

OTTAWA JOURNAL - November 29. 1921

C200100

"THE POLITICAL ISSUES DISCUSSED BY THREE PARTIES

[Three columns - one for each party (Liberals, Conservatives, Progressives) - space given by Journal during the campaign

LIBERALS

(Supplied by the Ottawa Reform Association)

"The party which has labelled itself Progressive in the present election - a sort of off-shoot of the Farmers Party - is established for the purpose of dividing the anti-Meighen vote in urban centres. In rural districts it is known as the Farmer-Progressive party; in towns and cities the term Independent-Progressive is used where it is considered advisable to distract attention from the class-In other districts it labels itself government-group idea. But the aim and object of these Independent, as in Quebec. different elements is the same. It is obvious that if the voters can be induced to waste votes on any of these groups the chances of the Neighen Government getting back to power are such brighter. It is part of the same camouflage to make as much noise in opposition to the Meighen candidates as against the Liberals, but the Progressive-Farmer-Independent elements know that there is absolutely no chance of their patchwork party getting a majority of seats in the forthcoming election. The best they can hope for is to divide the anti-government forces, and this they are working very hard to do. But a very close survey and analysis of the sentiment of the country at this date reveals that these elements are steadily losing strength. It is not likely that the Farmer-Independent-Progressives will win more than 50 seats in the election. The Government may win 55 seats, thus forcing these two groups in opposition to the Liberal Government.

"The Progressives - to use the name employed by this element in urban centres - professes to find that both the older parties have failed to legislate for the people, and have prostituted themselves for the interests of the mythical "angels" who furnish them with election funds. This in itself shows a strange appreciation of the integrity of the electorate of the Dominion; it amounts to a charge that the voters can be bought and have been bought. It required the advent of the only honest folk in our politics - the Progressives - to show the people their errors and sins. and to point the way to political salvation.

" But an analysis of the votes in the House of Commons

(Cont'd)

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1940-1950, MG 26 J 4, Volume 290, pages C200026-C200974

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