

publicity as to expenses by political organizations, to prevent the accumulation of campaign funds for corrupt purposes and to prohibit contributions thereto by corporations, contractors and promoters, to expedite the hearing of election petitions, and to prevent collusive arrangements for the withdrawal or compromise thereof, and to provide for a thorough investigation of corrupt practices, and if necessary to appoint an independent prosecuting officer charged with that duty, to simplify the procedure therefor and to enforce the laws so amended.

No 'ifs' or 'ands' or 'buts,' or beating about the bush in that platform. From the Atlantic to the Pacific all honest men in this country have subscribed to the sentiments which are embalmed in these words, in that clause of the platform of the Liberal Conservative party. The people of this country are sick at heart, they are disgusted, and the outcome and measure of that disgust is falling on these gentlemen in by-election after by-election, wherever the people can speak their minds with reference to it. What have you done since you came into office to make it harder for the political thief to do his work, and to make it easier for the honest elector to deposit his ballot and have it counted? You, sir, have stood up in this House against an investigation of these crimes, against an investigation of this corruption. You, sir, in the theatre down yonder, put your hand upon the shoulder of Geo. W. Ross and appealed to the people of Ontario for his re-election, saying, this is my right hand, I want you to make that right hand strong. The right hand shielded you, and shielded those who worked for you, who bought for you, who sold for you, who conspired for you, and you to this day have entered into the fruits of their labours, and not until that right arm was shattered were the processes of law able to catch the scoundrels and bring them to punishment. Where, Sir, in this House or out of it, has the right hon. gentleman stood up and made one simple strong, honest protest against those guilty of electoral corruption? When and where? Is it in the memory of any man within this chamber? But every man who sits here knows that he has interposed his powerful influence time and again to prevent it, and has prevented it. Well, I think that is pretty plain. I think the people of this country will consider that it is pretty plain, and they intend to have an accounting therefor. I tell my right hon. friend that we are not afraid of the judgment day before the electors of this country. We are willing, whenever you choose to bring it on, whether it be now or later. It is straight cut sentences such as those I have read, showing forth the policy of the Liberal Conservative party, that are being taught in the households of this country and sinking into the hearts of the electors, and will make themselves felt when that judgment day

comes, in favour of honest government, and of a fair chance at the ballot box for the electors of this country.

Such reforms in the mode of selecting future members of the Senate as will make that chamber a more useful and representative legislative body.

That is fairly explicit. Does the right hon. gentleman think that in enunciating a platform the leader of the opposition is bound to draw up a Bill such as he will introduce? All he can do is to place before the people of the country the principles upon which he will act. But my right hon. friend says, I don't want any 'ifs' and 'ands' about it, I want to know just what you are going to do. Well, I might give the answer that my hon. friend himself gave once. Do you want to know how we will do it? Well, then just let us over to that side of the House and we will show you. That is the reply I have heard the right hon. gentleman give before this. It is sufficient for us to show the principles upon which the party means to act.

What has my right hon. friend done with reference to reforming the Senate? Has his recollection entirely gone from him? Why, he could not find his platform if he were asked to do so. Here this evening he had it not by his side. Has he seen it within the last ten years? Now that is a fair question. Has my right hon. friend preserved a copy of it? Were the planks of that platform made of wood, or of cardboard, or of rubber? Were they elastic, could they contract, could they expand? Where is there a single plank in that multitudinous platform that my right hon. friend can say he is standing upon to-day? Is there a single one? Will the right hon. gentleman not inform the House, satisfy our curiosity—one single plank? One plank of a great and powerful leader, that is all we ask for. Thirty or forty planks in the platform—one single one that has been preserved, and upon which they are standing to-day? And still we cannot have even that little measure of grace.

The management and development of the public domain (in which are to be included great national franchises) for the public benefit and under such conditions that a reasonable proportion of the increment of value arising therefrom shall inure to the people.

Is that plain enough? My right hon. friend understands it quite too well? In his heart to-night, as I am speaking here before you, the right hon. gentleman knows that although he was good enough to call his whole party together and pledge them and himself to the sacred principle that the lands were to be sold and used for the settler, and not for the speculator, he has nevertheless connived at, he has stood up for, he has placed his powerful approval upon, a more or less wholesale alienation