

The Toronto World

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REAL CHANGE REQUIRED

Altho the word Liberal is the
 name of one of the political
 parties in this country, it no longer
 represents any distinction between one
 party and the other. Men of the most
 democratic and progressive ideas are
 to be found on both sides, and so are
 fossils and worshippers of rank and
 position. As a matter of fact, it is the
 party in power, no matter what its party
 name may be, that tends to become
 fossilized and to acquire the ideas of an
 office-holding class. That is an excel-
 lent reason for making more frequent
 changes than we do in Canada, so that
 we may not encourage any class of the
 community to believe that they enjoy
 the heaven-born right to the honors
 and emoluments of office.

Whatever may be the case now,
 there is little doubt that if the Liberals
 are thrown into opposition they will
 become liberal and radical with a
 vengeance. All their notions of the
 sanctity of office holders will disap-
 pear, and they will be heard to speak
 even of judges about their breath. The
 result will be that the upholders of
 privilege will drive away the radical
 party, while it will attract radicals
 and lovers of innovation of all kinds.
 There is a great deal of radical feeling
 at present, especially in favor of public
 ownership, and it will receive an im-
 mense impulse from a change in the
 positions of the parties. A Liberal op-
 position, having rid itself of all the
 barnacles of a long period of office
 holding, will ask for no better policy
 than public ownership.

No doubt the breaking-up of the present
 political combination will do good.
 A lot of carefully laid plans for pri-
 vate arrangements will be frustrated.
 A lot of hangers-on will be driven
 away. A lot of heels who have been
 living upon the necessities of a weak
 government will find their occupation
 gone. The patient who has been for
 years at the disposal of the doctor will
 be a fine source of employment and
 profit to quacks, and when he pays
 the debt of nature, the quacks will have
 to go.

But this is not all. There must be
 government strong enough to resist
 the influences which have helped
 to drag the present government
 down. Above all, it must be able to
 resist the corporations and grabbers of
 franchises. It must stand for public
 ownership of water powers, telephones,
 gas and electric systems, and all sim-
 ilar services. Whether the control shall
 be provincial or municipal is a matter
 of detail, to be settled according to the
 circumstances of each case. The pro-
 vincial government and legislature are
 the guardians of the rights of the mu-
 nicipalities just as they are of provincial
 rights.

The control of electric railways is an-
 other important provincial question.
 With the development of Niagara pow-
 er, electricity will be the grand means
 of transportation throughout Western
 Ontario, displacing both the horse and
 the steam railway. It is the duty of
 the legislature and the government to
 see that this benefit goes to the peo-
 ple, and not to grabbers of franchises.
 Another important matter is the res-
 toration and enlargement of the prin-
 ciple of ministerial responsibility. The
 party government under our sys-
 tem enjoys large powers, and ought
 to be under correspondingly large
 responsibilities. We have seen the
 power of a party government grossly
 abused in the reference of the
 Gage-Stratton charges to a
 tribunal chosen by the accused.

We have seen also a government pos-
 sessing a much larger majority refusing
 to use the power of that majority for
 the protection of the public interests.
 That policy ought to be reversed. The
 power which the party system vests in
 the government and in the majority of
 the legislature is a trust for the public,
 and ought to be used for the public
 benefit.

REPENTANCE OF THE GLOBE

The Globe, a monument of candor,
 thus denounces one of the lines of ar-
 gument in the Gage case:

The devil's argument about the
 political and moral incapacity of
 the opposition will not reassure the
 public nor sustain the government.
 In the respect that the opposition
 is not following leaders, Liberals will
 not follow leaders.

In whom they have no confidence,
 and confidence cannot be based on
 concealed corruption. If there is
 corruption in the body politic, let it
 be cut away like the body's sake.
 The Globe has had a great deal to
 say about "the political and moral in-
 capacity of the opposition." In fact,
 the naughtiness of the opposition has
 been the theme of most of its
 articles since the Gage charges
 were made. The very article in which
 the devil's argument is denounced,
 is an attack on Dr. Reaume, Mr. Sutherland, Dr. Pyne
 and Mr. Whitney, who is said to be
 "either incapable or insincere." If the
 Globe thinks this argument is diabolical,
 why does it not cease using it?
 This would be a more satisfactory evi-
 dence of sincerity than the strongest
 language.

TIME NOT WASTED

The Rev. J. W. Pegley is right when
 he says that the people want to get
 at the truth of the Gage charges,
 and that the people will give the final
 verdict. Holding that opinion, he
 ought not to withhold credit from the
 opposition, who were fighting for
 the sort of investigation that would bring
 out the facts. That is the whole dif-
 ference between a committee and a
 commission. In almost every case on
 record in this country a committee has
 succeeded and a commission has failed
 in bringing out the facts. Surely
 the difference was worth fighting for.
 The citing of the opinions of such
 men as Edward Blake in vindication
 of the authority of parliament had far
 more than a mere partisan signifi-
 cance. These men are authorities on
 the usages of parliament. Their op-
 inions are at least worthy of the care-
 ful consideration of members of the
 legislature, both Liberals and Con-
 servatives, and of the electors. The
 members who quoted them performed
 a useful public service. In these days
 of cheap smartness in public affairs
 the people might do worse than study po-
 litical principles laid down by men
 who were really entitled to rank as
 statesmen.

A HARD CHOICE

The failure of R. A. Pyne, M.L.A.,
 to make good his charge that the
 Speaker was peddling among half a
 dozen unscrupulous members does
 not carry with it the innocence of the
 accused, or the condemnation of the
 action. It is conceivable that Dr.
 Pyne had good reasons for believing
 that the Speaker was being peddled
 among half a dozen unscrupulous mem-
 bers. But what encouragement had Dr.
 Pyne to reduce to detail a charge
 which he had only his own testimony
 to support? An evening newspaper
 observes that the "acute leader of the
 government" was given a chance to
 counter powerfully upon his oppo-
 nents. "Mr. Ross is very acute, acute
 in debate and still more acute in his
 ability to construct an investigating
 commission that can be depended upon
 not to discover anything but the
 weakness of his accusers. Suppose
 Dr. Pyne had mentioned the names
 of the members that he believed had
 been offered the Speakership, what
 would the Speaker have done? He
 would have said: 'He would have pro-
 mised a reference of the charge to a
 committee of the House, with a great
 deal of rhetoric, and the next day
 he would have resigned a commission
 guaranteed to kill charges at long or
 short range.'

Premier Ross does not score on his
 retorts. He scores on the feeble ma-
 jority which enables him to force a
 restricted investigation upon every
 member who stands forth in the House
 as an accuser. Dr. Pyne might fairly
 have replied to the Premier's demand
 for details of the peddling of the
 Speakership that he did not propose to
 make charges that a tribunal appointed
 to the accused parties would in-
 quire into. He would have had the
 opportunity for a "leader to counter
 powerfully upon his opponents." Mr.
 Ross in effect said to Dr. Pyne:

"Withdraw your charge or we
 will take you before a commission
 on our own terms. We, your ac-
 cusers, will appoint a committee
 before which shall go as much or
 as little as your charges, as we
 think safe and convenient."
 It is no wonder that Dr. Pyne hesi-
 tated to face this somewhat stiff
 proposition, and chose instead to allow
 the acute leader of the government to
 counter powerfully upon his opponents.
 He had not been "a snake," "a snake,"
 "an informer" or "a self-confessed
 liar." Therefore, he had no reason
 to hope that charges, however well
 founded, would be proven in a restricted
 enquiry.

A member of the legislature who
 thinks he can expose corruption, if
 it appears, be denounced as a snake
 and a self-confessed liar or condemned
 for reckless language. If he goes for-
 ward with his own unsupported
 testimony he is laughed or jeered
 into silence. If he takes the pre-
 caution to stand forth with proofs
 he is declared to be too low and dis-
 respectable to believe.

Is there any way by which a member
 of the legislature can do his duty with-
 out inviting one or other of these cruel
 alternatives? Is a member's privilege
 to be responsible for the seriousness
 and political significance of the
 statement he makes? Does parliament-
 ary privilege protect him only in tri-
 vialities and leave him open to exposure
 when he deals with subjects of vital
 importance to the province?

Intimidation is the weapon that the
 Ross government is now flourishing
 in the House. When it fails the vic-
 tim is ridiculed or branded with in-
 famy. When it succeeds the public is
 reminded that "the acute leader of the
 government" has given a chance to
 counter powerfully upon his oppo-
 nents.

SUSPENDED JUDGMENT

In its usual fair and judicial man-
 ner the Globe says that:
 Dr. Reaume is discredited.
 Dr. Pyne is either intellectually in-
 capable or morally insincere.

Liberals are beginning to wonder
 whether Mr. Gage is "a vulgar scoundrel
 or some other man's lot."

After all this abuse of the opposition
 it is reassuring to be told by the
 Globe that "the devil's argument about
 the political and moral incapacity of
 the opposition will not reassure the
 public nor sustain the government in
 the respect of their own supporters."

TWO BLOWS AT MANUFACTURERS

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's eloquent por-
 traiture has not convinced the
 country that Hon. J. Israel Tarte was
 cast out of the cabinet purely on ac-
 count of his breach of discipline. It
 becomes plain every day that the
 tactics planned every day that the
 public, nor sustain the government in
 the respect of their own supporters."
 The low tariff influences in the

cabinet were too much for Mr. Tarte.
 He determined upon his downfall,
 and Sir Wilfrid Laurier had no choice
 but to yield to the force of low tariff
 conspirators.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues
 in their explanations were none too
 successful in excluding tariff issues
 as a factor on the dismissal of Mr.
 Tarte. The hostile attitude of Hon.
 W. S. Fielding towards the manufac-
 turers' reputation gives further color
 to the suspicion that protection has
 some real enemies in the govern-
 ment.

The Minister of Finance could not
 conceal his unreasoning bias in the
 small-matter of an interview. He was
 not only unsympathetic, he was dis-
 tinctly strong enough to defy the
 manufacturers should not be granted
 the privilege of making their repre-
 sentations in confidence to a member of
 the government.

There appears to be a close relation-
 ship between the dismissal of Hon. J.
 Israel Tarte and the disclosure about
 the manufacturers by Hon. W. S.
 Fielding. Mr. Fielding seemed to think
 that he could afford to gratuitously
 affront the Canadian manufacturers,
 and it is fairly clear that the Minister
 of Finance and his low tariff sym-
 pathies were strong enough to defy the
 interests for which Mr. Tarte stood,
 by demanding his expulsion from the
 cabinet.

BURKING INQUIRY

By the amendment which he moved
 yesterday, Mr. Gagey challenged the
 government to investigate the truth of
 the entire statement made by him to
 the legislature. No course could be
 more fair, straightforward and manly;
 and a government which really desired
 a full investigation would have accept-
 ed the proposal at once. Instead of
 this, there was an immediate resort to
 shuffling tactics. The Attorney-Gen-
 eral moved an amendment, making
 Mr. Gagey's charge "a charge coming un-
 der the last clause of the said commis-
 sion." The only effect of this would
 be to allow charges to be made against
 other members of the ministry. The
 very essence of Mr. Gagey's charge is
 a conspiracy between one or more min-
 isters and outsiders—all the persons
 named in his statement. In this respect,
 Mr. Gagey's amendment does not add
 one inch to the breadth of the commis-
 sion.

The effect of Mr. Gagey's amend-
 ment is to charge a conspiracy. Un-
 less this is done, the judges can take
 no evidence of any transaction at which
 Mr. Gagey was not present. The in-
 terview with Mr. Stratton is only one
 link in a long chain of evidence, tend-
 ing to establish a conspiracy. Nine-
 tenths of Mr. Gagey's statement might
 be ruled out if the charge is simply
 made a charge against Mr. Stratton,
 without any allegation of conspiracy.
 The public want to know a great deal
 more than the particulars of the Strat-
 ton interview. They want a full ac-
 count of all the transactions in which
 the Sullivan, the Toronto lawyer, and
 others named by Mr. Gagey, are al-
 leged to have taken part. These are
 of immense public importance, even
 apart from the question of the guilt
 or innocence of Mr. Stratton. The
 question is, whether an attempt was
 made to corrupt a member of the legis-
 lature, and by whom?

On the day after Mr. Gagey's charges
 were made, Mr. Ross said, in a men-
 acing tone, that he would compel him
 to accept responsibility for it. If there
 was any need to add to the definiteness
 of Mr. Gagey's charges, Mr. Gagey
 has supplied the need. But the govern-
 ment has come down. It does not de-
 nounce his charges. In their original
 form, shall go before the commission.
 It wants them out and carved to suit
 its own purpose. Mr. Gagey might
 use the exact words used by the late
 Sir James Edgar in regard to the Car-
 ton charges:

"Not only do they take the in-
 vestigation out of the hands of parlia-
 ment—a minister afraid to meet
 his peers, and to be tried by his
 peers—but they have taken my
 charges and emasculated them,
 weakened them, and destroyed
 them, just to let the views of the
 accused minister himself."

"The government is making a most
 unjust and arrogant use of its nar-
 row majority in the House. But, for
 all that, at this time, the public opin-
 ion demands an impartial province. Where-
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 ilton Spectator's jokes, responds:
 "From the Banks of the Wabash,
 Where else?"

"The insinuation that if the govern-
 ment would have a committee
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 for a commission is fiercely denied.
 The Globe ought to know. The fiercest
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 of the government system, when it is not.
 However, 'that is another story.'

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 empties into Hudson Bay.

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 cial commission will be an impartial

T. EATON CO. LIMITED

The most Magnifi-
 cent Showing of
MILLINERY
 To Be Seen in Our
 Spring Opening,
 Which is Continued To-Day

Footwear for Wednesday

We are prepared for a gala day in the Footwear section on Wednesday. To make the day a memorable one we are bringing forward exceptional values in footwear for men. These are the particulars. Eight o'clock will be none too soon to be here:

345 pairs Men's Kid Slippers; self-lacing backs; American styles; neat, comfortable, and durable; broken lots: 6, 6 1/2, 7 1/2, 10, 10 1/2 and 11; regular price \$1.25 and \$1.50; Wednesday, your choice, for50

Men's Fine Box Calfskin Lace Boots; Goodyear welted soles; New York shapes; new spring and summer goods; sizes 5 to 10; regular value \$3.50; Wednesday2.50

Shirts and Underwear

Stylish shirts in new spring patterns at substantial discounts. Also seasonal weight underwear at a saving price on Wednesday, when we offer:

30 dozen Men's Oxford Working Shirts; collar attached; yoke and pocket; double-breasted; neat, comfortable, and durable; sizes 14 to 18; selling value 50c; Wednesday39

25 dozen Boys' Colored Neglige Shirts; with deep Eton collar attached; also cuffs attached; this spring's new style and patterns; blue and black; also red and black fancy stripes and figure grounds; a very nobby shirt for boys; worth 50c; Wednesday35

Men's Fine Double-Threaded Balbriggan Underwear, shirts and drawers; satin trimmings; pearl buttons and overlocked seams; grey shade; sizes 34 to 44; regular selling price 50c; Wednesday29

Our Great Carpet and Curtain Sale

Our Annual Homefurnishing Sale commenced Monday morning with a rush that will continue all week. Such a value-giving event we have never before conducted. Think of it, new, up-to-date styles and patterns in Curtains and Carpets at a quarter, a third to almost a half off regular prices right at the season of the year when you were planning to buy at regular prices. Don't delay making your selections. Assortments are now unbroken. Monday we commence with:

Nottingham Curtains

1027 pairs, 35c to 40c, for . . . \$.25
 1120 pairs, 50c, for35
 1232 pairs, 60c, for45
 2039 pairs, 75c to 85c, for . . .55
 897 pairs, 90c to \$1.00, for . . .65
 937 pairs, \$1.25, for75
 676 pairs, \$1.35, for95
 862 pairs, \$1.75, for1.15
 643 pairs, \$2.00 to \$2.25, for . .1.35
 508 pairs, \$3.00 to \$3.50, for . .1.95
 498 pairs, \$3.75 to \$4.00, for . .2.35

Axminster and Wilton Carpets

2150 yards, 2.00, for . . . \$1.50
 3790 yards, 1.50 to 1.75, for . .1.25
 3478 yards, 1.25 to 1.35, for . .97

Brussels Carpets

2445 yards, \$1.00 to \$1.10, for . .78
 2200 yards, 90c to \$1.00, for . .65

Tapestry Carpets

2750 yards, 80c, for65
 5030 yards, 75c, for47
 2740 yards, 50c to 60c, for . .38

Scotch Linoleums

1040 square yards Inlaid Linoleums; 2 yards wide; 90c and \$1.00 square yard; sale price69

1924 square yards; 2, 3 and 4 yards wide; 60c and 65c square yard; sale price45

1489 square yards; 2 and 4 yards wide; 50c and 55c square yard; sale price37

1130 square yards; 2, 3 and 4 yards wide; 40c and 45c square yard; sale price29

THE TORONTO DAILY
 STAR WILL HAVE A
 MORE COMPLETE LIST

THE T. EATON CO. LIMITED
 190 YONGE ST., TORONTO

tribunal in the face of the solemn
 truth that Hon. J. R. Stratton voted
 for that method of enquiry.

"Where did the money come from?"
 demands an impatient province. Where-
 upon, echo, which is found of The Ham-
 ilton Spectator's jokes, responds:
 "From the Banks of the Wabash,
 Where else?"

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ed, and all the tricks of political or-
 atory could not alter their opinion.

CANADA PERMANENT AND WESTERN
 CANADA MORTGAGE
 CORPORATION.

The Canada Permanent & Western
 Canada Mortgage Corporation have
 issued their annual report for 1902 in
 pamphlet form. It is a handsome little
 work, and contains, besides the report,
 a full list of the leading officials
 of the corporation. It reflects great
 credit both on the printer and the
 compiler.

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