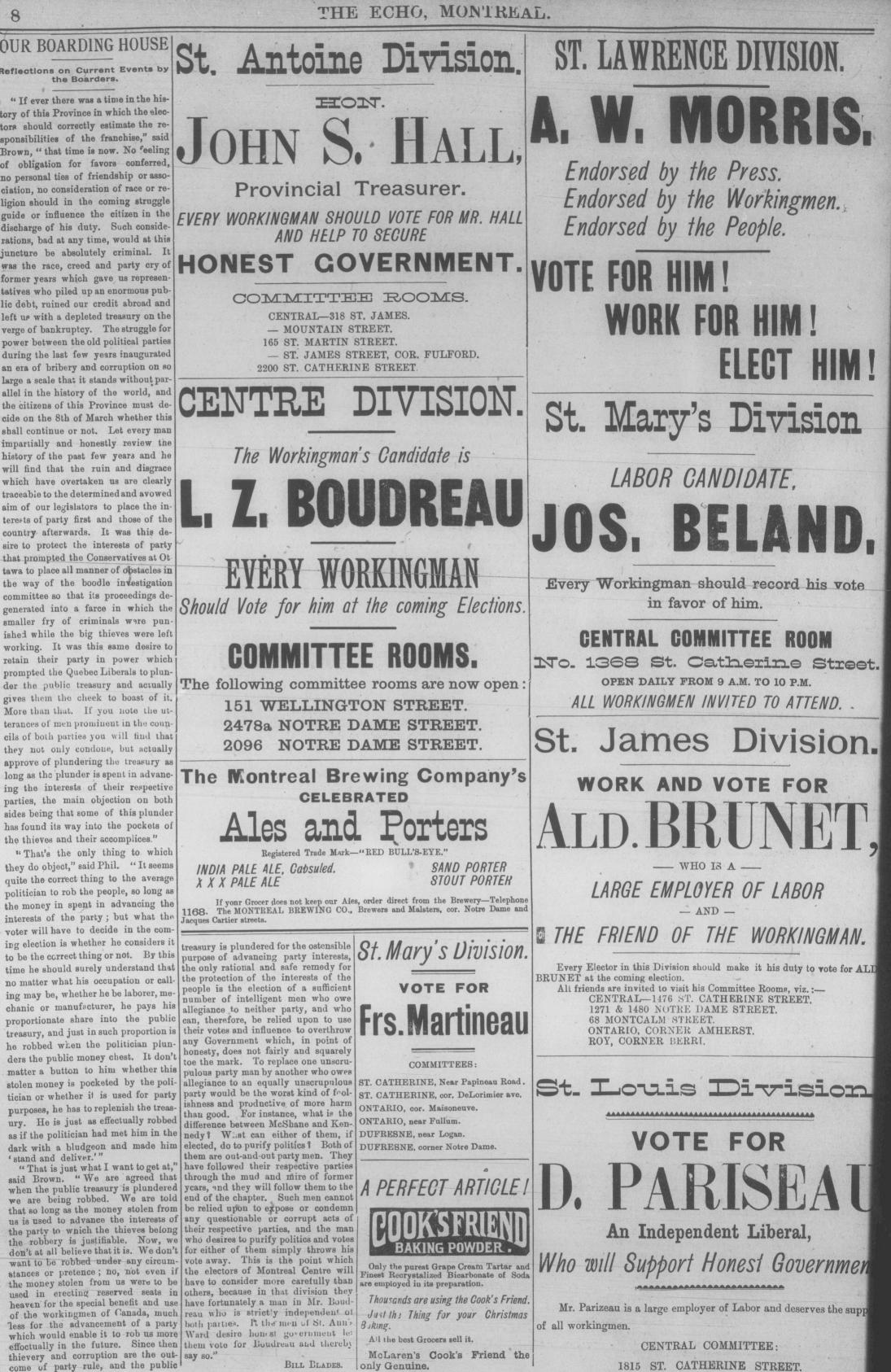
OUR BOARDING HOUSE Reflections on Current Events by the Boarders.

" If ever there was a time in the history of this Province in which the electors should correctly estimate the responsibilities of the franchise," said Brown, " that time is now. No feeling of obligation for favors conferred, no personal ties of friendship or association, no consideration of race or religion should in the coming struggle guide or influence the citizen in the discharge of his duty. Such considerations, bad at any time, would at this juncture be absolutely criminal. It was the race, creed and party cry of former years which gave us representatives who piled up an enormous public debt, ruined our credit abroad and left us with a depleted treasury on the verge of bankruptcy. The struggle for power between the old political parties during the last few years inaugurated an era of bribery and corruption on so large a scale that it stands without parallel in the history of the world, and the citizens of this Province must decide on the 8th of March whether this shall continue or not. Let every man impartially and honestly review the history of the past few years and he will find that the ruin and disgrace which have overtaken us are clearly traceable to the determined and avowed aim of our legislators to place the interests of party first and those of the country afterwards. It was this desire to protect the interests of party that prompted the Conservatives at Ot tawa to place all manner of obstacles in the way of the boodle investigation committee so that its proceedings desmaller fry of criminals were punished while the big thieves were left working. It was this same desire to retain their party in power which prompted the Quebec Liberals to plungives them the cheek to boast of it. More than that. If you note the utterances of men prominent in the councils of both parties you will find that they not only condone, but actually approve of plundering the treasury as long as the plunder is spent in advancing the interests of their respective parties, the main objection on both sides being that some of this plunder has found its way into the pockets of the thieves and their accomplices."

"That's the only thing to which they do object," said Phil. "It seems quite the correct thing to the average politician to rob the people, so long as the money in spent in advancing the



interests of the party; but what the voter will have to decide in the coming election is whether he considers it to be the correct thing or not. By this time he should surely understand that no matter what his occupation or calling may be, whether he be laborer, mechanic or manufacturer, he pays his proportionate share into the public treasury, and just in such proportion is he robbed when the politician plunders the public money chest. It don't matter a button to him whether this stolen money is pocketed by the politician or whether it is used for party purposes, he has to replenish the treasury. He is just as effectually robbed as if the politician had met him in the dark with a bludgeon and made him 'stand and deliver.'"

"That is just what I want to get at," have followed their respective parties said Brown. "We are agreed that through the mud and mire of former when the public treasury is plundered we are being robbed. We are told that so long as the money stolen from be relied upon to expose or condemn us is used to advance the interests of any questionable or corrupt acts of the party to which the thieves belong their respective parties, and the man the robbery is justifiable. Now, we don't at all believe that it is. We don't for either of them simply throws his want to be robbed under any circumstances or pretence; no, not even if the electors of Montreal Centre will the money stolen from us were to be have to consider more carefully than used in erecting reserved seats in others, because in that division they heaven for the special benefit and use have fortunately a man in Mr. Boudof the workingmen of Canada, much reau who is strictly independent of less for the advancement of a party both parties. It the men of St. Ann's which would enable it to rob us more Ward desire honest government les effoctually in the future. Since then them vote for Boudreau and thereby thievery and corruption are the out- say so." come of party rule, and the public