

in with a drag net old Liberals. No Liberals went there, not one. (Cheers.) They said Lockie Wilson was there, but he has been Conservative oftener than Liberal; there was also a man from Oxford, who, though Liberal in Dominion politics, is not so in Provincial matters. They invited the preachers, but there was not one came in; it was not the place for preachers, and they knew it. (Laughter.) There were five of them at the Liberal convention. This conference adopted what was called a policy. Mr. Ross reviewed the planks in that policy in detail. The first was, "We want Whitney in." The second was, "We approve Mr. Whitney's speech at the conference, and his record as shown by the journals." He had shown what the record was they approved of. The next plank was, "We want a mining office in each mining district." This was stolen goods: the Government had already established three offices. The next, "The settler shall have all the minerals and timber." Stolen also: the Liberal convention had previously adopted this policy. Then they were in favor of public ownership, also stolen; the Liberals have been in favor of public ownership fifty years. The next, "No coalition," he would deal with later on. They favored "agricultural bulletins in public schools," forgetting that the Government ten years ago authorized agricultural text books for the public schools, which last year were studied by 45,000 children. "That the rate of interest on drainage loans be the same as the Province pays," already the policy of the Government. "Labelling prison-made goods." The Government had stopped manufacture of goods to enter into competition with free labor. The temperance plank of the Conservatives Mr. Ross described as "colorless as a white ray of light, and not so pure," which meant nothing. He pointed out that Mr. Whitney's talk of a reduction of licenses was indefinite, as he did not say to what extent he would reduce them. In reply to the demand for better enforcement of the liquor law, as an evidence of the vigor of enforcement, Mr. Ross pointed out that \$20,000 were collected in fines against \$11,000 three years ago. He pointed out that under Mr. Whitney's proposal for non-political license commissioners two out of the three would be political appointments. "I am thankful to have been able to make this defence; nay, it is not a defence in the strict sense of the term; it is an attack upon the position of our opponents. We are breaking in their lines at every point, left, right and centre. Their charges have been found to be foundationless. Let Mr. Whitney answer them in detail, not in air, hot or cold, not in strong language, but let them be answered as before the tribunal of the great assize of 430,000 able-bodied men, independent electors of the Province." Mr. Ross referred to the coincidence of the election occurring on the birthday of Robert Burns.

In concluding, Mr. Ross observed that it was true the Government's course in some cases was misrepresented. Nothing had been too severe to say of Sir Oliver Mowat. "I would like to get some bouquets while I am still with you." (Applause.) They say I am