expanded.

the provincial convention with upon me so strongly the need of my with difficulty getting men to come amount and not general prought it up in the nouse he feel that in accepting leadership of the acceptance of the leadership and, in forward and offer themselves as cantreasury, as it should have, but into had to drag it through politics, he gave party he is doing so only because he acceptance of the leadership and, in forward and oner themselves as can be did not be di view of the fact that the government didates? Every man owes a duty to the personal benefit, a conspiracy, to do so again. It is too big, too will have no respect in electing men to

arty 'leaderless' I have consented to obligations of citizenship.

"I propose, during the next few considerably more. This money way. Gentlemen, there is a prohibment."

"In doing so I wish to make it plain days, to issue an address to the electronic days and the electronic days and the electronic days are address to the electronic days and the electronic days are address to the electronic days are days and the electronic days are address to the elec "In doing so I wish to make it plain days, to issue an address to the electo every elector in this province that tors dealing with the issues before roads, better bridges, etc., was stolen IF WE ARE PLACED IN CHARGE party in this province is to be congrat-

Opposition Platform

The following platform was adopted at the Opposition Convention held in St. John recently:

No PARTIZAN CONTROL OF CROWN LANDS.

1. We pledge ourselves to completely reorganise the Crumber of the Crumber

In the event of the Opposition being returned to power, we pleage

TAKE THE HIGHWAYS OUT OF POLITICS

2. We pledge ourselves to take the highways out of politics, giving the expenditure of the money collected from the people and the control of the labor, together with the Government appropriations, into the hands of supervisors, chosen by the people of each parish, to whom a detailed and audited account must be rendered every year at the annual meeting, and a duplicate thereof forwarded to the Department of Public Works, the work of the supervisors to be under the inspection of a competent provincial engineer.

We also pledge ourselves to set aside the money collected from the licenses upon automobiles and other motor vehicles, together with an equal appropriation from the revenues of the Province each year, to pay the interest upon the bonds to provide for permanent roads, which shall be constructed as rapidly as possible.

PROHIBITION PROVINCE WIDE.

3. We pledge ourselves at the first session of the Legislature to pass a law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors within the Province to the fullest extent allowed by the Constitution, and within three months after the passage of said Act to submit the same by referendum to the electors of the Province, and should the majority of votes cast be in favor of the said law, then to bring the same into force by proclamation within one year thereafter.

A. (a) To amend the electoral law so as to make it impossible remembers of the Legislature to traffic with the Government and still tain their seats.

(b) To make it possible for young men, when they reach the e of 21 years, to register their names and be placed forthwith upone towers' lists, instead of waiting for the tedious machinery of resion as it now exists.

(c) To divide the counties into electoral districts which shall the represented by one member.

(d) We will also consider amendments to the election law to also bribery in municipal as well as provincial elections impossible.

5. To obtain at once a correct statement of the financial control of the Province in order that the people may have definite know edge of the vastly increased public debt and the enormous obligatio of guaranteed bonds they will be called upon to pay; and to so reduce the cost of the administration of affairs and the number of useless of ficials as to avoid the necessity for direct taxation now confronting to

plete the Valley Railway fro ma way at or near Grand Falls, to St n Government earrying out the t

to spend to the best advantage of the THAT'S ALL.

chairmanship of a leadership committee, and since that time have had more occasion to study the responsition of the province by using my business of the office for New Brunswick.

THAT WE SHALL NOT HAVE IN our platform was a temperance bill to be submitted to a referendum and put in force within twelve months after believe was in line with the sentiment of the conditions.

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ing to do?' I'll tell you. WE ARE DUTY TO ENFORCE AND TO FUL- He is a young man, of unimpeachal FIL THE TERMS OF EACH ACT. integrity, successful in b

> been left." (Applause). The St. John Globe, a strong gov- friends of good government can app us this to say of Mr.

'Mr. Walter E. Foster's acceptance o the opposition leadership silences the criticism that the opposition is leaderless, and ranges the party under the banner of a business man of sterling worth, who has no princal sins. Mr. Foster's training, first as a clerk in the Bank of New Britiswick and later as the managing head of one of the largest, most successful and mest progressive wholesale houses in Eastern Canada, should prove a valuable asset to his party and be of great benefit to the country. Too few business men take the interest in politics it is desirable in their own and the country's interests that they should. Too few consent to the sacrifice which Mr. Foster's acceptance of party leadership and legislative service, if he is fortunate enough to secure election, will envolve. That is unfortunate. There is need in the politics of this country for all the men of personal integrity and busines standing who can be induced to ac cept nomination. It is to be hoped that Mr. Foster's splendid example will inspire other business men to give the ountry the benefit of their ability and udgment. It is particularly desirable that the next House be as strong and as thoroughly representative as possible. The questions that will develop as a result of the war, and the prob lems the war will bring will call for the most careful consideration of the best judgment that can be brought to hear on them. The call for public service at this time is as truly a patriotic call as any other demand in the Empire's interests, and it is equally a patriotic duty to see that the men

selected measure up to the service."

The St. John uTelegraph says:—Mr W. E. Foster's acceptance of the leadership of the provincial opposition which is the most important political news of to-day, will be received with very marked pleasure and approbation in opposition and independent circles Mr. Foster, who has been chairman of

personal sacrifice. My political associates and the committee entrusted by ren are showing every day the spirit uthrogh the crown lands departing the most on the most of the opposition, W. E. Foster of the Opposition o and its friends are endeavoring to the state, and those who do not recognize their personal benefits which, if it had not been discovered, broad a question for that. Temper aparty 'leaderless' I have consented to obligations of citizenship.

Will have no regret in electing men to which, if it had not been discovered, broad a question for that. Temper apport him in the Legislature and thus give the Province better government.

OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF AF-I will if successful carry on the business of New Brunswick with care and Speaking at St. Martins Saturday

"You might ask—"What are you go-FAIRS IT WILL BE OUR BOUNDEN

WE ARE. WHAT IT WILL BE OUR BOUNDEN

ter has accepted the position of leader. if it is necessary we will amend informed in public affairs, and one who t to close up loopholes which may have commands public confidence and es teem. Under such a leader th



"Thank you for the wishes and for

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