SIR CHARLES REPLIES TO PREMIER LAURIER.

Continued From Page 1.

generally. I feel assured that it is in the interest of the party and of the country that gentlemen of Mr. Kemp's position should come before us for nomination. I believe he can carry the riding and I realise the effect his candidature will have upon the advancement of our party and the interests of the country. While it is very natural that I should like to have the opportunity of retrieving the misfortune of 1896, I feel that, after two or three years, if Mr. Kemp shall then have had enough of it I may come back and ask for the support of the delegates in East Toronto.

O. A. Howland's Speech.

A. O. Howland was received with loud applause. After a happy allusion to the Centre Toronto convention he said he regarded himself as a stranger to some extent in East Toronto. [No. No.] When he heard that his name had been nominated it was necessarily a surprise to him. Much had been said about the necessity of unity in the Conservative party. That was a vital necessity. [Applause.] A necessity not only to the party, but to the whole Dominion, for the Conservative party was the hope of the Dominion. The party had laid the foundation and had built the structure of national progress, and it was the Conservative party that was bound to put the coping stone on the structure. [Applause.] He believed there is unity in East Toronto; that all the old differences had been healed. [Applause.] He feared, however, that he was the last man around whom unity could concentrate. [No, No.] If union could be cemented by his nomination he would not be so cowardly as not to allow his name to go to the convention. When he had retired from the contest in South Toronto he had felt there were important considerations, both of a public and a personal nature. Mr. Foy, he knew, would make a noble representative of the party. [Loud Applause.] It had been intimated to him that he could have the local nomination in East Toronto, but he had declined, because he felt the force of local claims and also because he preferred to retiring to retire altogether. He had made repeated sacrifices for the Conservative party, and had once thrown himself into the breach when no one else could be found. If there was a serious fight ahead in East Toronto he felt that he might be consulting the best interests of the party by allowing the convention to cast the ballots as between himself and a gentleman whom they all held in the highest respect. How could the matter be tested?

Cries of: Vote; vote.

Mr. Howland: Then I would appeal to every delegate here to vote for Mr. Kemp if he thinks Mr. Kemp can be elected, and only for myself if they think there is a serious danger of Mr. Kemp failing to carry the constituency.

Mr. Bristol Surprised.

Mr. Bristol declared that he had never offered Mr. Howland the nomination in East Toronto, nor was he aware that any members of the Central Association had done so.

Mr. Kemp Heard Next.

Mr. A. E. Kemp said when he had first been asked to stand in East Toronto he had emphatically "No." The gentlemen who had asked him, however, came back, and he was assured that he would likely receive unanimous approval of the convention. It was on that condition that he had consented that his name should go to the convention, for he realized the higher claims of Mr. Coatsworth, Ald. Foster and others.

Referring to the general politics of the country Mr. Kemp alluded to the mengre bill of fare served up by Sir Wilfrid Laurier at Massey Hall. The Liberals, he declared, were without a policy in going to the country at the present time.

Mr. Kemp also alluded to the electoral corruption under the Liberals of broken pledges on prohibition, public expenditure, the reduction of the number of Cabinet Ministers and so on.

Finally he announced that his name would go to the convention.

Ald. Foster definitely retired in favor of Mr. Kemp.

Mr. Howland rose again and said the best course for him would be to follow the lead of Ald. Foster. [Loud applause.]

Mr. Henkes rose in the body of the hall and said that Ald. Foster and Mr. Coatsworth had no right by retiring to deprive the delegates of making a choice of two.

Mr. Howland: Well gentlemen, I think I must give way to the circumstance that Ald. Foster has withdrawn. I think you may take me as having withdrawn. [Loud applause.]

Chairman Bristol: All the other candidates having now withdrawn, I declare Mr. Kemp the unanimous choice of the convention. [Great cheering.]

The convention came to its feet as one man, and cheered again and again for the choice of the convention.

Dr. Beattie Nesbitt's Speech.

Dr. Beattie Nesbitt followed with a good-humored speech, which was applauded in almost every sentence. Conservatives had their differences in the past, and they did the very best they knew how when they met again. But let them sink up now to a man and get the old party again standing shoulder to shoulder.

Mr. Brock's Appeal.

Mr. W. R. Brock appealed to the electors of East Toronto to stand loyally by the man chosen by the convention. If there should, unfortunately, be any disunion, it would not only hurt the candidate of the party, but it would hurt also the candidates in adjoining constituencies. Mr. Oliver Howland was one of the warmest friends he had in Toronto. [Applause.] He asked the convention, by a startling vote, to make Mr. Kemp's nomination unanimous.

Great Cheers for Sir Charles.

Sir Charles Tupper here entered the hall and was received with a tremendous outburst of cheering. The enthusiasm was kept up for several minutes, at the end of which Sir Charles rose to his feet and the applause broke out again with redoubled vigor.

Sir Charles spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: No words that I can use on the present occasion would adequately portray the satisfaction with which I learned of your proceedings here to-night. I have been long an observer of public affairs, not only in Canada but in other countries, and I have asked myself what is the cause that the British Empire has been so pre-eminently succesful as the Mother of Nations, and has obtained an undoubted prominence thruout the wide world. After careful observation and study, I have arrived at the conclusion that it is more owing to the fact that in Great Britain men of the highest birth, men of the greatest wealth, men of the greatest learning and men of most distinguished abilities have no higher ambition than to serve their country in parliament. And I believe that the pre-eminence which the British Empire commands to-day rests more upon that fact than upon any other fact that can be taken in connection with the existing position. [Applause.] Now I may say, that I have myself long since arrived at the conclusion that if any country would achieve a government of which the people may be proud, an honest, able, independent administration of the nation's affairs, there is only one means by which that can be attained, and that is by having men of that stamp and character who can be induced to come forward and represent the people in Parliament. [Applause.]

Matter of Vital Importance.

The government of the country is a matter of vital importance to every man in the country. It is by the government of a country that the standing and position of that country must be estimated abroad in other countries, as well as at home. By this one means will be judged the character and independence of the electorate, by this means will be estimated that great sovereign power that rests in the hands of the people themselves, and which should be exercised wisely and well every five years, when the opportunity is presented, under British institutions to the people to decide which of the great parties shall administer public affairs. [Applause.] Now, looking at the question from that standpoint, I feel the keenest and the deepest anxiety to have such representatives; and not only in the Liberal-Conservative party, for to me it is ever a matter of regret to find men who are utterly unfit for public life and position selected even by the Liberal party. Because the Parliament of the country touches so vitally the standing and character of the country, it is a most vitally important matter that the selection of representatives should be of men such as I have referred to, men of standing, of character and position, willing even at a very great sacrifice, perhaps, in most cases, to come forward—for it is a very great sacrifice for men to give up a large portion of their time to the discharge of the duties of a representative of the people in the House of Commons.

Glad of the Choice.

I say then, under those circumstances, no words that I can use here to-night can adequately express what I feel in learning that the choice you have made to-night is of two gentlemen of the highest character, the highest standing and great ability, who upon every occasion will be a credit to you and to their country on the floor of the House of Commons. [Applause.] I may say that I have long been most anxious to see the two gentlemen who have been nominated by you to-night. I speak from my knowledge of them, and from the estimation in which they are held here by all classes of the community. I am most anxious to see these gentlemen returned to the House of Commons, and I am quite sure that you are. [Applause.]

Tribute to J. Ross Robertson.

But I desire in the first place to refer for a few minutes to the gentleman who has lately represented the constituency which has now selected Mr. Kemp as its candidate. [Hear, hear.] I refer to Mr. Ross Robertson. [Applause.] It is but just to say that no man could have regretted more than I did when he succeeded in defeating our friend, a gentleman so much entitled to our respect and confidence, Mr. Coatsworth. No one more regretted it than myself, but I am bound to say that after four years, five sessions in the House of Commons, the manner in which Mr. Ross Robertson had discharged his duties deserved for him the grateful thanks of the constituency which he represented. [Applause.] It is true that he did not always see quite eye to eye with the party which I had the honor to lead; but I may say this, that on every great and important occasion, in which the interests and character of the House of Commons and of the country were at stake, we could always expect an able, energetic and terse speech from Mr. Ross Robertson upon the right side of the question. [Applause.] And I am very happy to say that, as his term of Parliamentary life extended, more and more was he forced by his convictions, by his independence, by his interest in the good character of the country, the more and more was he forced into closer association with the Liberal-Conservative party. [Loud applause.] Indeed, I confess it was with some regret that I learned from him in the High Commissioner's office in London that he had decided absolutely to retire from public life. No doubt it is more convenient for a Government or an Opposition to have representatives very closely and constantly identified with it giving it their support; yet there is no question about it that the independent attitude taken by Mr. Ross Robertson was calculated to reflect the greatest credit upon himself, and upon the constituency which sent him to represent it. [Applause.]

Selection of Mr. Kemp.

I should have been very glad if we were to have seen him there again; but when the question arose as to who should be his successor, I confess I felt a very strong conviction that, at this present moment, especially, in the present condition of affairs, when a number of the most vitally important questions are before the public, and under the consideration of the House of Commons, I confess that I felt it would be the very best thing for the Liberal-Conservative party, and for the country, to have gentlemen occupying the position which Mr. Kemp occupies in the city of Toronto representing the city in the House of Commons. [Applause.] And it was with the greatest regret that I felt myself called upon, in the discharge of the highest duty that can be imposed upon the member of a party, to ask Mr. Coatsworth to make a sacrifice of his own personal feelings and inclinations in order that Mr. Kemp should be a candidate. No one ever regarded another with more gratitude than I regard Mr. Coatsworth. [Applause.] Mr. Coatsworth, in a time of very great difficulty for the Conservative party, a time when I was called to make a strong appeal to him, responded with that heartiness and determination which I know him to possess, by supporting the view that I, as leader of the Conservatives in Commons at that time, entertained; and in that way I felt that he conferred a great obligation, not only on me, but on the party. [Applause.] I feel the loss of his presence in the House of Commons for his great ability, his energy and untiring assiduity in the discharge of his duty; and the manner in which he discharged his duty in the House reflected great honor upon himself and his constituency. But the question for the present is that of the man who can best promote the interests of Canada, and, in regard to the interest declared that he did not believe we would have carried out what we proposed. But, he said, you have certainly done it. [Applause.] Our policy remains unchanged. The Liberal party of Canada, led by one of the greatest statesman Canada has ever known, Sir John A. Macdonald—[applause]—that resolution, which declared that Canada would give a fitting protection to our Canadian industry, has been kept to the letter. [Applause.] Wherever a departure in a slight degree, under the present Administration, has been made: wherever they have not followed humbly and closely in the footsteps of their predecessors; wherever any attempt has been made to maintain any semblance or reference to their own belief and their old principles, they have marred and injured the policy of the Liberal-Conservative party, which stands to-day by that policy in all its integrity. [Loud applause. It is not an ideal or abstract policy. It may change from day to day, but it must only be changed to give fitting protection to every Canadian industry. We say that whatever work Canada requires shall be done by Canadian hands, upon Canadian soil. [Great cheering.] Whatever protection is found to be necessary, that object must be maintained. Or the protection of the labor of the country. [Applause.] For the protection of the labor of the country is essentially a part of the policy of protection to the industries of the country.

The Alien Labor Law.

How does the present Government deal with the subject? You know the history of the alien labor law. A deputation waited upon me as you know and pointed out the position in which labor was placed in Canada. No Canadian who crossed the boundary to find work in the United States was permitted to enter, but was arrested and sent out of the country, while workmen from across the boundary were free to come in and work in Canada. The deputation satisfied me of the injustice in such a condition of things and I stated to them then that if in power the first thing I would do would be, unless the United States alien labor law was withdrawn as against Canada, that I would, line by line, enact a similar law in Canada, by which United States labor would be shut out from competition with Canadian workmen, and that it would be enforced similarly. [Applause.] My friend, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who is not above picking up any unconsidered trifle that he finds loose, delivered an address at Windsor on the question. He said that if Sir Charles Tupper would pass an alien labor law and enforce it he would be doing but justice to Canadian labor; and he assured his audience at once that he was as much in favor of that policy as I was; that the first thing he would do would be to pass precisely the same law. This was an unqualified pledge. But what happened? Mr. Cowan was instructed to move a bill of the character indicated, which bill Sir Wilfrid Laurier sent to a committee, where Sir Louis Davies took it up and emasculated it, taking all the life and vigor out of the bill before it came back to the House of Commons. Then possibly it would be put into operation. But no. It was a matter of making promises to the ear and breaking them to the hope. Having put the law on the statute book, what then? Some one suggests to me that they tried to get the Senate to throw it out. [Laughter.] But the Senate was not prepared to reject the bill on their invitation, altho it had been mangled and emasculated, and all the vitality taken out of it. The first thing Sir Wilfrid Laurier did was to tell the Government of the United States that they would not enforce it. Under that law, which was supposed to be the carrying out of a pledge to shut United States labor out of Canada, as Canadian labor is shut out of the United States, one of the first things done was to appoint a score of officials, pay them out of the public treasury and then tell them to do nothing. [Applause and laughter.] And it was only on the eve of the election that the least pretence was made of carrying out the law. That it has been a dead letter from the beginning every intelligent man in the country knows. The policy of protecting Canadian labor, we for our part intend to maintain and stand by in all its integrity. I think, therefore, that we are more entitled to the confidence and support of the electors than they, who having spent 18 long years in theorizing upon policies, the moment they came into office swallowed all their professions and pronouncements of policy and adopted that of their predecessors, whom they had been 18 years denouncing. [Applause.] I don't intend to say and repeat the statement that it is a Government of mere opportunists, a Government having no policy, a Government having no principle, which has been led by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, a Government which not only has never propounded a policy or enunciated a principle, but which has trampled under foot any and every principle found to stand in its way.

Government Does not Deserve to Be Sustained.

I say this is a Government which does not deserve to be sustained, but which the intelligent and independent electorate of Canada should abhor. [Great cheering.] I am quite certain that it will be swept out of power. We will have, I am quite sure, two members who will worthily represent West Toronto, gentlemen who have reflected credit upon Toronto and upon themselves. [Applause.] The City of Toronto, I am bound to say, has the proud satisfaction of knowing that it returned to the west riding two gentlemen whose conduct has been such as to reflect the highest honor on themselves and the House of Commons. And when, with them, I see that two gentlemen put in nomination to-night in the centre and east ridings of the city, Toronto will be represented in the House of Commons by a phalanx of gentlemen who will come up to all that shall be expected of them, and whose character will tend to the best administration of public affairs in this country. [Applause.]

Sir Wilfrid's Toronto Address.

I was astounded on reading the address which Sir Wilfrid Laurier ventured to make to the people of this great Queen City of the West a few nights ago. I was astounded that any man could so insult the intelligence of the electors of a city like Toronto in the manner in which he did in that address from start to finish. I don't propose to take that up to-night, for I shall have the opportunity of doing so within a few weeks, when I propose dealing with the subject at length. But I will say to-night that from the start to the finish of that address not one single statement which he made but was not only unfounded in fact, but was the very reverse of the truth. ["Hear, hear," and applause.] Why, just imagine for a moment a gentleman offering such a startling and offensive insult to the electors of this great city as he did by the way in which he referred to the Hon. Hugh John Macdonald. [Loud applause.] Hugh John Macdonald, since he went out to the Northwest, said to the electors that, while he was unable to speak for anyone but himself, while he had no authority to speak for any living person but himself, while he was not in a position to say that the slightest suggestion of the kind had ever emanated from any person connected with the party but himself, that he personally entertained the opinion that it would be in the interests of both Manitoba and the Northwest if agricultural implements were made free. Sir Wilfrid Laurier actually ventured—after having lost his memory—[laughter]—after having lost all knowledge of himself and of his own past history—[laughter]—actually ventured to criticize Hugh John Macdonald for having expressed his own personal opinion on that question.

What Did Sir Wilfrid Do?

Why, what is the position of Sir Wilfrid Laurier on that question before the people of Canada to-day? He (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) went to the Northwest and Manitoba and pledged himself in the most solemn manner, pledged his word to the people of that great agricultural country, that the moment he obtained power the duties on agricultural implements would be absolutely removed. [Great applause and laughter.] And he did not save himself by saying that he was not in the position to commit any other person than himself, or that he was giving merely his own private, personal opinion. That is but a sample of the speech. Take it from beginning to end, and it is a travesty of everything like truth, of everything like honest statement concerning public affairs. Under a man under those circumstances could so small a great constituency like the electorate of Toronto is past my comprehension. [Hear, hear.] He at least showed his contempt for that the great, independent electorate of Toronto have as little regard for the truth and for consistency as he himself has. [Loud applause.] Now, I don't intend to proceed further on that subject than to say that the policy of the Liberal party, in the only light in which we are permitted to see it now is merely the policy of opportunists, who for 18 long years had pledged themselves to a certain class of principles, to a certain line of policy; but the moment they obtained power they threw those principles and that line of policy to the winds, and simply showed an element of treachery and an absence of honesty whatever as between themselves and the electors of the country. [Applause.] That is the position they occupy to-day.

The Conservative Position.

What is our position? Our opponents themselves admit that when we went to the country in 1896 we stated to the country that, after careful consideration, we had arrived at the conclusion that the only thing to save Canada from the Slough of Despond and impending ruin which threatened us under the Mackenzie-Laurier Administration, was a policy of protection for the interests of Canada. [Applause.] We placed that policy the first at the meeting of Parliament in 1879, on the statute book; and Mr. Mackenzie, on the floor of Parliament, declared that he did not believe we would have carried out what we proposed. But, he said, you have certainly done it. [Applause.] Our policy remains unchanged. The Liberal party of Canada, led by one of the greatest statesman Canada has ever known, Sir John A. Macdonald—[applause]—that resolution, which declared that Canada would give a fitting protection to our Canadian industry, has been kept to the letter. [Applause.] Wherever a departure in a slight degree, under the present Administration, has been made: wherever they have not followed humbly and closely in the footsteps of their predecessors: wherever any attempt has been made to maintain any semblance or reference to their own belief and their old principles, they have marred and injured the policy of the Liberal-Conservative party, which stands to-day by that policy in all its integrity. [Loud applause. It is not an ideal or abstract policy. It may change from day to day, but it must only be changed to give fitting protection to every Canadian industry. We say that whatever work Canada requires shall be done by Canadian hands, upon Canadian soil. [Great cheering.] Whatever protection is found to be necessary, that object must be maintained. Or the protection of the labor of the country. [Applause.] For the protection of the labor of the country is essentially a part of the policy of protection to the industries of the country.

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A False Liberal Charge.

I may say, too, that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is in so deplorable a position that upon a question of which he was thoroly informed he stated to the electors at Massey Hall what he knew to be absolutely false with regard to myself. He made a certain statement in connection with the charge that we were using one policy in one province and one in another province—a thing which The Globe also did until it became ashamed of reiterating it from time to time. In a speech made by me at a dinner in Quebec, I pointed out to my friend Sir Wilfrid Laurier and to the people of Canada the policy for Canada with regard to mutual preferential trade. You know the policy that was propounded from platform to platform throout Great Britain during the time Sir Wilfrid represented the country there in 1897. I pointed out, as you all know, that the policy which he propounded was a policy of parliamentary federation of the Empire. But Sir Wilfrid is now perfectly satisfied with the Canadian constitution. [Laughter.] I can produce the very speech delivered in the presence of members of the British Government, in which he said that Canada was not satisfied with her present position. He demanded absolute citizenship in Great Britain, and he said that that could only be obtained by having a parliamentary federation of the Empire, having Canada represented on the floor of the British House of Commons. I drew the attention of the people of Quebec to that declaration, and what it meant. This is what it meant. It meant that Canada would have a certain number of representatives, as at Ottawa, in St. Stephen's, in the heart of the Empire. And that the Imperial Parliament would have the right to impose whatever taxation would be necessary for national or Imperial purposes, and could not only collect taxes, but whatsoever taxes that Parliament in its judgment should consider best. That is the meaning of a parliamentary federation of the Empire. You have an example of what it would be presented to you here in Canada where the Federal Parliament of Canada and the provinces have various powers, which they exercise. The powers discharged by the Federal Parliament at Ottawa would correspond to the powers that would be exercised by a Parliament of the federated Empire. Everything of national concern would be dealt with there. I drew the attention of the people of Canada, as I have said, to Sir Wilfrid Laurier's position on that question, and I pointed out the fact that the estimates of the army and navy for the year—that is this year—would not be less than $46,000,000 with regard to the portion that would fall upon Canada. Events quickly showed that I had underestimated the liability, because the estimates of the army and navy for the year—this year—are not less than £100,000,000 sterling, and Canada's share would not be $46,000,000, as I estimated, but $11,000,000. Sir Wilfrid Laurier at the time he said these things thought he saw his chance of coming out as a great Imperialist; but I know the fact is that he did not understand the question at all. [Hear, hear and applause.]

What Actually Happened.

But what actually happened, gentlemen? Three months after I had spoken in Quebec, Mr. Hetherington got up on the floor of the House of Commons in London and actually moved a resolution declaring that Canada should be entitled to representation in the Imperial Parliament. And what were the arguments with which he supported the resolution? He said: It is true that Canada had sent men to the Transvaal, but they have not the power always to see that she did that, and if they had to decide he could not upon her again to impose on her any such duty, and that she would give her representation in London, Mr. Chamberlain laughed at the resolution in the House. He said: Did the learned gentleman suppose for a moment that Canada, which enjoyed the freest and most complete independence of government to be found on the face of the globe, would give that up and allow the Parliament in London to impose taxation in return for the representation that would be given in the Imperial Parliament from Canada? He said it was a thing that would not bear talking about. And I may also say that in crossing the Atlantic, my friend Hon. Edward Blake talked with Mr. Hetherington, who asked him if he would second the resolution.

Mr. Blake Laughed at It.

Mr. Blake laughed at the absurdity of the resolution, and told him that no man in Canada with a head on his shoulders would second or vote for such a proposition for a single moment. [Loud applause.] But I am glad to know that Sir Wilfrid Laurier adopts my view of the matter. [Laughter.] There is some different language used in that. It is a relief to know that he is not incapable of being instructed from day to day upon such things as a prominent leader in the Empire. But now I want to come to this point. I challenge his statement in the face of the Canadian people when he represented me as having taken the view that speech to which I have referred: "Sir Wilfrid Laurier is too English for me." [Loud applause.]

Absolute Misrepresentation.

I say that is an unfounded, base and absolute misrepresentation. [Loud applause.] What I did say was this: That Sir Wilfrid Laurier's policy of transferring the powers of imposing taxation to England to tax the people of Canada was too English for me—[great cheering]—and I am glad to know that he has become so sensitive about it, that—unless he should forget the subject and what he has since learned about it—he will not attempt anything of the kind again. [Applause and laughter.] Now, gentlemen, it is not necessary that I should take up more time longer than to say that the statement he made regarding preferential tariff, with reference to his own action regarding race and religion—every statement he made, the speaking to Toronto was a travesty of the truth, and I am prepared to show, taking the speech line by line, that of all his statements there was not one, altho there was an element of loss to the country. [Laughter, cheers.]

Sir Wilfrid a Double Ender.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier came before you as a very eloquent man. He can speak eloquently in two languages, with equal eloquence upon either side of any given question. [Great laughter.] I do not know that the question he has ever spoken on that question he has never spoken with equal ease and facility on both sides of it at one time or another. But I find he was very badly rattled at the meeting in St. Hyacinthe, after the meetings in the Windsor Hall and the Monument National. To his dismay he found that the solid men, for men of character and ability in the great city of Montreal, both French and English, were not with the Liberal-Conservative platform. He seemed to be badly rattled then. He got his temper; and when he loses his temper he loses his form. He said, I am going to Toronto, and I am going to denounce Sir Charles Tupper as a traitor to the people of Toronto. What for? He was too English in one place and not English enough in another. When I read this wild, puerile and childish rage which was of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, it reminded me of a certain polemical controversy in the City of Glasgow between two eminent divines. A deaf man was going to hear the discussion, and another deaf man whom he met upon the road asked him on his fingers where he was going. Upon being informed, the second one said: Why you will not hear a word of what they say, and you will not know which has the best of it. But the one who was going said: "Oh, I'll see who gets mad first." [Laughter.] So, when I saw the wild puerile rage of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, I knew what his expectation was for the 7th day of November, when he will find himself in the place of the Mackenzie-Laurier Government in 1878, and with much stronger reasons for being ostracized for another eighteen years. [Applause and laughter.] Now gentlemen, I intend to keep you no longer. [Cries of "go on."] Well, if at this late hour you will insist on a young man like myself, who has already spoken at two meetings to-night, continuing to address you, I will give you one reason why I think that the only hope of the corrupt administration now going to the people is money. I will name you three gentlemen: Sifton, Blair, Tarte—[hisses]—who remind me of the incident of the Shah of Persia in London. The Shah had partaken of a good dinner, with a certain amount of refreshment in connection with it, and was then taken to the Alhambra Theatre, accompanied by his man of business, who goes with him everywhere. On the way he fell asleep and woke up in the theatre in the middle of a grand ballet. Giving his man of business a dig of his elbow in the ribs, the Shah said, pointing to the ballet: "Buy 'em all; buy 'em all!" [Laughter.] These gentlemen have no other idea except to "buy 'em."

And they are at this moment giving out millions of dollars' worth of contracts for which they have no authority for the purpose of buying wholesale the parties engaged to do the work. I say their whole policy is this one idea of "buy, buy." Money is their great panacea with which they defy every principle of right and justice, and expect to go scot free because they have the Government with its money to take away the independence of the electors. I believe they will find a limit to that sort of policy. I went out to Manitoba upon a somewhat memorable occasion less than a year ago. But I must premise this part of my remarks with a reference to the Mackenzie-Laurier Administration.

How Mackenzie Was Worried.

The Mackenzie-Laurier Administration say thousands and tens of thousands of the electors of Canada did in 1878. You know what happened. In 1878, in consequence of the incapacity and maladministration of the Mackenzie-Laurier Government, the Conservatives, altho divided—and I may say that it is only when we are divided that they have ever got a majority in Canada—[hear, hear]—came into power. We had not the power to turn them out. It was done because tens of thousands of the independent and patriotic Liberals, after having tried their own party in the balance, found them wanting, and said, Let us have the Right Hon. Sir John Macdonald back again to carry on the public affairs of this country; he is the man who did it before. That was all predicted. And so I say now. We have things now as in 1878, with this difference: that, in addition to the maladministration and incapacity which has dogged the footsteps of that party in regard to every question dealt with, they are guilty now and they stand before the electors of every province convicted of the most depraved and degraded corruption that ever disgraced any Government, whether in Canada or any other country. Let Sir Wilfrid Laurier read Mr. Cook's indictment, duly drawn, clearly and succinctly stated; let him read those 17 questions and answer them, if he can. The fact is, as I said at the first, that Sir Wilfrid Laurier has defied the constituencies on every principle that he ever propounded; he has turned his back upon every promise made and he knows not how to answer Mr. Cook. So it seemed convenient to him here to talk about Hugh John Macdonald's private opinion regarding the duty on agricultural implements in the Northwest. He completely forgot to answer Mr. Herman Cook.

Mr. Charlton's Manifesto.

Then, again, there is Mr. John Charlton, whom Sir Wilfrid Laurier selected as the ablest man in the Liberal ranks and worthy of the highest honor, for after they had appointed the representatives of the Government to go to Washington to negotiate important questions between the United States and Canada Mr. Charlton was specially added. Where is he now? The man who was worthy of the highest honor that could be bestowed upon a member of the party, and the honor was bestowed upon him because he was the ablest man in the Liberal ranks, now refuses to come out as a Liberal. [Applause.] Mr. Charlton claims that if elected at all it shall be as an independent Liberal, because he has given the party pretty clearly to understand that such maladministration and corruption is a disgrace to the country, and that this is a matter of the most vital character, touching the life or death of Canada. Mr. Charlton accordingly wants to be in Parliament when these men out without forfeiting his own position. He ranks himself alongside of Ald. Cook as an independent Liberal, as an old Liberal, one of the same class of men who by tens of thousands came to the Liberal-Conservative party in 1878, and buried the Mackenzie-Laurier administration out of power without a trial of the reason that exists to-day for the same thing. [Applause.] Under these circumstances I do not hesitate to tell you that, having visited this Dominion from end to end, having addressed a hundred great mass meetings from Prince Edward Island to Vancouver Island, in every province of the Dominion, within the last two years, I say the enthusiasm and unity of the Liberal-Conservative party, the desire to support our great party and its policy exceeds in enthusiasm anything I witnessed before 1878. [Great applause.] I am proud to know that not only is the Liberal-Conservative party rallying from shoulder to shoulder, but there are to be found beside its ranks in every province and in every constituency scores of the ablest and best and most independent Liberals, who are prepared ready to restore to Canada a government of which they need not be ashamed. [Applause.] And I see that Sir Wilfrid Laurier forgot the Liberal party when he went to a Prime Minister of Canada, when he proposed at Bohmer Park to settle on a gambling basis his prospect now so near at hand. He said he was ready to put down money on his opinion when he challenged my accuracy as a prophet. I have never pretended to be a prophet. But I don't think that I was such a bad prophet in 1878, in 1882, in 1887, and in 1891. Sir Wilfrid says he is no prepared to bet money, but he is not prepared to bet money, because I have no money to bet—I never was willing to adopt such a degraded method of supporting my belief, a method in conflict with every consideration of public morality. I have no money to bet, but I am ready to put myself under a binding obligation, under penalty, that if he is elected I will resign my seat if the polls close, and it has been found the Government has been sustained, I will retire into private life forever, provided he does the same, on the agreement that if it is found that I am right and he is wrong, He must do as I—bind himself in that event to retire into private life—and I don't think it would be any great loss to the country. [Laughter, cheers.]

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How Mackenzie Was Worried.

The Mackenzie-Laurier Administration was guilty both of incapacity and maladministration; but it had one redeeming feature. That able and good man, Alexander Mackenzie, was worried out of his every existence trying to guard the treasury, and was compelled to declare that he could trust no one, not even the eloquent Mr. Laurier. He did not name him exactly; but Sir Wilfrid Laurier was a member of the Government, not one of whom could be trusted night or day, and he, to do him exception, Mr. Mackenzie could surely have taken one night off from guarding the treasury. But he did not do that. [Loud laughter.] Now, as I was saying, I went in Manitoba about a year ago. I need not recall Sir Hibbert Tupper's charges of maladministration in regard to the Yukon, and Mr. Clifford Sifton's refusal to appoint a judicial commission. The position Mr. Sifton took in that matter was that there is but one man whom he would permit to investigate his department, and that was his wife's uncle. [Laughter.] Mr. Sifton took Mr. Patterson and Mr. D. C. Fraser, gentlemen from Brandon, to the back settlements to furnish stump oratory—[laughter]—into every part of Manitoba, to plead the cause of Mr. Sifton and his friends against Hugh John Macdonald. At a meeting in Winnipeg I said I would attack Mr. Sifton in his own constituency, Brandon, and I followed him to come to my meeting. He did not appear himself, but he came later with money galore. He was able to take any man from the constituencies to Winnipeg or the Yukon for a couple of months, to return home. But, in spite of all this, Mr. Sifton's own constituency, and, in fact, the whole of Manitoba, not only endorsed Hugh John Macdonald, but wiped Greenway out. [Applause.] And, gentlemen, the great electorate of Canada, with which this Government is now face to face, will be convinced, just what the electors of Manitoba did some six months ago with Clifford Sifton and Greenway. The victory of Hugh John Macdonald in the Northwest was repeated by the independent electors of this Dominion, who are ashamed of such a condition of affairs existed up to a little while ago in Manitoba. [Loud and prolonged cheering.]

NEWS OF EAST END.

There is great rejoicing in this portion of the city over the victory scored by the Royal Canadian Bicycle Club on Saturday. This club already holds two Dunlop trophies, and if they can win a third, the third for which they ran for the first time on Saturday. The club deserve great credit for their many wins on the track. The trophy will be handed over to the club some day this week.

The wedding of Mr. Charles Ross, the well-known cricketer, and Miss Jennie Martin will be celebrated on Wednesday evening, Nov. 1. The wedding will take place at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Martin, 176 Dufferin-street.

Thanksgiving services were held yesterday in Woodgreen Tabernacle. The church was appropriately decorated for the occasion with grains, flowers, plants and vegetables, and presented a pretty appearance. Rev. Dr. Chambers officiated at both services, which were largely attended. The choir rendered special music, and selections were given by Mrs. Osborne, Mrs. A. J. Withrow and the Misses Jucem and Pearl Chambers. To-night the annual Thanksgiving social and concert will be held in the Tabernacle. A first-class tea will be served from 6 to 8 o'clock, after which addresses will be delivered by the pastor, Rev. Newton Hill and others.

Misses Hall, evangelists of Guelph, conducted the services in East Queen-street Methodist Church. There were large congregations at all the services.

The pulpit of St. Clement's Church at the evening service was occupied by Hural Dean Mackenzie of Brantford. He preached an eloquent sermon on the work of men in the church.

A concert of an Irish character will be held in East Queen-street Presbyterian Church on the 30