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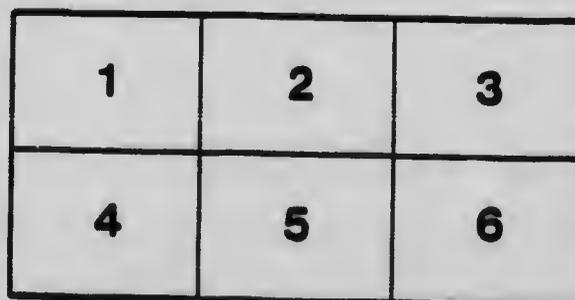
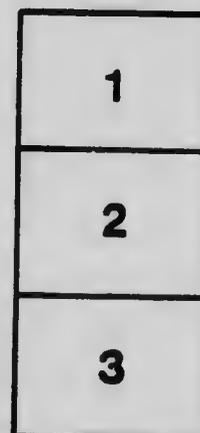
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**Conservative
Administrations**

**The Liberal
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**The Liberal
Finances**

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INDEX

	Page
Electoral Iniquities	1
The Conservative Administrations	1
Annual Statistics	2
The Provincial Finances	2
That deficit	2
The surpluses	3
Remarkable figures	4
A progressive policy	5
Convincing evidence	5
Colonization	6
The conservative opposition — Its ideas — Its program	7
Public Instruction	7
Agriculture	8
Public ways	10
The conservative Program	13
THE LIBERAL ADMINISTRATION	14
The Parent administration	14
THE SCANDALS	14
The Parent assassination	14
Turgeon-de l'Epine	16
Asselin's accusation	18
The Kelly affair	18
Mousseau-Bérard	19
An article from "Le Soleil"	19
Roblin-Mercier	20
THE BORDEAUX MANSION	22
TIMBER LIMITS	22
Scandalous Speculation	22
Pulp Wood	23
Timber Riches	23
Colonization (liberal)	24
Territory and riches	24
Matapédia	25
Témiskaming	26
LIBERAL FINANCES	27
Against Taxes	27
Gouin's Promises	28
New Taxes	29
The debt	29
Loan	30

Provincial Iniquities

THE INIQUITOUS LAW. — THE ELECTION OF 1904.

The Gouin Administration has thrown us into election at a season when the elector, in the country, is kept at home for special reasons: The particular care of his herd and the sowing.

And the bad roads!!

Why elections in May? why not in June? The constitutional term does not expire until June 1917. Why be in such a hurry?

It is because Public Opinion was beginning to stir and was to demand an inquiry into the construction of the Bordeaux Jail. New revelations were being made. Sir Lomer saw the storm coming.

In election questions, what can we not expect from the liberal party which did not cease since 1897, to scoff at the rights of the elector?

What greater contempt of public opinion has ever been shown, than in 1900 and 1904, when the people of the province were twice thrown in a new election, just as another one had been finished, and without being given the opportunity of thinking? But the worst of all electoral iniquities which adds to the shame of the liberal government is perhaps that odious law of contested elections of 1901, which suppressed pending cases and substituted to the action of tribunals the final decision of the legislative power, to the advantage of the members themselves who were voting it? The Honourable Mr. Gouin was a member of the Government which unscrupulously adopted this iniquitous legislation.

Was Mr. Gouin always sincere before the electors?

Conservative Administration

When you hear the liberal chief-stains and read their papers, you really think that the conservative party has been an enemy of the province of Quebec. Nevertheless the real facts are there to proclaim that this great political party has created and developed the real sources of income in our Province. This party, in power since 1867, since confederation until, we may say, 1886 (the Joly administration

having lasted only two years), has passed all the principal organic laws in order to organize and develop agriculture, colonization and instruction.

The Gouin Administration which refuses to render justice in its pamphlets and before the electors, in time of election, is obliged to point out the actions of the conservative party in the statistical reports of the province.

ANNUAL STATISTICS

What do the Annual Statistics published by the Gouin Administration in 1914 say at Page 9? That the conservative Administrations have passed the following laws:—

“Law concerning colonization roads; Law authorizing the formation and promotion of colonization societies; Law authorising the organization of competitions for the best cultivated farms; Laws creating the provincial council of manufactures and organizing agricultural lectures in rural districts; Law organizing the annual statistics of the changes in population and the causes of death; Law promoting immigration in our province; law for the foundation of the “Journal of Agriculture”; Law for the foundation of the first provincial dairy school; Law for the protection of masters and servants; Law creating patrimony; Law organizing the dairy industrial society; First law for the protection of health and lives of persons employed in manufactures, and other laws concerning the plants, the safety of workers, and the duration of work for women and children; Law for the foundation of the St Hyacinthe Dairy School; Law reorganizing the agricultural associations; Law organizing competitions for dairy products; Law reserving 1,500,000 acres of public land for the use of elementary schools; law encouraging the creation of technical schools.”

The conservative party is worthy of the confidence of the electors.

Much is said of the conservative administration from 1882 to 1897.

THE PROVINCIAL FINANCES

The contention that the conservative party when it left power in

1896, at the same time left only deficits, is untrue, unjust, and unfair. (For details, see Mr. Sarre's speech.)

The Mercier administration has placed the province in a lamentable position.

The conservatives looked for sources of income in order to face the heavy obligations imposed by the Mercier Administration and answer the needs of the Province. The fact is that the liberals had left a floating debt of about \$15,000,000, a borrowing power of \$10,000,000, an ordinary deficit of \$1,500,000. The net debt increased by almost \$15,000,000. The conservatives have decreased the liabilities of the province by \$2,131,691.00. The deficit of \$1,500,000.00 left place to a surplus of \$228,204.00. We have reestablished the province's credit. Our loans at 4 p. c. give a 5 p. c. premium, while the preceding government had paid about 7 p. c. for its last loan.

THAT DEFICIT

The contention of our adversaries that we have left them a deficit of \$809,000,000 is ridiculous. This alleged deficit was altogether caused by the Marchand Administration when it wished to stain the good reputation of the conservative administration. The process was very shallow and the error is conspicuous. It simply consisted in collecting the income of 1896-97, only the next year, and to charge up to the ordinary expense account of the year 1896-97, the largest possible amount of expenses.

First of all a sum of \$218,237.00 was paid on obligations contracted before 1882, payments which do not really fall in the class of ordinary expenses for that year. Neverthe-

less, that is what our adversaries have done.

The following is a list of these payments:

Claim of Perrault and Ménard in virtue of contract with the department of public works under the Mercier Administration	\$27,565.00
Similar claim of Dusault	14,570.00
Claim of the Waterou's Engine Company	2,178.00
Amount awarded by arbitration to P. Vallières for furniture, supplied to the Montreal Court House	22,000.00
Amount in accordance with the Judgment in favor of Charles Berger, contracted by the Government and incidental expenses	117,916.00
In settlement of the claim for \$11,000.00 of G. Amyot, for services rendered to the Mercier Administration	4,000.00
Balance of purchase price of a property on the Grande Allée, purchased by the Mercier Administration	30,000.00
<hr/>	
Total of obligations contracted before 1882	\$218,237.00
The sale of timber limits made annually to answer the commercial exigencies was to take place that year in the month of June, that is	

one month after the fall of the Flynn Administration. The result of that sale as usual, was to be considered as part of the Provincial Income. The Marchand Government postponed that sale to the month of August following, in order to add this result to the receipts of the year 1897-98. Moreover, they neglected, and perhaps refused, to oblige certain lumber merchants to pay the amounts that they owed to the Government for licenses and felling rights. I will quote as an example the Honorable George Bryson, who paid only after the beginning of the fiscal year 1897-98 the amount of about \$16,000.00 which he owed under that head to the Provincial Government. If we examine the special mandates issued between May 20th and June 30th, we will see in every line the evidence that the government wished to accumulate on the year 1896-97, all the expenses possible. There is not a man in his good sense, who will not say that the different amounts for which the special mandates were issued, could have been and should have been paid only with the authorization of the House, by means of supplementary estimates;

THE CONSERVATIVE AND LIBERAL SURPLUSES.

Anyhow, it is easy to show proofs of the conservative surpluses. We have only to consult the Proceedings of 1908 and we will find an answer of Honorable Mr. Weir, Provincial Treasurer, to a question of Mr. Teller: What has been, according to public accounts, the amount of ordinary income and of ordinary expenses? Answer of the Gouin Administration (proceedings of 1908):—

1890-1891 (Under Mercier)	\$3,456,929.32	\$4,236,023.92
1891-1892 (Part of the Mercier Administration)	3,461,403.85	4,542,064.91
1893-1894	4,380,857.10	3,952,258.75
1892-1893	4,308,461.04	3,877,079.63
1894-1895	4,227,121.66	4,045,971.03
1895-1896	4,331,196.17	4,071,082.77
1896-1897 (Part of Liberal Administration)	3,874,966.22	4,685,450.42

With these official records, if we figure the excess of the income over the expenses, or vice versa, we find the following surpluses and deficits for the two administrations:

CONSERVATIVE ADMINISTRATION

	Surplus	Deficit.
1892-93	428,598.35	
1893-94	431,381.41	
1894-95	181,150.03	
1895-96	260,113.40	
1896-97		
Totals	1,301,243.79	810,484.20

REMARKABLE FIGURES

Before 1893, there were about twenty agricultural societies going on in the province without legal sanction. An Organic Law was passed in 1896, and five hundred and forty societies were regularly established. Every member was a subscriber to the "Journal of Agriculture".

Before 1893, the "Journal of Agriculture" had 7,000 readers, in 1896, 52,000.

In 1892, was founded the dairy school;

1st year 1892-93	214 pupils
2nd " 1893-94	268 "
3rd " 1894-95	312 "
4th " 1895-96	300 "

Total 1,094 pupils

In order to have right to Government Grants, every society had to hold two lectures per year. This was the start of our lecturers whose instructions were followed with the greatest interest.

The following are the results:
The following statistics speak for themselves:—

Butter-Dairies	Cheese-Dairies	
In 1890—	111 617	Total 728
In 1895—	307 1467	Total 1774

In 1890, according to the census, a little less than \$3,000,000.00 worth of butter and cheese was exported.

In 1894, according to answers given by manufacturers we have exported \$7,500.00 worth.

In 1895, the Honorable Mr. Beaubien, Minister of Agriculture, having always in view the interests of the farmer, encouraged the exportation of butter. He gave premiums to have it conveyed in refrigerators and thus, in the first year, tripled the exportation of our butter, at the same time laying the foundation to the conveyance of perishable products in refrigerators.

The Agricultural Schools were, on the part of the Government, the object of particular attention. The Liberals were denouncing them.

A PROGRESSIVE POLICY

An important initiative was the foundation of The School of Domestic Economy in Roberval, in charge of the Ursulines of Quebec.

The school was intended for the education of the daughters of our farmers and founded in view of giving them the knowledge necessary to an excellent farm mistress.

ONTARIO AND QUEBEC

This great incentive in the line of agricultural progress, gave most satisfactory results, and during the terrible crisis which was then disturbing the entire universe, no country in the world received better to the storm than did the province of Quebec.

Let us compare the deposits made at that time in the savings banks, in our province and those of Ontario;

Ontario in 1894	
to the 30th of	
June	\$18,580,548
Ontario in 1890	
to the 30th of	
June	16,883,770
Increase	1,698,071--10.05%
that is 10 per	
cent.	
Quebec in 1894	
to the 30th of	
June	17,262,801
Quebec in 1890	
to the 30th of	
June	14,656,060
Increase	\$2,606,741--17.78%
that is 18 per	
cent.	

CONVINCING EVIDENCE

As early as the 2nd of December 1896, when the crisis was almost over, Mr. Wolferstan Thomas, manager of the Molsons Bank said:

"There is not a province where prosperity has been more manifest

than in Quebec. This is due to the prudence and thrift of the French-Canadian Farmers, and to the enlightened policy of the Honorable Mr. Beaubien".

In 1895, when the crisis was still at its height, the representative of the important house of Gault Brothers in Montreal, said concerning our province:—

"The payments are made rather regularly and on that point the province of Quebec is at the head of the Confederation."

THE JOHNSON FIRM

Questioned on this subject, one of the members of the firm of Jas Johnson and Company, said that in Canada, it was in the Province of Quebec, that payments are best made then comes Nova Scotia.

"The future of Agriculture is full of promise in the Province of Quebec, and the Commissioner of Agriculture has done a great deal of good in developing the dairy industry."

The "Herald" of September 21st 1896 reads:

The exportations of this year up to date are as follows:

Cheese,	1,058,172 cakes
In 1895	1,052,593 "

Increase	5,579 "
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BUTTER		Exportations
September 21st 1896		90,636 kits
1895		30,944 "

Increase	59,692 "
--------------------	----------

THE MERCHANT'S BANK

Mr. Hague, general manager of the Merchants' Bank said in 1895:

"The Government of this province has sent last year, a commission to Danemark, in order to study the question of Butter Manufacture. The report made or extracts of this

report should therefore be in the hands of all farmers, not only in this province, but all over the country."

This report was distributed to all associations.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Our competitions for dairy products with the price awarded to the winners, brought about more emulation, and the encouragement given to the manufacture of different sorts of cheese, gave the best of results.

The government also gave grants to encourage exportation and manufacture on a higher scale, of our winter butter, the best that the Province can produce, on account of the climate.

There, as ever, the results were not long in becoming evident; see the list of our winter butter exportations from 1893 to 1895.

In 1893	\$31,537.00
In 1894	\$60,094.00
In 1895	\$118,013.00

The impulse was given. The Liberals again inherited of the results of this conservative policy.

These are figures and statistics which proclaim highly the excellence of the conservative party.

Of course, the province, thanks to this policy of progress has increased rapidly for a few years, and it is only logical that the records of business, to-day, be more considerable.

But we contend, that the Guoin Administration has passed no organic law, to aid this progress.

FOR COLONIZATION

Touching colonization since 1892 the results obtained by the conservative party are there to show its devotedness to this great national cause. Our policy has been to prepare the proper colonization dis-

tricts, before permitting the settlers to come in.

Our work and the results obtained in the region of Lake St. John, of the North of Montreal, Temiskaming, and of the Matapedia Valley, are there to prove the excellence of this policy.

In 1892, we invited the Trappist Fathers to settle, at Mistassini, and as early as 1896, more than one hundred families had already settled in that part.

In order to obtain this great result, leaving aside the roads repaired, and opened every year, we had constructed at a cost of \$43,000,000.00 the bridges of the Great Discharge, of the Mistassini, of Ashuapmouche, of St. Félicien de la Ticochapé, of St. Méthode, and of Lake Bouchette.

This is now a bit of what we have done in the North of Montreal.

The Chapleau road, 50 miles long, from the end of La Lièvre Railway, has been made straight, leveled and rendered passable in all its length.

The same thing was done with the roads of the townships of Clyde, Joly, Marchand, Minerve and Loranger.

New ones were opened in the townships of Turgeon, Mousseau, Kiamika, and Campbell, also a road four miles in length leading to Mount Tremblant.

In Temiskaming, we opened a road 52 miles in length, joining Father's Bay to the fertile Townships of Guigues, Duhamel, Fabre and Laverlochère, and a spot called Gordon Creek which is the terminal of the railway.

While going on more rapidly than ever with the construction of roads, we constructed a bridge worth \$2,000.00 on the Kippewa.

In the Valley of the Matapedia, in addition to the colonization

roads leading thereto, we have constructed two great arteries, etc.

THE CONSERVATIVE OPPOSITION.

ITS IDEAS SINCE 1897. ITS PROGRAM.

The loyal opposition of His Majesty, since the rise of the liberal party in 1897, has always favored progressive and national measures as it is well proved by its motions concerning the frontier riches of the Province of Quebec, the imposition of a felling right sufficient to encourage the construction in this province of a large number of pulp and paper factories, and give encouragement to our workmen and settlers. (Page 467, Journal Leg. Ass. 1903);

The liberal administration up to 1910, criticized these ideas, and voted against the motions.

The opposition has always favored and still favors, the practical utilisation of our hydraulic powers, and the chief distribution of electric power in our province, being convinced that the White Coal, at moderate prices, would bring about the establishment of a large number of new industries.

In 1909, 1910 and 1911, the opposition requested, in motions, recorded in the proceedings of the House, an increase of the indemnity given to jurors, municipal autonomy, the exemption from tax of all part of inheritance not exceeding \$3,000.00, a fair settlement of the question of seigneurial rights, elections at fixed dates, decrease in the hours of work for women and children working in factories, the development of our agricultural industries, the creation of industrial establishments using as raw material, our farm products; the government

and the ministerial majority of the House has always voted against these measures;

The opposition has requested that justice be always administered according to the great principles of equity and impartiality, in order that partisanship and favoritism could never hinder the pursuit of all classes of criminals; the government and its ministerial majority has prevented parliamentary commissions of inquiry to inquire into accusations of corruption and of graft, made against members of the House, and to know the names of the thirteen members for whom J. O. Mousseau, when he was member of Soulanges, received \$1,150.00;

At the session of 1912, by the Prévost Motion, at the Session of 1914 by the Bernier motion, and at the Session of 1915 by the Bérubé motion, the opposition has requested the reopening of these inquiries.

It was then "Necessary, urgent, in the interest of the public, and to safeguard the honor of the House, and of each and everyone of its members", to make inquiries complete in order to prove that the legislator guilty of malversation cannot enjoy in peace a scandalous and unjust impunity.

The opposition has often protested against the adoption of private bills, or laws of exception which favor private interests, are adverse to general interest, attack sacred rights, constitute a danger and are a cause of ruin to a large number of municipalities. (See the Sauvé motion, Proc. 1916).

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

The conservative party has always favored progressive measures for the instruction in this province.

The conservative administration

was the first in 1896, to give grants to instructors, to pour municipalities, etc.; subsidies to encourage technical instruction.

The conservative opposition did not oppose technical instruction, on the contrary, it has favored the diffusion of this instruction throughout the province, but it has criticized the government which constructed too large buildings in Montréal and in Quebec, in order to give big contracts to favored ones.

It has demanded a better school inspection. It also wants more method, a uniform system; an academy in each county; it demands that the school books cost less to parents, and that the article of the Code of Public Instruction which orders uniformity of books in the country be put in force.

The government has done nothing in that direction. There is the reason why books are so often changed, and the cost of instruction is so high for the parents.

COLONIZATION

The opposition has contended with reason and it is admitted by all those who see things clearly, that the settler is sacrificed. The opposition demands greater advantages for the bona fide settler.

It wants the State to give him efficient help, in order that it be well understood that colonization offers real advantages in the Province of Quebec. The motions of the opposition are in the proceedings of the House, to prove that we state is true.

AGRICULTURE

The opposition has contended with reason that the government has given to favored ones, like the editors of "Le Canada", and certain agricultural lecturers, who are in-

competent, the money voted for agriculture, and the agricultural classes.

It is only in the last three years, that the Gouin Administration has paid more attention to agriculture, it is only since the Federal Government grants a special subsidy for agriculture.

The Government of Ottawa has given to the Government of Quebec, in 1916, for Agriculture, the important amount of \$215,310.16. (See the Sauvé Motion).

What did the Government to solve the problem of rural life?

What did he do concerning the solemn promise that he made at the session of 1906 in answer to a speech of the ex-member for Montcalm, concerning the encouragement required to the cultivation of tobacco? He promised everything, and did something only when in 1914, he received a grant from the Ottawa Government. What did it do to stay the ravages of noxious weeds which invade the old parishes and decrease by one third the revenue of the farms? Nothing.

The great method of destroying noxious weeds is the weeding cultivation, the intensive cultivation. But to render intensive cultivation practical and rewarding, farmers must have markets at their doors.

By refusing to encourage and to organize agricultural industries, as the Chapeau Government had done, when it introduced and protected the dairy industry in our Province, the Government deprived farmers of local markets essential to agricultural prosperity.

IMPOSITIONS

What did the Government to encourage the farmer? It did nothing. On the contrary, it did all it could

to crush him under impositions.

The Government by increasing the tax on successions over \$5,000.00 from 1-2 to 1 p.c. in direct line, from 1, 2 or 2 1-2 per cent, in collateral line, has affected thousands and thousands of farmers whose farms are assessed at over \$5,000.00. Thanks to the opposition which for the last three years has denounced the tax on successions not exceeding \$10,000.00 and on the heir in direct line, who does not inherit more than \$3,000.00, the Government at last gave in for the first part at least.

When the Government taxed Municipalities which were negotiating debentures it again affected the farmers, and it is due to the repeated protests of the opposition that the Government abolished this tax.

When the Government despoiled the farmers, of their wateredge lands, in order to sell them to favored ones, it was not encouraging the agricultural class.

When the Government sells even the ice in the little rivers to favored ones, and deprived the farmers, or when it forbids them to lead their cattle to drink in those parts where the ice is sold to individuals, it is not favoring the agricultural class.

When it forbids farmers whose farms are situated on the shores of fish producing rivers, to fish without permit, for their domestic needs, it is treating badly the agricultural class.

When the Government gives to its favored ones of "Le Canada" the money which Legislature, which the representatives of the people vote for agriculture, it is robbing the agricultural class.

THE INSURANCE SOCIETIES

When the Government demanded of parish or county mutual insurance

societies, a disbursement of \$25.00 at their foundation, and an annual fee of \$5.00, it was taxing the farmers who wanted, not to make an investment or a speculation, but simply to protect themselves against fire, it was also committing an injustice which the opposition condemned and it is a member of the opposition, Mr. Sauvé, Member for Two Mountains, who by presenting a bill to abolish this odious tax, forced the Government to cease its collection.

When, to favor certain mutual insurance companies, directed by liberal members, by former liberal members, now officials, the government refused to recognize in time the insolvency of these deceiving societies, and caused thousands of farmers to suffer considerable losses, exposed them to other losses and caused the ruin of numerous families, it was not protecting the interest of the people.

Perhaps, some will say, some will be bold enough to say:

The Government has put an end to this policy. Yes, in part, but when? After a very strong debate, after the startling denunciations of the opposition! The Government did its treacherous work as long as it was not discovered by the Opposition.

SEIGNEURIAL RIGHTS

When the Government refuses, by means of subterfuge, to effect a wise settlement with the Seigneurs, in order to abolish seigneurial rights, it is not favoring the farmers. Nevertheless there is not an imposition which is more apt to irritate a farmer who sees and regrets that he is not only submitted to the perpetual exigencies and to the arbitrary of the State, but also to a feudal system.

THE TRIALS

When by means of new taxes, it increases the legal charges, it does not answer to the desires and needs of the agricultural class.

When the Government remains deaf to the needs of our old parishes which are depopulating, for lack of industry and of local markets, it does not take the interest of the farmers, and deserves to be denounced.

When the Government refuses to see to the efficient administration of conciliation tribunals, but on the contrary increases the tariff for lawyers and the tariff of fees in the circuit court, in the registry offices, it contributes in rendering procedures and trials more numerous and more expensive.

When the Government refuses to present a measure in order to better the administration of that justice, whose exasperating slowness and fees constitute a burden for the people, it is not protecting the agricultural class.

When the Government takes from the municipalities the mastery over their roads and streets, and gives to big companies the power to take without indemnity the streets, the roads and the public places and install encumbering posts, and dangerous telegraph wires, it crushes the farmers.

When the Government refuses to grant sufficient premiums to develop the canning industry, it deprives the farmers of an excellent local market and of good revenues, by staying the progress of that young industry.

Industry with agriculture, that is what the Conservative Party demands, and that is also the need of our Province.

It is time to think of our old pa-

ishes which constitute the credit of our province. Agriculture and industry are the instruments, they are the foundation of towns and the riches of a people.

When the Government obliges the settler to be satisfied with one lot, it takes from the farmer, from the founder of a parish, the opportunity and the right to group his family around him, and that will be one of the causes of colonizing powerlessness.

When the Government wanted to sell to strangers, to speculators, even the sand banks, even the quarries situated on farms belonging to farmers or their relatives, for years and years, it was despoiling the agricultural class, and the Opposition which obliged it to put an end to this abuse of power, has a right to the gratitude of the electors.

It is the Opposition which proclaimed the rights of the Agricultural class in the course of the Parliament which is just ended, because it understood that this agricultural class is the center of action in the Province.

PUBLIC WAYS

The Opposition has always favored the improvement of our provincial roads. It was the first to propose that progressive policy and to encourage the government to act. It is still ready to second the laudable efforts of any government which would assure the complete realization of that same policy.

What it opposes is the abuse, the favoritism and the incompetence.

It has objected and still objects to alleged engineers, inspectors, or government instructors, by their bad advices or their false direction, exposing municipalities to useless and

ruinous expenses for badly constructed roads, the maintenance of which would be too costly.

The question of roads has been seriously discussed at the last session in Quebec. The result of the Gouin Government's policy has been thoroughly studied by the opposition.

The two parties still agree on the necessity of improving our provincial roads. They differ on the means.

The opposition wants the classification of roads and the improvement according to a general plan, in order not to expose the Government and the Municipalities to useless or too heavy expenses.

Mr. Arthur Sauvé, took to himself the difficult task of examining the numerous files, the production of which he had demanded.

The Government produced only about thirty — and the least compromising, of course. In these documents, declares the member for Two Mountains, some important answers are missing.

Several times, Mr. Sauvé, insisted in the House, for the production of certain particular speeches. Every time, the minister answered: "The file is ready, we shall produce it to-night."

And some have not yet been produced!

And now that the session is well over, the liberal newspapers contend that Mr. Sauvé could not detect the promised evidence.

In spite of all the obstacles which, as is evident, the Government and his officials were placing in his way, Mr. Sauvé having analysed about thirty files, contended that considerable amounts have been expended in a useless way for badly constructed roads under the direction of the minister of Public Ways.

Mr. Sauvé ended his statement with a motion of which the numerous assertions are so many accusations of incompetence, and negligence, and wasting against the Government.

The liberal papers did not publish this motion. How can their readers be able to judge?

Did the Honourable Mr. Tessier, who answered to the member for Two Mountains, refer to the assertions contained in the motion? Did he attempt to destroy them? Not that we know.

The Minister knows very well that in many places under the direction of his employees, some macadam was badly constructed with unacceptable materials. These roads are already had. Their maintenance will be very costly. More enlightened initiative could have prevented this burden from falling on municipalities.

As for the great roads, they have already costs five millions of dollars (\$4,496,941.38.) When they will be finished, they will have cost ten millions. The amount will not be too high, if the work is good, and durable, that is, if the maintenance is not too costly.

The Edward VII road has just been finished, and already the province is paying for the repairs. Repairs up to the present have cost \$321,777.00 per mile.

The Government has already appropriated a sum of \$15,000,000.00 for the construction of roads.

Some contend that for at least one of these roads, the government called for tenders, without plans, without specifications, confounding cubic yards with cubic feet.

The Government should evidently superintend with more care the cons-

truction of the great roads, in order to prevent certain contractors from using bad materials, and to force them to deliver the work according to accurate plans and specifications.

Through its delay to pay the amounts due to the contractors, the government has often stayed the progress of the work. And "La Patrie" often pointed out this fact.

The better supporters of good roads wish that the moneys destined to the improvement of our public ways be wisely expended to the advantage of tax-payers, and not for the profit of persons favored by government and who too often, have only, as proof of their merit and competence, their exertions as electoral intriguers.

The policy of the Gouin Administration in connection with roads, is a subject of alarm in our province. Some municipalities have expended thousands of dollars for macadam roads, under the law of 1912. The government uses all means possible to delay payments. In the meantime, municipalities are obliged to borrow from the banks, at the rate of seven per cent, in order to meet the expense. A great number were threatened with law suits by the Gouin Administration. And the new macadamized roads are already in bad condition. The incompetence of the department obliges the municipalities to make unnecessary expenses. The Government repairs the new National Roads. It now shows ridiculous thrift, while it advertised some time ago that it would spend lavishly for the roads of the province. We know contractors and municipalities who suffer from the apathy, the incompetence and the slowness of the of the Gouin Administration.

But, since the improvement of the

roads was to cost so much to the province, why did Sir Lomer Gouin ask the Senate to throw down the Borden Government's Bill, concerning good roads?

This Bill offered to spend millions for the improvement of roads in every province of the Confederation.

Why did Sir Lomer oppose it? The answer is simple. Being a practical man, he wanted to control the patronage and was opposed to the idea that the conservative Government should come and change his plans.

He said to the conservative Government: "Give us money, but we the liberals of Quebec, will spend it to our advantage, and exploit still more the influence of our patronage.

"You the conservatives of Ottawa, vote millions for us, but you will not have the right to spend them yourselves in directing your own public works. We, the liberals of Quebec, will spend this money as we do with the money that you give us for the encouragement of Agriculture in our Province."

Here is what Sir Lomer Gouin demanded of the Ottawa Government and the Liberal Senate has thrown down the Bill concerning good roads.

What did the Province of Quebec lose?

The following is a detailed statement for all the Provinces:

In the following table the farmers will be able to find out what the Gouin Administration has cost them. In the last four years the sum of \$6,000,000.00 would have been expended, had it not been for Sir Wilfrid and his followers.

a	1912	1913	1914	1915	Total
Alberta	\$52,189	\$78,282	\$78,282	\$78,282	\$287,035
British Columbia .	53,669	82,005	82,005	82,005	300,684
Manitoba	63,460	95,196	95,196	95,196	349,048
New-Brunswick . .	49,019	73,524	73,524	73,524	269,581
Nova Scotia	68,576	102,870	102,870	102,870	377,186
Ontario	351,466	527,201	527,201	527,201	1,933,069
Prince Edw. Island	13,059	19,584	19,584	19,584	71,811
Quebec	278,964	418,449	418,449	418,449	1,534,311
Saskatchewan . . .	68,592	102,889	102,889	102,889	377,259
	\$1,000,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	5,500,000

The Province of Quebec has lost \$1,534,311. That is one million and a half. The Province will lose still more as long as the majority of the Senate will be Liberal, and as long as the Gouin Administration will ask in the interest of its party, to throw down the good measures of the Borden Government.

If there is a case when one can say: The party before the country, this is it.

With the money which the Borden Government wanted to spend in the Province of Quebec, they would be constructing and maintaining without any cost to the municipalities a great national route, from Quebec to Ottawa.

THE OPPOSITION AND THE COMMISSION OF PUBLIC WAYS.

The conservative opposition of Quebec, under the direction of Mr. Cousineau wants the classification of roads.

Interprovincial Roads, constructed and maintained by the Federal Government; Provincial Roads, constructed and maintained by the provincial Government; Parochial Roads constructed and maintained by the municipalities under the old law of premiums.

At the last session, the opposition did every thing in order to obtain information concerning the results of the Government's policy. The latter refuses absolutely to give it and gives only evasive answers. (See the Sauvé motion).

CONSERVATIVE PROGRAM

In 1912, the opposition came before the people with a progressive policy.

The electorate insufficiently informed, would not adopt this list of reforms. But confident of the efficiency of this policy, the opposition returns before the electorate with the same economic ideas. Here they are:

(a) More profitable schools for the people;

(b) The development of our agricultural industries;

(c) Easier access to our colonization districts and more favorable system for the settlers;

(d) The improvement of our rural roads, according to a system and definite plan in order not to expose municipalities to make useless and too heavy expenses;

(e) Means of communication easy and advantageous, where needed, for the farmers already settled or those who wish to do so.

(f) Conservation and at the same time judicious exploitation of our natural resources.

(g) The improvement of the condition of our working classes in general.

(h) A more active and more efficient supervision of the mutual insurance companies, and of the relief societies, in order to better protect the public.

(i) A better administration of Justice.

(j) The reform of our laws in or-

der to suppress as much as possible the need of private legislation and of laws of exception.

(k) The respect of the autonomy and of the rights of municipalities.

(l) The cessation of the abuse of patronage, in the distributions of public grants.

(m) The reduction of the provincial debt, and more equitable and practical distribution of the amounts voted by the House.

(See the Sauvé Motion. Proceedings 1916).

Liberal Administration

The liberal party is in power since 1897, that is, nearly 20 years. It came to power by denouncing taxes, promising economy, the creation of the department of Public Instruction, cheap instruction, the abolition of the Legislative Council, etc..

It did not keep its promises.

THE PARENT ADMINISTRATION

It did not last long. The only thing that can be said against it, is that it deceived the people, by not keeping the promises made in 1897. It did not abolish the taxes which it had denounced, etc..

But the Parent administration was so erratic that liberals like Senator Legris denounced it as a national calamity and shame. MM. Gouin, Turgeon and Weir, who had profited by this administration, seeing their chief fall under public reprobation, praised him before the electors in

1904, and denounced him before their friends. Finally, they assassinated him, declaring him unworthy of confidence.

Mr. Galipeault, vice-president of the House during the last period of the Gouin administration declared, as counsel for Senator Legris that Mr. Parent neither had the talent nor the education to be a prime minister.

THE SCANDALS

The Parent Assassination. — Iniquities and crimes, but no inquiries at Quebec.

Everyone, no doubt, remembers the different events of this political drama, which after starting in a tragic manner, was terminated as a low comedy.

On February 4th 1905, five days before the date appointed for the opening of the session, three ministers of the Parent Government, MM.

Gouin, Turgeon and Weir, sent their resignation to the Prime Minister. In their joint letter, which was later published, the three resigners contended amongst other things, that they disapproved certain actions in the administration of the Prime Minister, namely the hurried dissolution of Parliament immediately after the federal elections, and that moreover the Prime Minister did not more have the confidence of the electorate.

The people would never have suspected that such were the motives for the resignation of the three ministers. It is not that these motives did not have any value by themselves, but the resigning ministers had less than any other, the right to invoke them. They had cooperated very closely in the administration of Mr. Parent, and while they condemned it, they condemned themselves. Moreover, not more than two months before, they had lauded and boasted it on all the hustings.

As for the "coup d'état" of the elections, even had it been conceived without their consent, they had tacitly approved it and had accepted the responsibility by their ministerial candidature.

Everybody understood immediately what there was at the bottom of the affair. The three ministers had simply united their ambition and their selfishness to choke Mr Parent, and share the spoils. It was the brutal practice of the ordinary motto of petty politicians: "Get out of there, I want your place".

THE COMEDY OF THE INQUIRIES.

The hour for the conspiracy had been well chosen. Mr. Parent had to face very grave accusations made

against him by Senators Legris and Choquette. It was easy to blackmail him, and to force him to capitulate.

On March 3rd 1905, the Honourable Mr. Leblanc declared in the House that he had reason to think that the Prime Minister and the three resigning ministers had made even before the opening of the session an arrangement under which Mr. Parent was to disappear immediately and peace made between accusers and accused, to the profit of the resigners and the whole thing without inquiry.

In other words, Mr. Parent demanded a whitewash as a condition to his quiet departure, and Mr. Gouin and his followers who only wanted to succeed, readily accepted it.

The existence of such an arrangement was denied, but everything happened in such a way that it is to be believed that it really existed.

In fact, there was no inquiry in spite of Mr. Leblanc's Proposition, but just a parody.

Everything was arranged so that no accusation was made, the committee by its president, Mr. Girard, reported that there was nothing, and the House, before ejecting the chief which did not deserve its confidence, gave him a certificate of honesty. Later, the same Mr. Parent, ousted, was appointed in exchange for his silence, to a position in the Government at a salary of \$8,000.00 per annum.

Evidently, Sir Lomer Gouin is not very apt to grant inquiries.

No inquiry on provincial affairs!!

He did so much business, our big millionaire..... that he has not had the time to see to that?.....

No inquiry, never, with Mr. Gouin! Take, for instance, the scandal Turgeon-de l'Epine, in the Abittibi affair.

THE TURGEON-DE LEPINE SCANDAL

THE ABITTIBI SCANDAL

Among the scandals scattered in political history, which leave a shadow on the reputation of governments, that of the Abittibi will be remembered on account of its particular grave character. The question here is illegal obtention of money by ministers of the Crown, in short, an attempt to corruption.

HISTORIC

It was in the month of May 1907. The Crown, after substituting itself to a private accuser in an unexpected manner, sued before the assises, a journalist accused of criminal libel. It was only a case of colonization and mines, and nobody thought that nearly immediately after, an event of even greater importance would come on top of the principal case, and practically overwhelm it.

The Honourable Mr. Turgeon, witness in the case of the King vs Asselin, admits that Mr. Obalsky, superintendent of mines, was at his request, sent into the Abittibi, to study, in a mining capacity, a concession which a syndicate of Belgian capitalists wanted to purchase. For this work, Mr. Obalsky received from the Belgian Syndicate, at the knowledge of the Minister, the sum of \$2,000.00, while he was in the service of the Province at a salary of \$2,500.00.

We wanted to know then, which was the syndicate, so well recommended as to obtain the services of a public servant. After consulting a lot of papers, Mr. Turgeon at last remembered that it was a syndicate

consisting of a certain number of Belgian Financiers, MM. F. DeJardin, Geothals, Jacobs, and a few others. This syndicate wanted to obtain from the Government a concession of 200,000 or 500,000 acres of land, on each side of the Transcontinental in the Abittibi.

Business was transacted by Mr. Turgeon, representing the Government and the Baron de l'Epine, at the time an intimate friend of the same minister, represented the Belgian Capitalists.

There is nothing wrong as far as that goes.

But, what were the conditions of the contract? Here starts the disagreement. The representative of the Government, the Honourable Mr. Turgeon, declares that he only demanded certain clauses of establishment and seventy cents per acre. On his part, the representative of the Belgians, the Baron de l'Epine, admits that, but he declares that the Belgian Syndicate was asked, according to the alleged custom of the country, an additional secret price of thirty cents per acre. The total price was therefore to be \$1.00 per acre, that is, 70 cents for the land and 30 cents as a contribution to the electoral fund.

The Honourable Mr. Turgeon swears that the question of electoral fund was never brought up, and the Baron de l'Epine also swears that the contribution to the fund was one of the essential conditions of the contract.

Who is right?

THE CHARNEUSE LETTER

To sustain his denial, the Honourable Mr. Turgeon has only his word, while Baron de l'Epine, to prove his declaration, brings a document.

It is the famous letter from Charneuse, dated January 28th. 1906. and addressed to the Honourable Mr. Turgeon by the Baron de l'Epine.

The following is a significative extract of that important document:

"...In addition, the explanation which I gave concerning the E. F. to the four members of the direction, was understood, admitted, accepted without any difficulty; we then doing business with people who understand things...."

The Honourable Mr. Turgeon does not know if the letters E. F. stand for electoral fund, or something else. However, he denies having received the letter containing these compromising initials. Nevertheless, he recognizes a letter signed by him, and acknowledging receipt about the same time (February 12th) of a letter from Charneuse.

Is it the same? It would have been interesting to know it, as the acknowledgment reads as follows:

"My dear friend,

"I received last Friday, your official letter, and this morning that from Charneuse.

"I am satisfied of all that you mention to me...

"Cordially yours,

(signed) ADELARD TURGEON

When the Baron produced the copy of the letter from Charneuse containing sentences concerning electoral fund, he exposed himself to arrest for perjury, had Mr. Turgeon produced the original. Mr. Turgeon had then a very simple way of refuting his accuser; that was to produce the original, and to show that the accusing capitals were not in it. Unhappily, luck was not with him!! After a night of useless researches, he returned to the tribu-

nal, and announced that he no more had the original of the letter from Charneuse, that it was lost!

He is therefore obliged to declare again that the letter produced has been forged, and he remains face to face with the Baron de l'Epine. All that is left to him, is to ask his friends to believe him, and to distrust the Baron de l'Epine who is just a stranger and does not believe in God.

In addition to the letter from Charneuse, the Baron has in his possession a great many letters which confirm it, and were recognized as authentic by the Crown. From July 8th to March 11th 1907, the Daily "La Patrie" published the entire text of this correspondence so full of interest, and in which the different events of the negotiation follow so logically. We see the Honourable Mr. Turgeon impatient of closing the affair (letters of January 20th and 23rd and March 22nd 1906), and Mr DeJardin, confident that the latter will find the 'form' which while "covering" the government, does not expose the syndicate to dis-possession. (Letter to de l'Epine, November 20th 1906).

The Honourable Mr. Turgeon, Minister, protected by Sir Lomer Gouin, used different tactics of procedures to defend himself against his old friend the Baron de l'Epine, abandoned by those whom he had so faithfully served.

Sir Lomer Gouin appointed Mr. Turgeon, Legislative Councillor. In this manner, Turgeon was not obliged to face his principal accuser, Mr. Bourassa, who proved in the House, on May 17th 1909, that Mr. Turgeon, not five times, not ten times, but fifteen and twenty five times de-

clared under oath things contrary to what he had written.

On the other hand, he proved that Mr. Jean Prévost was not at all guilty of scandal.

THEFT AND GRAFT

We know that under the Gouin Administration repeated accusations of graft were made against members of the Quebec Legislature. A former secretary of Sir Lomer Gouin has published over his signature, in his own newspaper, a formidable article accusing of graft a certain number of members.

SSELIN'S ARTICLE

The following is an extract of that article intended for the members:

"I know so and so who has accepted money as a profit in a stock exchange transaction which a charitable colleague had made for him without his knowledge, at a certain moment when by curious chance — the legislature was studying a proposition apt to influence the market value of certain securities. I know others who have asked fifteen, twenty, thirty dollars to vote in favor of changes in a will.

"I know some who demanded thirty, forty, fifty dollars, to defend the interests of a person of Montreal, threatened by the encroachments of a powerful company. I know some who constituted themselves the sponsors of certain bills of private interest, and who at the last minute, demanded from the interested parties considerable endorsements, in default whereof they would have evidently withdrawn.

"I could make precise accusations against at least ten or you, who with loud voice and peremptory gesture

condemn those who make so bold as to criticize the conduct of the Legislature."

Sir Lomer Gouin, Prime Minister and Attorney General, did not want to force the author of this article to furnish evidence, to denounce the guilty one, or to retract. He refused to take any action whatever against the accuser.

Later, the Kelley affair came up. From his seat in the House, the member for Terrebonne, a former minister of the Gouin Administration, accused Mr. John Hall Kelly, at the time liberal member for Bonaventure, of having abused of his mandate, in certain sales of land belonging to the Crown, to Mr. R. N. Leblanc, lumber merchant. After a most violent debate, and on refusal by the Government to grant an inquiry, the Honourable Mr. Prévost placed his seat at stake. The Government was obliged to give in.

An inquiry was granted, but after a few sessions; just as it had been declared, under oath that Mr. R. N. Leblanc had paid \$4,000.00 to Mr. Kelly, for services rendered, in order to obtain timber limits and also purchase from the Gouin Government the islands and banks of the Bonaventure River estuary, at that precise moment, the Government appointed as judges, two members of the commission of inquiry, the Honourable MM. Weir and Roy. These nominations had the result of stopping the inquiry, and the Gouin Government refusing to appoint successors to MM. Roy and Weir, the inquiry was dropped. The Government even refused to place on the table of the House the documents of the Commission.

Later, the Gouin Government appointed Mr. Kelly, Legislative Councillor. That was his reward!

MOUSSEAU AND BERARD

And the Mousseau-Berard scandal!

Mousseau was chairman of the private bills committee, and Berard, the partner of the Prime Minister and of Mr. Rodolphe Lemieux. Mousseau and Bérard were accused of having demanded of alleged American capitalists, a considerable amount for their votes and work in favor of a bill entitled "Montreal Fair". An inquiry was started, but Mousseau, who had received from Biddinger or Sampson, the sum of \$1,150.00 for some liberal members, was not heard. He was taken sick at the opening of the inquiry, and was not well until a few days after. Bérard refused to speak for fear of incriminating himself. Twice the opposition demanded the reopening of the inquiry in order to hear Mousseau. Sir Lomer Gouin objected. Why?. Mousseau being able to speak, would have told who were the persons he had given the \$1,150.00 to, and if he acted as manager of the electoral fund of his party, or was only a petty instrument of some liberal chiefs. He would have said for whom he had demanded \$4,500.00. And Carpenter, a client of Gouin, Bérard & Lemieux, would have told why he came from Gaspé to Quebec, to handle the famous bill, and why he demanded \$20,000.00 for its adoption. If the inquiry had been continued, Biddinger would have stated if it was true that a detective, Carpenter and some others went to the Prime Minister's office in order to discuss business questions. He would have said if it was the intention to use this American bill to bring money to the liberal party's electoral fund. He would have explained what he meant by

these words: "We must see Pérodeau, Minister without portfolio."

When the Manitoba affair was revealed, the liberals cried aloud: An inquiry is necessary! They say there is a scandal! Inquiry! Inquiries! And the red politicians say very seriously in "Le Soleil" and "Le Canada":

AN ARTICLE FROM "LE SOLEIL"

"What is to be said of the man who, having the confidence of his fellow-citizens, and whose duty it is to protect their interests, takes this opportunity of defrauding the common treasury for personal profit or advantage. Not only does he steal, but he betrays. He is doubly despicable. There should be but one voice, one cry to demand his punishment, an exemplary degrading punishment. But generally the contrary prevails, and in lieu of indignation, we too often hear only expressions of pity which betray very strange sympathy. Morally, a too great number of the electors act as if they were accessories to these thefts; in fact, we must acknowledge, too often it is for personal benefit and at the profit of a certain electoral client that these scoundrels operate in politics.

"That is the explanation of the impunity too often enjoyed by this class of criminals in spite of their odious crimes. Even if we put aside all speculation bringing a more or less immediate profit, this fact remains, which is so detestable yet so human. This union of which the party spirit is the most striking example and which unconsciously renders joint accessories persons of the same party, as a result of similar views and ideals. Thus in an army,

the soldiers excuse and try to hide from the enemy, the faults and errors of their chiefs. Children are the same with their family."

"Between fellow-soldiers, these things are admitted, at leisure, but are not mentioned before the enemy. Vaguely, for a great many and even for the best, there is in their conscience an indefinite conviction that the politician guilty of such acts is a sort of victim who was working for the good of a common cause, and to whom is consequently due the privilege of extenuating circumstances. This study of electoral psychology, born of parliamentarism, could be pushed still further, but this is enough to show some of the principal reasons which up to now, have created this sort of immunity of which so many politicians, suspect, dishonest, or simply too weak, in all countries, have taken advantage." (See "Le Soleil", in 1915).

It is a paper supporting the liberal party which spoke thus at the time of the Roblin affair.

Did Mr. Mousseau work for electoral clients? Were the liberal members the ministers joint accessories with Mousseau? Is Mousseau a sort of victim who worked for the good of a common cause — the liberal cause?

Only five members of the opposition will be elected, said Mr. Jérémie Décarie.

How are we to explain that public opinion be so entirely indifferent to actions so strange, so adverse to all justice, to all equity?

How can we conceive that the electorate of the Province will be guilty of such indifference?

THE LIBERALS AND GRAFT

The action of an executioner in 1892 but a duty in 1915. —

Roblin - Mercier - Gouin-Mousseau-Kelly.

The liberal papers do not cease to congratulate the Norris Government which ordered the arrest of Sir Rodmond Roblin, and of his colleagues Montague, Coldwell, Hawden, in Manitoba. The Mathers Commission, after inquiry, reported that these ex-ministers were responsible for the graft which had been the practice in the construction of the Parliament Buildings in Winnipeg. Consequently, the Norris government could not without being accused of participation, refuse to order the arrest of the men accused by the Mathers Commission.

"Le Canada", a liberal paper, adds:

"It is a good thing from time to time to give striking example because stealing from a government is a crime just as well as stealing from an individual. The example would be striking, because this time, they are the chiefs, the high-positioned, and not as it too often happens, the petty instruments, who are accused. We do not want, however, to condemn them until they have stood a regular trial."

"Le Canada"'s declaration is full of sense.

In this article, does not the editor of "Le Canada" justify the arrest of Mr. Mercier, in 1892, when the chief of the Liberal Government had been condemned by a Royal Commission?

"The Norris Government, says "Le Canada", still continues to keep courageously to its obligations to the

Province, however hard be the duty which has to be done."

Was it not to do a similar duty that the De Boucherville Government acted in the same manner? The liberals of 1892 organized vigorously in order to excite public opinion against this arrest. The Conservative Ministers were called executioners, assassins. They prepared a certain drama to move the electors. They invented all sorts of arguments to give rise to the worst prejudices. Let them say that it is not so, and we will see who says the truth. This affair was given the appearance of a political romance.

Mercier was acquitted by his peers. The liberals threw themselves on their adversaries with a violence which was never surpassed.

"Le Canada" will not condemn Sir R. Roblin, before the trial, but congratulate the Norris Government which ordered his arrest. The chiefs did not speak in the same manner in 1892.

Just the same, the liberal chiefs and newspapers know that in the Baie des Chaleurs affair, a certain Mr. Barwick offered to prove that \$100,000.00 destined to pay the company's debts had been distributed to liberal chiefs. Mr. Armstrong, representing the Angus Thom Syndicate, offered to give \$100,000.00 to the liberal chiefs for the Railway contract. The contract was granted to Thom. The affair was transacted in New-York, by Mercier and Pacaud. Pacaud received the \$100,000.00 and gave a good amount to Mr. Mercier, Prime Minister, and to other liberal chiefs.

In the Whelan affair, Mercier received more than \$50,000.00 and other liberal chiefs received as much.

as is shown by the evidence rendered before the Royal Commission, composed of Judge Mathieu, and of Messrs MacMaster and Masson.

The evidence before the Royal Commission proved that the contracts were then given according to the profit which they were to bring to the chiefs of the liberal party.

Sir Lomer Gouin approved all the actions of the Mercier Government, and he had a monument erected to the chief of that Government. Mr. Laurier, at least, disapproved the Baie des Chaleurs Affair.

"Le Canada" incensed by the conduct of Roblin, Howden, Montague and Caldwell, rejoices at the fact that this time the chiefs, the high-positioned, are accused, and not the petty instruments.

THE MILLIONNAIRE'S AFFAIR

In the Mousseau affair, was the ex-member for Soulanges a petty instrument? Were there any collectors, any petty instruments or a few big bosses?

Was not the Gouin Government to make this thing clear, by going on with the inquiry, and forcing Mousseau to speak, by going on also with the Kelly inquiry?

Why did he refuse to throw light on these two affairs?

A monument to Mercier and a seat in the Legislative Council for Kelly? That may be enough for Mr. Gouin, but what about the electorate?

In the construction of the Bordeaux Jail, what was not to cost any more than \$1,000,000.00 now costs over \$3,600,000.00. Why this difference? The needs of the electoral funds?

Money questions?

THE BORDEAUX MANSION

Why does this jail, which was to cost \$750,000.00 cost up to now over three millions and a half? Why a million and a half without tender?

Some former guards, recommended liberals, declare that they were witnesses of the construction and administration of this jail, and that wasting and theft of the public's money took place.

Who was the real contractor of the Bordeaux Jail?

Was it Mr. Pauzé, the modest little painter from the east of Montreal? Or that millionaire politician, as the fact is mentioned in political circles of Montreal? An inquiry would have exposed the real culprits.

TIMBER LIMITS

Which was the best policy in this matter? That applied by the Government or that proposed by the opposition, which says:

Our forests are our national inheritance; they are our most precious possession and our principal asset. A wise administration must dispose of them only with great prudence and alienate them only according to the needs of commerce.

How did the liberal government act? For ten years, with a lavishness without comparison, it has sold our domain. It has sold it without foresight and with absolutely stupefying ignorance, precipitation and scorn of the real economic principles.

Our forests are our most precious treasure, not only on account of the rich materials which they contain, but also on account of the waterways, the flow and perpetual existence of which they are the assu-

rance. They must be exploited, but not ruined. The conservative opposition formulated these protests, it denounced the ridiculous sales to suppliers of the electoral fund. With the opposition were liberals like Bourassa, Lavergne and others.

In ten years, the government had sold twenty three thousand one hundred and twenty three miles. Do you know how many miles Ontario had sold in forty years, from 1867 to 1907? Only 11,644 miles.

SCANDALOUS SPECULATION

Moreover, there is a fact which shows clearly that our timber limits were sacrificed to speculation. It is that in a great number of cases, they were resold almost immediately by the buyers at an enormous profit. Take for example the case of the timber limit sold to Mr. Veilleux for \$20,000.00 and resold for \$112,000.00. Take then the case of Mr. Dupuis, an ex-member, who purchased for \$26,000.00 a limit which he resold, just a few months after for \$65,000.00, making without any money, because he had paid with a note, a profit of \$39,000. Take specially the famous case which was so often mentioned in the House, and in the press, that of the concession sold to Mr. Breakey, by Mr. Turgeon, 1,000 miles at \$105.00, and resold by Mr. Breakey — or by his syndicate, which comes to the same thing. — some time after, to the Burgess Sulphide Company, of Berlin Falls, for the sum of \$800,000.00 which gave to the first buyer a profit of \$695,000.00. We could quote twenty more similar examples. All these prove that our limits are sacrificed to speculation and that this system of sales of our timber limits has been a disaster for the province.

Did we not see in 1915 the Honourable Mr. Turgeon offer for sale, 10,000 square miles of timber limits?

How can we explain this excessive lavishness? Certainly not by the exigencies of commerce, since lumber merchants, who were fully supplied, did not even go to the auction sales. In 1905 again, the Honourable Mr. Turgeon was obliged to run after buyers and in order to tempt them, to offer exceptional conditions, as in the case of Mr. Breakey for instance. In their impatience to sell, they sacrificed at ridiculous prices, considerable areas of forest which in Ontario would have given twenty times as much.

In short, they were ready to do anything and they even accepted in payment, promissory notes, which the speculators had the privilege of renewing, until they could find their profit. The forest was given to friends and the treasurers of the party!

We understand that there was throughout the province a clamor of reprobation against this dilapidation of the public domain. And if the Government had to stop before the universal protest, it is due to the opposition, but the responsibility of the work already done still rests on its shoulders.

PULP WOOD

Another thing which weighs heavily on the last liberal administration is the fact of having permitted the ruinous exploitation of our forests to the advantage of foreign manufacturers and workers. In spite of the repeated warnings, the Gouin Government, after the Parent Government, still continued to stay the progress of one of our great national industries, that of pulp and

paper. It is only in 1910, that the Government decided to change its policy.

TIMBER RICHES

The Honourable Mr. Leblanc said in 1904:

"Canada possesses forest riches without comparison, and in Canada the province of Quebec holds the first place. Its immense spruce forests make us expect that it will, one day, under the administration of an enlightened government, become the principal center of paper supply of the world.

"But we must not keep up the illusion that our riches is inexhaustible. The example of United States is there to make us think. The greater part of our accessible and exploitable limits is already under license, and if we do not stop the waste, it will not be long before they are exhausted, as nearly all those of our neighbors."

We must encourage the pulp wood manufacture and industry; the farmers and the settlers find in it a considerable and necessary source of revenue.

A NATIONAL POLICY

In 1903, the Honourable Mr. Pelletier and Mr. Chicoine presented motions in favor of a truly national policy.

At the session of 1908, on April 24th, the Honourable Mr. Leblanc proposed in the House a resolution inviting the Government to replace the actual timber policy by "wise orders which, without hindering the sale and the commerce of the pulp wood, would assure at the same time, at short and fixed notice, the manufacture in this province, of pulp and paper, of which wood is

the raw material. The Government however, with its blindfolded majority, rejected it. (Proceedings 1908, Page 510).

And we see that since then, the opposition has always favored this policy to such a degree that the Gouin Government was obliged to adopt it in part. And candidly, the Honorable Mr. Allard, minister of Lands, in a Forestry congress, admitted the efficiency and the patriotism of this policy. He said:

"We now require that all wood cut on Crown lands be used for manufacture in Canada. **IN THIS MANNER WE WILL ASSURE THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR NUMEROUS AND POWERFUL HYDRAULICS AND WILL PROCURE TO OUR POPULATION ABUNDANT WORK, WHICH IN THE PAST IT HAD TOO OFTEN TO GO ELSEWHERE TO FIND.**"

However, the Prime Minister, his partisans and his big newspapers called this policy stupid and erratic. Their pamphlet of 1908 pointed out this policy as dangerous.

Oh Great Government !

Oh Great Business Men !

How humiliating it must be for you to be obliged to laud the merits of those whom you have called little good-for-nothing men !

COLONIZATION IT IS DEAD. — NUMEROUS PROOFS.

Colonization is dead and the last report of the minister of colonization is there to prove it. We shall quote extracts of the report of Mr. Carufel, agent for colonization, and expert on the subject, who has spent over twenty five years of his life,

in the study of this question of colonization, and has gained a thorough knowledge of the matter. The opposition is then not the only one to say and contend that colonization is dead in the Province, and we are well sustained in our contentions.

Bismarck has said: "Germany has settlers without colonies; France has colonies without settlers; for lack of colonization, Italy had to send to America two million men."

We can say: "The province of Quebec has forests without settlers, and land without farmers." Here, under the sway of the great party, colonization, that noble cause of high civilization, is a question of logs, spikes and cord-wood. The settler is badly treated, and when the knell of the depopulation of our countries sounded so strong and so painful, when the opposition demanded aloud to favor colonization, to protect and to help the settler, the Government, only thinking of the benefits to the party, did not listen and scoffed at all our patriotic protests.

They rendered colonization more difficult by amending the lands' act, in order to prevent the settler from owning more than one hundred acres of land and consequently prevent him from establishing his sons near him.

What has been the result ? The minister's report is lamentable. His table of immigrants is discouraging. The colonization policy has lost its hold.

TERRITORY AND RICHES

The oldest province in Canada, the Cradle of civilization in this country, the Province of Quebec, with the new Quebec, covers an area of 703,653 square miles. In area,

it is the largest in the Dominion. It represents about one fifth of Canada. Its area is about three and a half times that of Germany, France or Spain, and nearly six times larger than the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Colonization will have been going on for three hundred years in 1917, in this Province, which covers an area of 218,687 acres, and after twenty years of Liberal Administration, what is the result? The population is about two millions. In 1911 it was 1,032,618.

From 1881 to 1911, the rural population has lost in absolute value. (See the annual statistics of Government for 1914, page 18).

Men like Senator David, and newspapers of the most serious character think that it is urgent to call for help by saying with strength that "the agricultural work which is at the base itself of our economic system, should be the object of a greater attention and greater encouragement on the part of our governments."

At page 114 of the report of the Minister of Colonization 1914-1915, Mr. Carufel, agent for Colonization says:

"The correspondence concerning information was not less considerable than last year, but the results were few.

"The inscriptions of adults and children for colonization districts have greatly decreased, except in the Valley of Matapedia for which intense advertising was done in the last year.

"Thus few inscriptions were made for the regions of Montreal, Temiskaming, Lake St. John, Temiscouata reserve and Gaspesia. The Abitibi also show strong diffi- with the pre year, occasioned

by the fact that there is an inscription agency in Quebec. The repatriation was a negligible quantity; a well organized propaganda in New England might perhaps give better results. There are several hunting permits issued, but none for fishing."

That is the evidence of a man who has been agent for colonization for more than a quarter of a century.

IN THE MATAPEDIA

We could then quote a few extracts from a report published in the newspapers concerning that excursion organized last summer by the Colonization Society of Montreal, in the Valley of Matapedia. This report mentioned mostly the complaints from Father Saindon, pastor of Sayabec, from Mayor Bélanger, of the same Parish, from Notary Laberge, of Val-Briant, from mayors and pastors of all the other parishes where the hosts of the Colonization Society and the Intercolonial passed in the course of this excursion. These complaints are overwhelming for the department of colonization. They complain mostly of the lack of roads; the settlers in certain parishes of the Valley have not even roads to haul their products which, in certain places, rot in the fields. Everywhere, roads were asked; they were promised here and there, in time of election, but they are still to be had.

We can quote particularly the complaints of Father Saindon, of Sayabec, and of Notary Laberge, of Val-Briant.

The department is wrong then when it pretends that colonization shows progress in the Province, since in that part of the country where the greatest colonization

should be done, settlers lack everything. The case is the same in all the other colonization centers. Everywhere discouragement holds its sway. Especially in the Temiskaming region. There, more than anywhere else, numerous declarations prove it, settlers cannot obtain one tenth of what they need. They ask in vain to be given for instance, butter and cheese dairies.

At the last session, the Honourable Mr. Mercier, Minister of the Colonization, in answer to Mr. Sauvé, member for Two Mountains, was bold enough to pretend that colonization was prosperous, that settlers were happy, and that all the Government's promises were kept. The ministers never promised roads in Temiskaming, said he.

THE TEMISKAMING ANSWER

Do you want to know the value of the word of a minister in the Gouin Government? Let the Temiskaming settlers give the answer. In "La Presse" of April 13th, 1916, this is what we read:

At an assembly of the electors of the Municipality of St. Isidore de Temiskaming, held on the 19th of March, Mr. Zéphirin Lupien, acting as chairman, the following resolution was unanimously carried :

After having read a declaration made by Mr. Honoré Mercier, Minister of Colonization, in answer to Mr. Sauvé, member for the County of Two Mountains, we declare the following: — Mr. Mercier is wrong when he declares that neither he nor his predecessors have promised a railroad in Temiskaming. For the last twenty years the promise of this railroad is the main subject at every election, and it is because the liberals have always promised the construction of this

railroad that the county has remained liberal.

A few years ago, we received the visit of the Honourable Sir Lomer Gouin, of Mr. Jean Prévost, then minister of Colonization, and of several other important parties, and at that reunion, all these gentlemen, and especially Sir Lomer Gouin, promised that within three years from the date of their visit, they would return to see us by railroad, to Ville-Marie or in the region of Temiskaming;

To a delegation from Temiskaming composed of priests and laymen, the liberal Government — Sir Lomer Gouin and his Ministers were present — agreed to construct a railroad if the Canadian Pacific Railway did not do so, and it is already five years since this promise was made;

The regretted Honourable Charles Devlin, during one of his trips in Temiskaming four years ago, at a banquet organized in his honour, declared that the Government was obliged to construct itself the railroad in our region, and that the Canadian Pacific had received advice to construct it immediately if it did not want its charter cancelled;

During the same trip, he was asked to repair a bridge and he answered that before three or four months, a bridge for railway, wagons and pedestrians would be in course of construction, and that for this reason it was not worth while to repair the old bridge.

The Honourable Mr. H. Mercier promised to do all that the Government had proposed to do, in our region, and since then ten miles of railway were constructed, but that is all. They are to-day talking of undoing this work.

We were surprised to hear, by the

newspapers, that a railway in Temiskaming was never promised by the Government or the Ministers.

We are sorry to note that we, who are so far away and who so greatly need help and encouragement, should now be ignored by our Government.

Signed: Adélarde Grignon, Arthur Vigean, Pitre Grignon, Moise Labelle, W. Neveu, Edm. Labelle, Pierre Falardeau, Joac. Labelle, Raoul Jolette, Albert Labelle, Z. Gaudette, Ad. Pagé, Noé Daoust, Octavien Daoust, Paul Pagé, Maxime Pagé, Joseph Paquin, A. Laverlochère, Alphonse Dessert, Jos Pagé, E. P. Pagé, J. Melançon, A. Melançon, Delphis Lupien, Henri Lupien, Camille Lupien, Authime

Lupien, Arthur Lupien, Louis Lupien, Alp. Lupien, Clément Lupien, Avila Cardinal, C. Bertar, Jos Carrière, Ed. Carrière, An. Carrière, O. Bournival, Alex. Bérubé fils, Edgar Bérubé, Arthur Bérubé, Alphonse Bérubé, Alex. Bérubé, Sig. Bérubé, Rémi Blain, J. B. Blain, Phil. Joannette, Raoul Joannette, Philippe Barette, E. Guimond, Luc Dubois, Onésime Allard, J. N. Legault, Sam. Ritchie, E. Bélanger, J. A. Barette, Raoul Barette, James Barette, Charles Barrette, Martial Chartier, Joseph Chartier, Joséphat Chartier, Cléophas Chartier, Wilfrid Chartier, Mathias Cardinal, Donat Cardinal, Alex. Cardinal, Ph. Bergeron, W. Lapointe, Ed. Beau-lé, Zéphirin Morissette.

Liberal Finances

AGAINST THE TAXES

The liberals in 1897, denounced the conservatives because they had voted a tax to save the Province from the ruin threatened through the Mercier Administration.

Down with the taxes! said they.

The liberal chiefs, candidates, and newspapers proclaimed:

"Where are we going! That is the question which all citizens who have at heart the interests of the country must ask themselves. It is not a question, in the present election, of voting red or blue, liberal or conservative, but of ending this period of impositions, of taxes and debts, which leads the Province to ruin.

"They have deceived you; punish them on the 11th of May, by coming

against taxes and taxers. When you have a servant who is robbing you, is it not your duty to send him away?"

"This is a supreme appeal to all conservatives who have the interest of this province at heart, to join the liberal army in the assault which will be made to-morrow in order to throw down the "Cabinet of Taxers". ("Le Soleil", May 10th, 1897.)

Did the Liberals abolish taxes in 1897? No, they have increased them and created others.

FOR TAXES

The Government increased its revenue by increasing old taxes and by ordering new ones. It increased the succession duties in 1907 in or-

der to supply a larger income.

It rehandled to its advantage, the tariff on registration and law stamps, to such a degree that a citizen of our province, in order to obtain judgment for, say \$2.50, must pay \$2.90 in addition to his lawyers fees. Yes, the Government increased, to its profit, the legal charges to such a degree, that it is now almost impossible for a creditor to obtain judgment against his debtor, when his claim does not exceed \$25.

Only from the office of the Circuit Court, the Government obtains a surplus, a benefit of more than \$25,000.00 and this amount is collected by means of law stamps, especially on cases where the amount disputed is below \$25.00. In 1897, during the Conservative Administration, law stamps brought \$177,426.80. In 1914, during the Liberal Administration they brought \$407,857.20.

And in spite of the Constitutional right which gives to this House the privilege of determining the amount of impositions on the people, the Prime Minister with the help of his majority, obtained taxation power, alone with his ministers who fear him, on all that is to be registered in our registry offices. By a simple order in council, he can tax the sales of properties, the donations inter vivos, the successions, the leases, the rents, the real estate exchanges, the discharges, etc.,

TAXES, DEBT, LOAN. THE GOUIN PROGRAM.

In 1908, Sir Lomer Gouin made to the electors the following declaration:

"We had promised not to increase the obligations of the Province and we have kept our word." (See The Provincial Liberal Pamphlet, Page 7, in 1908).

Here is now the program quoted at the Monument National, by the Prime Minister (Mr. Gouin), on May 1908:

"If you ask us what is our program for the future, we shall say:

1.—We have practised economy, we shall continue to administer with economy;

2.—We shall reestablished the equilibrium in the budget, we shall maintain it:

3.—We did not borrow, we shall not borrow.

4.—We have decreased the public debt, we shall continue to decrease it" ("Le Canada" May 20th 1908).

Consequently, the engagements of the liberal party in 1897 and ever since, are clearly recorded in the archives.

OVERTAXATION

In 1915, the Gouin Government increased by nearly 50 p. c. the legal charges.

In 1897, the Conservative Government collected \$3,874,803.18.

In 1914-1915, the Gouin Government collected \$9,597,925.67.

Let us take only the item of taxes.

	Conserv. Administ. 1897	Liberal Administ. 1914	Liberal Administ. 1915
Law stamps	\$ 177,426.80	\$ 407,857.20	\$ 488,683.30
Municipalities for the maintenance of prisoners	12,751.96	22,079.70	27,937.27
Tax from the Court House of			

Montreal, not including stamps	2,123.88	1,755.33	5,957.11
Registration stamps including fees	63,875.90	229,088.20	209,947.17
Hotels, stores, etc., licenses	586,176.42	1,034,919.46	1,086,767.43
Direct Taxes on commercial corporations: (Under Mercier: \$558,393.00)	134,404.03	925,093.03	982,977.87
Succession duties	229,441.73	1,604,479.55	1,660,893.15
Taxes on transfers of stock, obligations, etc., (new tax imposed in 1906 by Mr. Gouin)		53,870.02	20,369.48
Law concerning motor traffic (new tax imposed in 1906 by Mr. Gouin)		122,575.85	180,224.67
Lunatic Asylums	9,342.57	226,663.88	
Moving Pictures, (a new tax of Mr. Gouin)		9,456.00	
Mutual relief societies, (new tax of Mr. Gouin)		22,993.99	23,052.43
Total	\$1,215,543.28	\$4,660,832.29	\$5,012,809.88
Law concerning automatic distributors (New tax)			10,965.00
Boarding houses (fees) (new tax)			963.00

A nice difference, is it not? Taxes are increased under the Gouin Government! Now is the time to say: Down with the Taxers! the over-taxers! (Proceeding Legis. Ass. March 6th. Answer of the Hon. Mitchell).

THE NEW TAXES

The Government has created new taxes, and is still doing so:

- 1.—Tax on transfers of stock.
- 2.—Tax on motor vehicles.
- 3.—Tax on Mutual Relief Societies.
- 4.—Tax on Donations Inter Vivos
- 5.—Tax on Laundries.
- 6.—Tax on Automatic Machines.
- 7.—Inspection Tax on Boarding Houses.
- 8.—Moving Pictures.

These are new taxes! And these taxes are the little creations of these good liberals who loved the people so much in 1897, that they could not suffer it to be taxed a little bit.

THE DEBT

In 1897, last year of the Conservative Administration, the consolidated debt was \$34,225,747.42.

At the date of the formation of the Gouin Cabinet, in 1905, it was \$34,731,016.16 (See proceedings Legis. Ass. Pages 513 and 514).

In 1915, on June 30th the debt was \$34,488,916.22 (See speech on estimates January 20th 1916, page 12).

In 1897, the surplus of the liabilities over the assets was \$24,123,302.64.

In 1905: \$26,197,886.10 (See proceedings 1912 page 513-514 or Liberal Pamphlet 1912 page 24).

In 1916, on March 8th, the surplus of the liabilities of the Province of Quebec, over the assets, was \$31,597,390.73, and increase of \$3,577,324.53 over 1915 (Proceedings 1916, Page 357 answer of the Treasurer to Mr. Tellier).

Which is also an increase over 1897 of \$7,474,088.02.

Is that what they call practising economy?

At page 14 of his speech on the estimates, on January 20th 1916, the Provincial Treasurer said:

"There will also be an important increase over the expectations in the ordinary and extraordinary expenses for the current fiscal year."

We have promised to decrease the public debt, and we have decreased it and we shall continue to decrease it" had said Mr. Gouin! What a word! (See "Le Canada", May 20th 1908).

LOAN

"My program for the future is this:

"We did not borrow, and we shall not borrow". (Words of Sir Lomer Gouin, May 15th 1906).

Why then did the s^rie Mr. Gouin and his government transact the following loans?

- 1.—Loan of \$1,949,586.67, on January 1st 1913, stil due.
- 2.—Loan of \$3,991,722.73, on July 1st 1914. Still due.
- 3.—Loan of \$1,460,000.00, on No-

vember 1st 1913, and paid on August 1914.

4.—Loan of \$4,000,000.00 on December 1st 1914. Still due.

Is it not true that the borrowing machine is in good order with the Gouin Gouvernement ?

And that is not all, since Govern-
ment is athorized to borrow more.

And all that in addition to loans transacted in its name by others for which the Province was and is responsible:

Loans:

To construct the Commercial High School, they borrowed at first \$500,000.00 and afterwards \$200,000.00, making in all \$700,000.00 still due.

To erect the Montreal Techn... l School they had first borowed \$700,000.00 and afterwards \$75,000.00, making in all \$775,000.00 still due.

To construct the Quebec Techni-
cal School, they borrowed \$400,000.
which is still due.

Such is the financial statement of the Gouin Government.

