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Kidney troubles often start with giving much discomfort. In the incipient stages people consider the apparent slight ailment trifling and are apt to neglect themselves. The kidneys—the filters of the blood—should never be neglected. Thousands of cases become hopeless just because treatment is put off until too late. Backache, sluggish action of kidneys etc., denote that something is wrong. Then is the time to take

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## THE DURHAM CHRONICLE

IRWIN, Editor and Proprietor.  
DURHAM, OCTOBER 22, 1908.

### EDITORIAL

Remarkable sign of the times is the retirement of Mr. A. W. Fraser, government candidate at Ottawa, who was nominated with a flourish of trumpets a few days ago. In order to get him out of the way, it has been found necessary to withdraw his colleague also, and drag Sir Wilfrid Laurier into the field as a candidate with a fresh speaking associate. This is to be the only chance the government had to save either one of the two in a constituency which they carried four years ago by a majority. Out of 39 Ontario seats carried by the government in Ottawa gave the largest majority and this is the place the premier must rescue. It is doubtful whether even Sir Wilfrid will get the seats, and it is pretty certain that he cannot save them. He is protecting himself by running for Quebec east.

The next largest government majority in Ontario was obtained in the riding where the Liberal candidate is ahead. This year desperate measures are necessary to hold this seat. First Sir Wilfrid had to get off the regularly nominated ticket. Then he made Mr. Murphy withdraw and sent him to try to get the country. Finally the press had to go himself to hold a meeting in the constituency in order to strengthen his colleague and give him a chance.

What is to become of the other dozen Ontario constituencies where seats cannot be provided for them though Sir Wilfrid has promised to get a new department for one seat? They cannot withdraw all the candidates and run Sir Wilfrid in their places. The fact is that the best hope of the government is to hold a scattering few of the strongest government seats, and the candidate is personally responsible for this.

It seems certain that the Liberal election sweep will be reduced, and that the government will be partially driven out of the country. This means a loss of more than twenty seats, and a Conservative majority of more than forty seats on a total of 100 seats.

Ottawa substitution. The government press explains that Mr. Fraser's connection with western timber land deal made him an "undesirable candidate." That is true. Mr. Fraser was mixed up with Mr. Burrows and the Imperial Pulp Co., in the transactions partly exposed last season, and since explained by Mr. Ames in his campaign against the Land Granters. Mr. Fraser put in most of his work on behalf of these western politicians, who hold to-day the pick of the western lands. He did some smaller business for himself also, and has just been sued for a division of the profits. On one deal where he got timber land from the government for \$4,000, he sold it for \$100,000. It is not surprising if these deals have made Mr. Fraser an impossible candidate.

But how about the larger dealers in the same line, men with whom Mr. Fraser was connected, and whom he assisted to make millions, while he made only hundreds of thousands? What about Sifton and Turriff, who as minister and chief commissioner put through these deals, and who have themselves become suddenly rich? What about Burrows, Sifton's brother-in-law, with his score of timber limits in his own name, and a dozen in other names, the member of parliament concerned in more than 1,000 square miles of the best timber in the west, obtained for five per cent. of its value, and worth many millions? What about Adamson of the Saskatchewan land deal, the Galloway land deal and many timber limits, the man who has the advantage of being brother-in-law of the late Commissioner of Lands? Are these desirable candidates?

If the men to whom the government gave these lands in such scandalous disregard of public interest and of morality and decency, have become "undesirable" what about the Government that gave the lands away? If it is not right to take the public domain for a fraction of its value, it is a still greater crime for the public trustees to give it away to their friends and relations. If Mr. Fraser is an "undesirable" candidate, the Laurier government is an undesirable administration. The ministers must be got out of the government that gave the lands away, too. Remember that every deal which has been exposed has been defended by the government and its whole party. Even to this day ministers are declaring that nothing wrong has been shown. Yet the head of the government has been obliged to contest Ottawa, just because the people will not stand for the timber deals. The change does not meet the case. Sir Wilfrid made himself responsible for the very deal that makes Fraser an undesirable candidate.

A bigger man than Mr. Fraser is in trouble, and is found undesirable. Hon. William Pugsley, minister of public works, has been utterly discredited by the exposure of his exploits with the treasury of New Brunswick. Mr. Pugsley was Attorney General, with a salary of \$2,100 and sessional indemnity of three hundred a year, afterwards increased to \$500. Yet from 1901 to 1908, a little over six years, Dr. Pugsley presented and was paid, bill for services and expenses amounting to over \$22,551, or more than \$3,500 a year.

In addition he continually drew from the treasury in over-drafts, so that at the end of the first year the balance against him was \$2,163; second year \$1,758; third year \$6,227; fourth year, \$7,314; fifth year \$7,030; sixth year, \$6,605. When he retired from Local Government and entered Dominion politics, the balance reported against him was \$14,451.

Nothing was known of these transactions. They did not appear in any official returns. The auditor was not permitted to say anything about it. Just before the provincial election the government was challenged on the finances, and produced what purported to be a special report of an independent auditor, appointed to disclose the whole situation. There was not a word in his report about the Pugsley over-drafts. It turned out that other matters had been concealed. No one knew until after the change of government that Dr. Pugsley's leader and colleague had returned to the Crown Land Department over \$13,000 which had been taken on "suspense account" without record of the transaction.

Dr. Pugsley also returned his over-draft. He restored \$1,000 in January, 1906, and another \$1,000 in February of the same year. Thus the over-draft was reduced to \$4,331 when he left the government. He became a federal minister, but the account stood. It was still standing the next year when the Provincial election was held. After the election, in which Dr. Pugsley's friends were defeated, the Receiver-General received from Dr. Pugsley a cheque for the balance. Mr. Pugsley dated the letter and cheque February 27th, several days before, but the letter was not received until March 9th, which was six days after the election. The queer feature was that, although the letter was dated at Ottawa and mailed there, it was post-marked March 6th, more than a week after the date. Did the minister wait until his friends had

been defeated, and then write his letter dating it back a week, or did he write it on the date given and hold it back until he saw how the elections would go. In either case, would the letter have been sent and the money paid, if the government had not been defeated? Would not the whole affair been kept in the dark, as it had been for the previous six years? These are things the people are curious to know.

Meanwhile Mr. Hazen, the present premier of New Brunswick, has challenged the minister of public works to meet him on the platform and discuss these financial transactions. This challenge has been made not only in New Brunswick, but in Ontario and Quebec, and it has not been accepted.

The opposition leader had a great reception in Ontario. The Toronto meetings were the greatest political demonstration ever since in that city, and smaller cities and towns were no less enthusiastic. It is believed that the Conservative victory in this province will be more complete than that of 1878. There is not a single absolutely safe government seat in the whole province.

An independent French paper points out that the great feature of the contest in that province is the list of strong men who have come out as Opposition candidates, many of them who have hitherto refused to enter political life. Hon. J. A. Oulmet, a former minister has retired from the bench, and is a candidate. Ex-Judge Doherty, Ex-Mayor Ekers are among the new candidates in Montreal.

Hon. T. C. Casgrain is back on the field. Hon. Mr. Pelletier is a candidate. Mr. Wm. Price, one of the leading members of Quebec has accepted nomination. Mr. Pope is out to recapture Compton. All of the Conservatives in the late House are candidates again.

Then Mr. Bourassa, a former Liberal, whose brilliant campaign in the Provincial election marked him as one of the most influential men in the province, has signed the nomination of the Conservative candidate in the Montreal riding which he captured. It looks like twenty-five Quebec seats for the Conservatives.

The list of members who have escaped into office is growing. Following is the record of the last few weeks:

- Macpherson, of Vancouver, now postmaster at a salary of \$3,250.
- Parmalee, of Shefford, King's Printer, salary \$5,000.
- Greenway, of Lisgar, Railway Commissioner, salary \$8,000.
- Wright, of Renfrew, postmaster.
- Then there are more to follow, including Logan, of Cumberland, who is going to the Senate, Finlayson, of Richmond, who will be a judge.

The government organs are publishing comparative statements showing that the national debt has increased only one and a half million a year since the Liberals took office. This is an old story. Why not bring the statements down to date? What is the good of saying that the debt increased only \$19,000,000 in the twelve years down to 1908, when it has increased \$27,000,000 last year? The increase of August alone was \$3,253,601—and the debt is growing steadily at the rate of three to four millions a month. At this moment Mr. Fielding is trying to borrow \$25,000,000 in London.

### The Real Issue.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has said, "In this election there is no great issue. We have done so well that the Opposition cannot raise an issue. We have done so well that this country has enjoyed continuous prosperity for twelve years. Let well enough alone and let me finish my good work."

But is that all Sir Wilfrid Laurier says? Let the independent taxpayer read between the lines and think. Does not there run through every appeal of the Liberal press this suggestion—put us out and the great Liberal flow of governmental expenditure, and with it your share, will cease. When we came to power in 1896 this expenditure was only \$41,702,383, in 1908 it is \$110,500,000, and in 1909 it will be \$124,000,000. Returns us for another four years and this expenditure at the same rate of increase will rise by 1912 to \$152,000,000, and you will get your share if you vote right. And is not this venal suggestion the real appeal upon which the Laurier Government are making their campaign?

How does this differ from Mr. Marcell's claim that he should be returned in Bonaventure because in four years he secured from the public chest expenditure in the riding \$125 per voter? Is not each the offer of a bribe. These considerations suggest two questions—

1. What does Mr. Borden say on this point?
2. Where does the money go?

Some of it goes for the administration of justice; a large part of it for civil government, including the Liberal support of the Departments of Agriculture, Fisheries, Trade and Commerce, etc.; some of it is expended for necessary public works. But above and beyond these proper and necessary expenditures there have been squandered at least ten million dollars annually. This appalling

sum has found its way into the pockets of a comparatively few partisans who are able to obtain inside contracts for the construction of public works, of the furnishing of supplies.

Nor is this the only golden flood gate through which the Liberal Government has poured the taxpayers' money. Wharves have been built where no ship goes, useless bridges and elaborate public buildings have been erected. All these things have been done with the underlying motive of extending patronage to an inner ring of the Government partisans.

What, then, is Mr. Borden's stand on this question? Let us quote from his Peterborough speech, "I do not say that expenditure there is should not be. There should be expenditure and large expenditure by the Government in a new country like Canada, for the purpose of promoting its development. But what I do say is, that for every dollar expended by the Government the country should receive a dollar of value."

Which policy is most to your advantage as a ratepayer? Is it worth while making the change? Think about it.

### Don't Sit on The Blister.

Abraham Lincoln once said, "It is the people's business—the election is in their hands. If they turn their backs to the fire and get scorched in the rear, they'll find they'll have to sit on the blister."

This describes in homely words our situation. There is a fire of no small proportions burning in Ottawa. It occasionally burns through the newspapers, Emerson had to go, but he is now the Government candidate again. When its consequences burned through into the courts, Fraser had to go, but he was the Government candidate until then.

When it burned through into the Hodgins investigation, it had to go to arbitration, but the arbitrators won't report until after election. When it burned through in the Marine department, it had to go to Judge Cassels for investigation. But the Government so managed to delay assistance for his judicial duties that his report won't be out before the election.

Occasionally we get glimpses of victims, like Mayes, dancing around the fire, but the lid is generally kept down tight. But it is burning there all the same.

If we were so spellbound by the silver tongue, so keen for party or so critical of individual men that we forget the fire, we will get scorched in the rear.

And Abraham Lincoln is right—it is the people's business. The election is in their hands, and if we get scorched we will have to sit on the blister for the next five years.

### Political Nursery Rhymes.

High diddle diddle there's graft in the middle,  
There's graft in the East and the West,  
The big guys grab the juiciest plums  
And the little guys get the rest.  
A little Grit novice sat in his office  
Dressing of graft and greed,  
Up came an election and he in dejection  
Was driven away from the feed.  
Humpty dumpty sat on a throne,  
Somebody knocked poor humpty down;  
Now all the washing that ever has been  
Never can make poor humpty clean.  
Baa baa blackleg, have we any votes?  
No Sir Wilfrid, read their notes,  
Some from the country,  
Some from the town;  
Your car has stopped so please climb down.

Sing a song of politics,  
A pocket full of graft,  
Gritty politicians gobbling up a pie;  
Some one ask some questions,  
Some one told some lies,  
Some one ought to tell the truth  
And put the people wise.

### IS THERE BOODLE GOING?

We have very strong reason to believe that Liberal workers in South Grey have been supplied with money which is now being used for illegitimate purposes in the present political campaign. During the several campaigns through which the present editor of this paper has been engaged, never before, to our recollection, have we given any such a hint, and were it not that we have strong reasons for our belief we would not say so now. South Grey, it seems to us, has been comparatively clean in the matter of corruption, but there is scarcely a doubt that money is being used on this occasion. The Chronicle regrets that any such tactics should be resorted to by any person or by any Government. We have no sympathy with any tactics which rob honest candidates from the rights that belong to them. The Laurier Government is by no means safe, and they have just reached the time when very strong means are liable to be adopted to keep them in power.

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## Miss Dick

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