

Opposition, who took the position that all purchases of supplies should be by tender and contract. Today, however, we had the present Leader of the Opposition saying that it was time we had a purchasing agent. That can only mean more salaried officials and more patronage, about the abundance of which they now complain. Then, again, his hon. friend has always argued, and with some consistency and force, and with a great deal of vehemence, that this country was being led to direct taxation. Yet yesterday he took a whole hour to demonstrate that it was not with us, and that the day of liberty had gone by. These things all went to show that so far as his honorable friend was concerned, his whole mental attitude had become distorted and he did not now know where he stood. One would be puzzled to know where the Opposition now stood on our Agricultural College policy. Were they in favor of it or not? Take the question of Technical Education; it was all very fine for hon. gentlemen to argue their fine spun distinctions between Technical Education and the Technical College. They find themselves now driven by circumstances to argue that they favor technical education, which they say is right, but dispute that the two are one and the same, they split hairs and argue that a Technical College is wrong. The argument is too fallacious to be taken seriously. They might just as well try to argue that the Common School was right, but the High School, the Academy, the College, all forming an important function in our educational programme, was wrong.

Let the hon. gentleman follow his own record in many of these matters and he will discover that his agility for adopting new attitudes and new opinions would require a cork-screw to follow him. A few years ago there was a plank in the temperance platform of the Conservative policy known as the "O'Mullin plank." It had never received very cordial support and now that this plank had been dropped and the happy days of Provincial Prohibition were with us, he could only conclude that the Leader of the Opposition would have no further use for that very handy little implement—the cork-screw—but would utilize the surplus supply in asserting him and his party in pulling themselves out of the difficult situations in which they found themselves. It must be quite evident that the well known qualities of such an instrument would be much needed and very well adapted for the purpose.

BY-ELECTIONS.

His hon. friend said something about by-elections. It might be interesting to discuss some of these by-elections. The two particularly referred to, were the one in Lunenburg and the one in Digby. He did not know what political lesson could be drawn from either one. Both occurred before there had been any session of this House, and both occurred after the people had by a large majority endorsed politically, the policy of the Liberals. There had been no change in public feeling, no change in sentiment, because there had been no session of the Legislature upon which to raise an issue. He (Hon. Mr. A.) might off-set these by-elections by the one that took place in his own County of Yarmouth. There was no change of sentiment there, and the gentleman who was returned there, won his election by a much larger majority