

## Raising and Spending Campaign Funds

(By The Guide Special Correspondent)

Ottawa, Aug. 4.—If the men in charge of the party campaign chests could be hypnotized and compelled to give truthful answers to all questions put to them, an amazing story would be told to the people of Canada. If the list of contributors to the campaign funds were to be published the public would probably understand why the railway corporations, the bankers, the mergers and the manufacturers have so much influence with governments and oppositions, and why legislation desired by the interests passes so easily through Parliament, while bills which are designed to protect the rights of the public from injustice at the hands of these same interests arouse so much opposition that they seldom survive the ordeal. A great light, for instance, would probably be thrown on the fact that the bill to guarantee \$35,000,000 worth of C.N.R. bonds passed the House of Commons without a dissenting vote, after only a couple of hours discussion, while a day of two later a bill to compel railway companies to pay for cattle which they kill on the tracks failed to pass the House. But the men who handle the campaign funds are more likely to hypnotize other people than be hypnotized themselves, so that curiosity as to the exact contents of the "barrel" and the sources from which it comes is not likely to be satisfied. There are three campaign funds in this election, those of the Liberal party, the Conservative party, and the Canadian National League, the last named being a fund raised for the purpose of fighting reciprocity. An American newspaper reporter the other day approached Mr. Z. A. Lash, the president of the Canadian National League, and asked him who were the contributors to its funds. Mr. Lash, he says, looked at him in speechless amazement for about a minute and a half, and then gasped out, "That is an impudent question." And now the American reporter is going around asking why, if the Canadian National League is a patriotic organization, formed for the benefit of Canada, the contributors should wish to hide their philanthropic names from a grateful public. Of course, no one denies that there are large campaign funds administered from the headquarters of the political parties, and no one, who does not want to be considered as peculiar, denies that they are chiefly contributed by people who expect to get back all they put in, either in concessions which will enable them to recoup themselves by extra profits in their business taken out of the public, in titles or in some other way. Many of the large corporations contribute to both parties so as to be on the right side whoever wins the election, and the railway companies are generally understood to divide their gift in the proportion of 60 per cent. to the government and 40 per cent. to the opposition.

### To Help Candidates

But wherever the funds come from, there are undoubtedly very large sums at the disposal of the parties. There will be candidates in the present contest who will pay their own election expenses and some who will have the whole cost of their campaign paid from headquarters. As a general thing candidates in the West are required to put up from \$1,000 to \$2,000 of their own money, another \$5,000 or \$10,000 being provided from the "barrel," according to necessity. The men for whose election this money is spent will not know where it comes from except that it comes from the campaign fund, and they will not know where a great deal of it goes. They do know, however, that money does not grow on trees, and when they hear that the people in a certain settlement in their constituency, thirty miles from the nearest bar room, were plentifully supplied with liquor for a week before the election day, they will probably guess where some of the money went to. Of course, to have the help of the campaign fund a candidate must be nominated by his party convention; he must be the machine candidate, and when he comes to Ottawa, if he is loyal to the people who provided him with

the sinews of war, he will be a machine member; he will vote as the whips direct.

To those who are not aware of these facts, this may appear to be extravagant imagination, but those who have been in politics know it to be true. Members of Parliament have told the writer how they detest the position into which they are forced by this iniquitous system. "But what are we to do?" they ask. "The people expect that a lot of money will be spent during the election and surely they don't expect that it will come down from heaven."

### GRAIN INSPECTORS FINED

Charles Thomas, W. J. Beirnes, Roland Matthews, Herbert Rampling, Edward Hatley and Matthew Elliott, the government grain inspectors, who, as announced in last week's Guide, were arrested for the theft of numerous articles from freight cars in the C.P.R. yards, where they were employed, pleaded guilty in the Winnipeg police court Saturday, August 5. On Monday they were sentenced as follows: Thomas, six years in the penitentiary; Beirnes, five years;

Rampling, Hatley, Elliott and Matthews, two months in jail. A fine of \$200 was imposed upon Solomon Ginsberg, guilty of receiving some of the stolen goods. The magistrate took into consideration the fact that Ginsberg could not speak English and seemingly acted in good faith.

As grain inspectors the men had access to the C.P.R. yards at all times, and took advantage of their positions to enter other cars than those authorized. Their peculations covered a number of years, and amounted to over \$15,000. The stolen articles ranged all the way from whiskey to gramophones, and included fur coats, perfumes, breakfast foods, shawls, butter, eggs, numerous articles of clothing and other staples.

Thomas and Beirnes were the leaders of the gang and statements made by the men showed that these two had led the others into the robberies. The magistrate read the leaders a severe lecture on the fact that they had wantonly turned their free access to the yards to a bad end, taking advantage not only of

the C.P.R., but of the government that employed them.

The buildings for the University of Alberta, at Strathcona, have been completed, and the college paraphernalia is being moved in.

The electrical trust of the United States has dissolved, without recourse to the courts, upon orders of Attorney-General Wickersham.

Give the sow a movable house in the pasture just before farrowing time, as the youngsters will thrive on the grass. If she farrows in the fall the quiet of the pasture is just what she needs.

Where it is possible, it is best to defer selection of sow pigs for the breeding herd until they have made considerable growth.

It must be a good farm workman to whom the exclusive care of the hogs can be given. The master's eye should be upon them every day.

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