

FRANK B. CARVELL, M.P.

THE recent general election in New Brunswick resulting in the election of 27 Liberals and 21 Conservatives indicates that after all, dishonesty, extravagance and maladministration in public affairs cannot endure. With 45 supporters to 3 opponents in the Legislature, the Conservative Premier, Mr. Murray appealed to the electorate, but the tide was too strong. The record of the Conservative Government in New Brunswick could not be endorsed. The banishment of ex-Premier Fleming from the Provincial Government, the exposure of the worse forms of corruption and extravagance and the revelation of the squandering of the resources of the Province with a wantonness indicative of political insanity, could have but one result, viz, the overthrow of the Government.

Out of this long drawn contest against the bitterest opposition, both from Provincial and Federal governments, and in spite of the vilest calumny and vilification, there emerges one man to whom no small credit is due for the New Brunswick triumph, and that man is **Frank B. Carvell**.

THE LOOSENING PLANKS.

ONE by one the planks of the Halifax platform as laid down by R. L. Borden at Halifax, August 25th, 1907, and adopted by his party in the campaign of 1911 are being pried off by the schemers and cast adrift.

Civil Service Reform was to fill a large place in the improvement of the nation through the efforts of the Conservative party. According to Mr. Borden, "Plank 4", "A thorough and complete reformation of the laws relating to the Civil Service so that future appointments shall be made by an independent commission acting upon the Report of Examiners after competitive examination."

Up to the present not one step has been taken by the present Government to implement the promise of Civil Service Reform. On the contrary there never was such a complete disregard of the recognized rules and conventions applicable to the service. And now we see reason. On Thursday evening of the 22nd of February Hon. Mr. Crothers speaking at the Conservative Club, Ottawa, declared his devotion to the old time patronage system and stated that appointments through and by the party had given as much satisfaction and more so than by the Commission.

We may look for a complete overthrow of the Civil Service Act and the return to the good old Tory days of lots of jobs when you have the "Pull."

WILL THE PUBLIC BE DECEIVED? NO.

ONE of the most palpable attempts to deceive the public is contained in the assertion from the Tory headquarters that the administration is responsible for the establishment of the munitions

industry in Canada. As a matter of fact the government denied all responsibility for the munitions business on numerous occasions, particularly when Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Wesley Allison was on trial. Then it was none of the Government's business, but solely the affair of the Imperial Government. What has changed it since? The truth is that the government is going on the theory that the public has a short memory. But it is scarcely short enough for that.

CANADIAN NICKEL.

From the Conservative headquarters at Ottawa the following statement is issued to the Tory newspapers to show what Sir Robert Borden has achieved for Canada:

"Took effective steps to prevent Canadian nickel reaching the enemy, at the same time seeing that a plentiful supply reached Great Britain and her Allies."

Are Sir Robert Borden and his Leaders undertaking to deceive the public or are they ignorant of the true facts? We can tell them that Canadian nickel has reached Germany within the last six months.

It was mined in Sudbury in 1915, shipped in matte to the International Nickel Company, New Jersey, who refined it and sold some 800 odd tons to a smelting Company in New Jersey. This smelting Company have already sent to Germany, via the submarine Deutschland 200 tons of this Canadian nickel. Another 100 tons is lying in New London today awaiting the Deutschland which for some reason "is detained." This smelting Company now have in their warehouse in New Jersey another 500 tons which will be sent to Germany at the very first opportunity.

These are facts which cannot be contradicted if the truth is told and yet Conservative headquarters at Ottawa are saying that Canadian nickel is not reaching Germany.

AUSTRALIAN PATRONAGE SYSTEM.

"The essentials of the Australian Government system are:—

The War Minister is a political administrator and does not attempt to be an active military officer.

Political patronage is avoided, and politics are shut out of the army.

Australians are not afraid to give individuals considerable powers in administrative work, such as purchasing supplies. Good men are picked for their posts, are made responsible and are judged by what they do. The knife falls quickly on the incompetent or unreliable.

Unlike the patronage system in Australia, in Canada it prevails in respect of appointments, preferences and even promotions in the Militia. Even soldiers cannot be billeted anywhere in Canada without the patronage man stepping in and saying from whom the tea, sugar, meat, and everything else shall be purchased. The same applies with reference to clothing, drugs, bandages and medical examination.