

he was canonized as a saint in the sanctified order of St. Michael and St. George and given the sacred public office of Commissioner of Conservation of anything he had not conserved unto himself and his confederates. This incident in our archives typifies the Genesis and the Revelation of Canadian Religion and Ethics as it has been stamped upon our nationality by a small group of less than a hundred men who have been able to usurp extraordinary political and economic powers. Upon the basis of the record made by these potentates in appropriating to themselves financial rewards and in allotting to the mass of the people the burdens they shall bear, they have invented a wonderful tumult-quelling formula—the Sanctity of Wealth.

It may be utterly impossible to effect any alteration in the Canadian economic system. To make any change will certainly take some doing. Nevertheless it is an excusable weakness on the part of the sufferers that they should enquire as to the causes of their torment. If a man is to be burnt at the stake it is a very interesting bit of statistical information for him to know the character of the fuel to be used in his destruction. In these words it is intended to justify the attempt in these articles to understand the "why" of our politico-economic system—the greatest fraud perpetrated since Jacob buncoed his brother Esau out of his heritage.

There are still to be found even in these days people who are deluded into the belief that under (so-called) democratic government, the people actually rule. It is quite excusable that such a misapprehension should arise. All the forms and appurtenances of a system of popular government are visible to the eye and especially are they tangible to the touch during an election. A close scrutiny of our system will disclose the fact that this is not the case. 100 per cent of the electors are entitled to vote, but when that function is performed the responsibility and authority of the people at large in a great measure comes to an end and the manipulators of special privilege take charge. Exceptions to this general rule arise occasionally when an outburst of public indignation makes itself heard in legislative halls. These exceptions would arise oftener were it not that the two great channels of education in (so-called) free countries—the press and the pulpit—are to a great extent subsidized, shackled and submerged. The great evils in our political, social, educational and economic systems which these articles will discuss are therefore not mentioned on account of an inherited prudish delicacy or for fear of

financial annihilation. Let any reader who doubts the verities of these assumptions frame in his mind a list of the laws passed by our federal parliament which have contributed to ethical or sociologic improvements in the lives of the people—improvements which are calculated to have an influence upon the perpetuation of the British

rares beyond the time usually allotted by history as the limit of its virile civilization. Side by side with such a list let our reader make another list of the laws passed which unduly enhanced the bank accounts and personal property of a small privileged class.

(To be continued.)

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SIR WILFRID LAURIER MEMORIAL SOUVENIR

Copies of the first edition of this beautiful booklet were in such demand that the issue was exhausted in a few days. A second and larger edition has been published and all who desire to secure a copy may do so by applying to The Modern Press, 78 O'Connor St., Ottawa. The price is fifty cents a copy. The edition is printed on fine antique paper with cover in purple and gold. There are eight half tone cuts, comprising single typical postures of Sir Wilfrid, and a

number of groups. The souvenir, among other appropriate features, contains the tributes of Archbishop Mathieu and Father John Burke delivered at the Basilica, and the eulogies of Sir Thomas White and Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux delivered in the House of Commons. Not the least among all these impressive features of the booklet is the eulogy by Mr. T. A. Browne of the Ottawa Civil Service, which was published in *The Civilian* for last month. The booklet is artistically conceived and executed, and no doubt it will be in great demand.

