

Government refuses to purchase the Webb Equipment because the manufacturers would not permit J. Wesley Allison to take his blood toll of \$1.10 per set. The Canadian Government went ahead and supplied the soldiers with an equipment which costs not \$4.40, but \$6.75 and \$7.25 a set. The soldiers are sent to England. The Oliver equipment changed for the Webb, and when the British Government renders their bill to the Canadian Government for the care, maintenance and equipment of our soldiers in Great Britain the price for these Webb equipments will be included. Thus through the stupidity of our Canadian Government and their endeavor to play into Allison's hands, a double equipment has been purchased and will have to be paid for.

There is Evidence of Graft.

To-day there is in the hands of the Liberal leaders affidavits showing that commissions have been paid by one of the manufacturers of this Oliver equipment to a person closely associated with a Member of the Conservative Party. This may explain why thousands and thousands of dollars have been squandered on this Oliver Equipment.

Boots

The story of supplying boots to the Canadian soldiers at the commencement of the War is a disgraceful one, but quite in keeping with the other scandals of the Borden Government.

8,000 or more "good boys" had to be placed on the patronage list of the Militia Department and naturally out of this number some were boot manufacturers. When the Government wanted boots for the soldiers they applied to these manufacturers and also to middlemen. The boots were made and sold to the Government, but at the investigation which followed it was proven that not only was the leather bad, but in some cases **cardboard** was substituted for leather for these boots. All sorts of tricks were resorted to in connection with the soles and heels. Pieces were glued together and covered up with varnish and a hundred other means of deceiving the inspectors, with the result that when the Department were compelled to appoint a Commission to investigate these shoes, the Commission reported that:

"That the boot was of unsuitable shape and make and that the leather contained no water-resisting medium:

"That the heels and soles are unprotected and sole-fitting is often poor quality: