

THE CANADIAN LIBERAL MONTHLY
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THE LIBERAL VICTORY IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

IN 1915 the electorate of Manitoba repudiated graft, corruption and malfesance, and sent into oblivion the government which had been guilty of these crimes. In 1916 a similar fate befell the corrupt and wasteful administration in British Columbia. In 1917 corruption and graft equally as glaring as that which had characterized the governments of Manitoba and British Columbia have been repudiated by the electors of New Brunswick, and the government turned out of office. In all three cases Conservative governments had been in power. In all three cases these governments had been strongly entrenched.

By way of contrast it may be noted that during 1916 the electors of Quebec and Nova Scotia returned to power with increased majorities, and with a mandate to "carry on" two Liberal governments against which, during long periods of office, no charge of scandal has ever been substantiated. Premier Gouin of Quebec has been in the saddle since 1905. The Liberal government of Nova Scotia is thirty five years old.

The moral to be drawn from these contrasts is plain for all to read.

The Liberal victory in New Brunswick, where a government holding a majority of 45 in a House of 48, was decisively defeated by an opposition, which was practically leaderless in the Legislature when the writs were issued, is one of the most remarkable political exploits in history.

Walter E. Foster, a young and able Liberal leader was chairman of the Liberal leadership committee when the Legislature dissolved. When the writs for election were issued he stepped forward and undertook the Leadership of the Liberal Party, whose representation in the House was only three members, to wage what must seem to have been a hopeless battle against the strongly entrenched Conservative administration. Mr. Foster pledged himself, if placed in power, to carry on the affairs of the Province in a business-like manner, and fearlessly attacked and denounced the cynical disregard for public morals which had characterized his opponents, as indicted by the findings of royal commissions against them. The electors of the Province responded to the appeal and the Conservative Government was defeated decisively. This record speaks volumes for this young Liberal Leader.

FARMERS AGREE.

THE resolution of the United Farmers of Ontario, in convention during the week of February 25th, in Toronto, calling on the government to put the question of reciprocity in trade with the United

States to a referendum, and endorsing the Liberal measure of 1911, will scarcely be heeded by the entrenched interests. The farmer, in the eyes of the present administration, is pretty much of a crank. The Tory press in Ontario refers to Western farmers as faddists, if not disloyal. They are free traders, and according to Tory philosophy a free trader is a dangerous individual and rather sane on all topics. Now that the Ontario farmers have followed the lead of their Western brethren it will be interesting to note the effect on the home tariff party. It is significant that the Tory press in Ontario has made no serious comment on the Toronto resolutions. Silence is regarded as a better part of valor in this critical situation. When election time comes around the Tory press and campaigners will display the usual solicitude for the "honest Canadian farmer, the backbone of the country." They will promise him almost anything except cheaper farm implements and boots and shoes, clothing or such articles.

THE "PAP" FED TORY PRESS.

The Conservative headquarters at Ottawa continue sending out weekly, and sometimes often prepared articles and editorials for Conservative papers throughout Canada. In a recent statement issued from their office they enumerate twelve things that Canada has achieved under Sir Robert Borden. We quote two of these items:—

"Supplied Australia, New Zealand and Allied Governments with war orders totalling more than \$150,000,000.

"Supplied Great Britain's armies with \$60,000,000 of hay, oats and flour."

We would ask why is it that Conservative Headquarters can get this information from government offices when it is being continually refused to the Liberal members in the House of Commons.

The obvious answer is for "boosting the party" all information is available, but for "open criticism" nothing can be supplied the Liberal members.

We would also like to ask how it is that war orders totalling \$150,000,000 have been sent to Australia, New Zealand and Allied Governments. An answer is demanded.

OUR VOLUNTEER ARMY.

A MOST interesting booklet has just been published by "La Presse" of Montreal giving valuable information regarding recruiting in the Province of Quebec.

Certain politicians and newspapers in Ontario and elsewhere have for some time been hurrying debasing remarks against the Province of Quebec and the part it has taken in the present war. This booklet answers these charges and gives "facts and figures" to show just what Quebec has done and is in a position to do.

We commend it to our readers. It is printed in the English language.