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THE OBSERVER

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CARVELL AS LIBERAL LEADER?

A well known writer has in McLean's Magazine (Toronto) for September an article booming Hon. Lyman Poole Duff as a successor to Sir Wilfred Laurier in the leadership of the Liberal party. Of course Sir Wilfred will remain leader until advancing years compel retirement, and it is certain if his health and vigor continues he will see his party through another general election.

Justice Duff is not now in parliament and the writer goes on to say that of the present members four are outstanding figures if the choice of a leader should be made from those sitting in the House. He says "All of them are in the prime of life, and all are good pickings. Their names are George Graham, Edward McDonald, Frank Carvell and Dr. Pugsley."

Hon. B. Frank Smith was challenged by the opposition to have an agreement made between the responsible leaders of both parties to prevent the use of rum or money in the Carleton campaign. Mr. Smith refuses to do so, and insults the opposition by charging that they would violate an agreement if it were made.

Mr. Fleming is the real issue. Condemned by a royal commission, he retired from the premiership and from the legislature. Now he is back again on the public platform with members of the government, announcing his return to public life, and receiving the blessing of the government from the lips of the Hon. James A. Murray.

Mr. Fleming and his methods are to be forced down the throats of the people if the thing can be done. The dose is being administered openly and shamelessly, with an assumption of virtue as nauseating as it is brazenly insincere. Of what use would it be for any man to pretend that he cared for honor in public life if he endorsed the most flagrant examples of graft and plunder that have ever been exposed in New Brunswick?

Premier Fleming, in his "come back" speech at Woodstock, failed to make any reference to a certain letter relating to campaign funds which Col. H. F. McLeod, M. P., dictated to H. M. Blair. The matters referred to by Col. McLeod, were declared by him to be "absolutely in the public interest," add so far there has been no contradiction of the damaging statements therein made. Ex-Premier Fleming should be confronted with a copy of the Blair affidavit at every public meeting

at which he appears during the campaign.

J. B. Daggett informs the public in a letter in the St. John Standard that he has declined an invitation to go to Carleton and stump for Hon. B. F. Smith. This is all very well as far as it goes, but many people would like to know why an official of the government, who is also a deputy head of a department, should be asked by a Minister of the Crown to take the stump in a political campaign.

The Fredericton graft organ, which refused to support Hon. Mr. Mahoney as Minister of Public Works, is doing its best on behalf of Hon. B. Franklin Smith. This is evidence that the palm greaser has been getting in his work.

Government Nomination

The supporters of the Provincial Government in Carleton county held a convention at Woodstock on Thursday. They selected Mayor W. S. Sutton as the colleague of Hon. B. Frank Smith, Minister of Public Works. M. L. Hayward of Hartland, was in the chair. Addresses were delivered by the candidates, Hon. Dr. Landry, Hon. James A. Murray and former Premier Fleming. Resolutions were passed concurring in the selection of Hon. B. Frank Smith, Minister of Public Works and approval of the policy of the administration since 1908.

The excursion trains carried large numbers, men of both parties and women and children. Free tickets were provided for many voters and liquor flowed freely.

Will Fleming Read Blair's Statement?

St. John Telegraph: When Mr. J. K. Fleming takes the stump in Carleton county he should read to his audience the sworn statement of H. M. Blair containing a document prepared by the former Provincial Secretary of this province, Hon. H. F. McLeod. The people of Carleton county know the contents of that statement, but it would take on new beauties and a fresh significance if they could hear it from the lips of Mr. Fleming. Will he read it?



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DECLINE SUBSTITUTES

A CONSETVATIVE TO CONSERVATIVES

J. K. Fleming's brazen activity in the Carleton county bye-election and his announcement that he proposes "to remain in public life," have drawn a broadside from the Chatham World, of which J. L. Stewart, M. P. P., is the editor and proprietor. Mr. Stewart is an independent in local politics and a Conservative in Dominion affairs. He upholds Sir Sam Hughes, and he is disposed to be merciful to Colonel John Wesley Allison. He is a severe critic of Messrs. Carvell and Kye in connection with the shell charges. Those who think him unjust or misguided in Dominion affairs will find his condemnation of Mr. Fleming quite as thoroughgoing as that of the most outspoken opposition journal. But let Mr. Stewart speak for himself, keeping in mind that he is a conservative speaking to Conservatives on provincial issues. He says editorially in the latest issue of the World:

"The official report of ex-Premier Fleming's speech at Woodstock Convention says:

"Hon. Mr. Fleming, continuing, referred to his management of the Provincial Secretary's Department and also of the Crown Land Department, and challenged any one to show where he had committed an act discreditable to himself or not in the best interests of the province. "Mr. Fleming, when Minister of Lands, was the head of a blackmail conspiracy, of which his chief scalar was the executive officer, for levying contributions to the amount of \$100,000 on the holders of land leases who sought renewals, and actually collected about \$70,000. This money was given to a man of his selection to hold, and was used in stock speculations, precisely as if it were the personal property of Mr. Fleming and his treasurer. Since the exposure of this great crime half of the money has been returned to the lumber men who contributed it, and the other half is either in the hands of Mr. Fleming's treasurer or has been lost in speculation."

"And yet Mr. Fleming thinks he has done nothing discreditable and denounces this exposure of his conduct as scandal!"

"What sort of a moral monstrosity is he anyway?"

There we have the deliberate judgment of a member of the Legislature who knows the whole story, and who would have protested against the resolution whitewashing the ex-Premier had he, Mr. Stewart, been present when it was presented. The resurrection of Mr. Fleming is the text of more than one cutting editorial observation in the World. In addition to the article quoted, the World says:

"J. K. Fleming has surely some gall. He is actually taking part in the campaign in Carleton county on behalf of the Minister of Public Works! We presume that Mr. Smith could not restrain him, after having voted for the resolution that declared him innocent. Mr. Fleming's gall is phenomenal.

It is, truly. What will the Carleton county electorate do about it? Will the people of that county justify Mr. Fleming's estimate of their character? Or will they punish Smith and Fleming as they deserve? The whole country is watching and waiting for the answer to this question.

As to some of Mr. Fleming's defenders, the World says:

"Mr. J. K. Fleming used to tell a story, in his campaign speeches of a jurymen who justified his verdict of not guilty, in the case of a man charged with stealing a hog, by saying that he had received a piece of the pork. The applause that greeted Mr. Fleming at the Woodstock convention, and the eulogies the Gleaner passed on him, remind one forcibly of this story. But the Conservatives who didn't get any of the pork shouldn't be held responsible for the acts of Mr. Fleming and the applause of his admirers."

There must be hundreds of Conservatives in Carleton county who will agree with Mr. J. L. Stewart, M. P. P. As for those who shared the "pork," they count for little. Their motives are pretty generally understood, and they will be more thoroughly appreciated as further particulars concerning the distribution of the "pork"—and it was not always a willing division—age made public.

In presenting for public support and admiration that pair of practical statesmen, Messrs. Smith and Fleming, the government of the day sufficiently proclaims its character. It is exceedingly raw work. The province at large naturally expects Carleton county to resent it, and very emphatically.

Kidney Disease Overcome

Mr. James Prouse, cattle dealer, Sheho, Sask., writes:—"For about ten years I suffered from Kidney disease, at times I was bad with backache, and derangements of the digestive organs. During that time I was treated by four different doctors. One day I read in Dr. Chase's Almanac about the Kidney-Liver Pills and began to use them. Altogether I used six boxes. All I say is that I feel well now and attribute this condition to the use of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills."

Effrontery of Mr. Fleming

St. John Times: Two blows have been struck in Carleton county for good government. One of them was the nomination of Andrew D. McCain and Geo. W. Upham by the Opposition party as their candidates. The other was the open and public embrace of J. K. Fleming by members of the present government, an act which seals the political doom of the whole outfit, no matter what the electors of Carleton county may do with the challenge flung in their faces by the Flemming group.



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