

rice, or of an increase in the duty which would go into the exchequer of Canada. Now, we shall have a new order of things under our new policy, and that policy I shall christen the Liberal National Policy. By it the Government has taken out of the hands of the manufacturers \$59,000 of their profits, by increasing the duty on uncleaned rice from three-tenths of a cent to three-quarters of a cent, and have placed that sum of \$59,000 into the exchequer of this country to be used to meet the general expenses of administration. Yet that is the very thing for doing which the hon. member for West York (Mr. Wallace) tried to condemn the Government. If by that change, we do not reduce the price of rice, we at least obtain \$59,000 additional for our exchequer, and to that extent will require less revenue than we did in previous years, and thus lighten the burdens of the people.

Now, we are charged with not having fulfilled our promises. I remember that when I sat on the other side of the House, we made many promises to the electorate which we said we would carry out if returned to power, and I think I can prove to you before I sit down that we have done so to a very great extent, and that where we have not carried out our promises, we are going to do so just as soon as the proper time arrives, and is at our disposal. Now, what did we promise? Every hon. gentleman opposite remembers that we promised to settle the school question. Every one remembers how, day and night, we fought the late Government on that question. Every one remembers that when the late Government was determined to coerce Manitoba by forcing upon that province a school system against which the people of that province rebelled, and sought to thrust upon them a Dominion education law, we, as the Liberal party, while not denying to the Catholics what they were entitled to receive, maintained that any legislation to relieve them from the grievances which they claimed the Manitoba Act of 1890 had imposed upon them, should come from the Manitoba legislature. And we promised that if we came into power, instead of settling that question by coercive means, we would settle it by conciliation. Did we not accomplish our object? To-day that question is settled, and settled amicably and satisfactorily, and you will never hear more of it inside this chamber. For this the Liberal party deserve the gratitude and commendation, not only of the Liberals of this country, but of every free man, let his politics be what they may.

We made another promise and we made it frequently. We made it by resolution, by voice and by vote. We declared in this chamber repeatedly, year in and year out, that if the Liberal party came into power, the extravagance then prevailing in the management of the Government departments would cease. We promised to reduce the expenditure as rapidly as we possibly

could. Many of us said we could reduce it by two millions, other more sanguine said we could save an expenditure of three millions a year, and others still more sanguine, said: Give us time, and in a few years we will cut down the expenditure of this country, without affecting the efficiency of any department, to the extent of \$4,000,000. What have we done in the space of one short year? Let me tell you. We have saved on the following items the following amounts:—

Charges on management of Public Debt, nearly .....	\$ 15,000
On Civil Government.....	36,000
On Penitentiaries .....	67,000
On Legislation .....	83,000
On Quarantines .....	16,000
On Militia .....	330,000
On Railways and Canals, chargeable to income .....	140,000
On Public Works, chargeable to income.	176,000
On Ocean and River Service.....	48,000
On Lighthouse and Coast Service.....	40,900
On Fisheries .....	74,000
On Indians .....	46,477
On North-west Mounted Police.....	145,000
On Post Office.....	150,875

We owe a debt of gratitude to the hon. Postmaster General for the efficient and able manner in which he has administered that department during the past year. By withdrawing contracts which had been given extravagantly by the late Government to friends of their own and re-letting them, he saved \$70,000 to the country.

Mr. CLANCY. Is the hon. gentleman referring to the estimates or to what has been passed?

Mr. MACDONALD (Huron). My hon. friend will know that this is a cut on last year's estimates. The hon. gentleman may laugh, but men sometimes laugh who cannot argue, and I think that is the position in which my hon. friend is. He must know that we are only in office about a year. When we came in there were large engagements entered into by the late Government which had to be carried out in good faith by the present Government, and when an hon. gentleman—an intelligent gentleman also—pretends that we could cut down in the first year of our office as much as we could in the second, he is begging the question entirely. I might mention some other items, but shall confine myself to saying that, on the whole, we have saved \$1,722,642 or in the neighbourhood of two million dollars, and by the time we reach the end of this Parliament, I am sure that the most sanguine expectations will be nearly realized through the economy prevailing in the various departments of the Government under the present Liberal Administration. It is evident therefore that the promised reductions have largely been made, and that we are not open to the charge of having stolen at least that part of the Liberal-Conservative programme.