

# NO MOULDERING BRANCHES NOW.

## THE RECORD OF EIGHT YEARS.

What Has Been Achieved in the Postal Service.

### USEFULNESS ENLARGED

Facilities to Public Increased in Every Direction.

With Greatly Reduced Rates, Largely Increased Service and Better Remuneration to the Staff, the Annual Deficit is Converted into a Handsome Surplus.

The eminently satisfactory report of the Postoffice Department for the year which closed on the 30th of June last invites a retrospective review of the record of this important branch of the Government service and a consideration of the conditions under which results so satisfactory have been accomplished. After all, the extent to which the department has proved its usefulness in meeting the requirements and the convenience of the people, rather than the balance sheet which it presents, must in the last analysis be the test by which the degree of success which has attended its administration is determined. When both these most important conditions are shown to have been met, then the result may, indeed, be regarded as satisfactory. Coming as it does so closely in touch with the every-day social and commercial life of the people, any defects in the work of the department speedily attract attention. It is essential that the postoffice in all its details keep pace with the changing conditions, and especially is prompt recognition of newly-developing requirements necessary in a young country where the prairie or the silent forest to-day becomes the thriving settlement or the busy mining camp of to-morrow, demanding postal service with all the certainty and regularity to which the dwellers in the older settlements are accustomed.

### Changes Wrought in Eight Years.

A comparison of the postoffice of today with the service as it was only eight years ago reveals phenomenal development in every branch, in keeping with the great progress which has marked that period of our history. The postoffice differs from almost every other branch of the Government service in that it had its origin and was established not for the purpose of taxing the people or as a necessary portion of the machinery of government, but as a public utility. There is perhaps no better criterion of the degree of usefulness to which the department has attained than the extent to which the people avail themselves of the facilities it affords. The records show that during the past year the volume of business as indicated by the number of letters carried was more than double what it was in 1896, which would be regarded as a most satisfactory expansion of business for any ordinary commercial concern.

The results obtained are a gratifying demonstration of the wisdom of applying ordinary business principles to the administration of the department. The Postmaster-General, Sir Wm. Mulock, has not been content to sit down and wait for the business to come to him, secure in the knowledge that Parliament had given him a monopoly. Like the active head of a private corporation, he has taken energetic steps to increase the volume of business.

### Imperial Penny Postage.

The greatest reform, the most far-reaching in its effects, and that which has brought Canada most prominently before the British Empire, is the realization of the dream of Imperialists for many years—an Imperial penny postage, the inauguration of which between Canada and the United Kingdom makes Christmas Day of 1898 a red-letter day in Imperial history. The subsequent extension of the system to all parts of the empire has served to emphasize to the world the unity of the empire as a living actuality. Following up the Imperial idea, Canada led the way in agitation for the reduction of the postal rates upon newspapers and periodicals between the Dominion, the mother country and other parts of the empire. The comparatively low rates which prevailed between the United States and Canada had long given alien publications a decided advantage over those of the mother country, and the effect of the wide distribution of these publications of alien sympathy was not calculated to foster or strengthen the Imperial sentiment. As a result of the efforts of the Postmaster-General Canadian newspapers and periodicals are now carried through the mails to the United Kingdom and other parts of the empire at the same rate as in the Dominion. The beneficial effect of a wider dissemination of Canadian views and sentiment throughout the various parts of the em-

pire has already made itself felt in various ways.

### The Domestic Rate.

Greater in importance from an economic standpoint to the mass of the people, however, is the reduction of the domestic rate of postage by 33 per cent., one of the most meritorious and noteworthy features of the administration of Sir Wm. Mulock. While the reduction in the Imperial rate is larger, being 60 per cent. of the former rate, owing to the volume of business done, the saving to the people from this reduction in the domestic rate is by far the greatest. While the whole of the increase of 143,000,000, or 120 per cent., in the number of letters carried through the Canadian postoffice in eight years may not all be attributable to the reduction in rates, there can be no doubt that it has materially stimulated the use of the mails for all purposes.

### A Striking Contrast.

In striking contrast to the action of the Postmaster-General was the pessimism which characterized the former administration upon the question of a reduction in the rates. In the last budget speech, which he delivered in 1896, but a few months before Sir Wm. Mulock assumed the portfolio of Postmaster-General, Hon. George E. Foster referred to the demand for a reduction in the following words:—

"There is now a deficit of somewhere near \$800,000 between the total receipts and total expenditures of our postal service, and this, I fear, makes the time somewhat distant when what otherwise might be fairly asked for can be granted—that is, a reduction upon the rates of postage in this country."

The difference between the methods of administration pursued by his predecessor and those of Sir Wm. Mulock was the difference between the old and present rates of postage. And when the reduction was proposed Sir Charles Tupper predicted that it meant a loss of \$1,000,000 in the revenue. The results show that instead of a loss of revenue, except temporarily, there has been a very material increase. With the reduction of the domestic and Imperial postage rates, not only has there not been a decrease of revenue and a correspondingly large increase in the deficit which annually marked the administration of the department under the Conservative Government, but the Postmaster-General found himself able also to recommend a reduction in the rate to the United States similar to that in domestic postage.

### The Postal Note System.

The need of an improved method of sending small sums of money from one part of the country to the other and even to foreign countries was long felt by the great mass of the people not in business or having bank accounts. This has been met by the institution of the postal note system, which from the day it was inaugurated has been steadily growing in favor, its simplicity and freedom from red tape rendering it an extremely popular institution.

### Better Money Order Facilities.

Prior to 1896 the Canadian Postoffice only had an interchange of postal money orders with a limited number of postoffices, some 5,000, in the United States, chiefly in the larger cities. To a people so large a proportion of whom have friends and relatives scattered all over the United States this limited service was very unsatisfactory. As a result of negotiations the customers of the Postmaster-General now have the opportunity of obtaining money orders upon a much larger number of postoffices in the United States—now some 28,000 more than formerly. That these increased facilities were appreciated is evidenced by the fact that in two years from the date they were offered to the people the number of money orders issued on United States offices increased by 72 per cent. That the advantage was not all one-sided, merely affording facilities for sending money out of the country to enrich our neighbors, is proved by an increase during the same period of 98 per cent. in the number of orders issued by United States offices upon the Canadian department. The money order system has also been extended to Newfoundland, Norway, the Transvaal, Cape Colony, Trinidad and other countries, thus materially enlarging the sphere of usefulness of the department.

At home the facilities for transmission of money through the safe and inexpensive medium of the postoffice have also been greatly increased. The number of money order and postal note offices have been multiplied by many times, resulting in an increase of some 250 per cent. in the amount transmitted by this method.

### A Valuable Innovation.

Another innovation, the value of which is becoming more and more apparent as its operation continues, is the special delivery system, by which for a small extra charge over the regular postage a letter is delivered by special messenger immediately after the arrival of the mail at the office of destination, making the postal service in many cases practically equal in rapidity with the telegraph. The utility and advantage of prompt delivery of mail matter in cases where expedition is imperative is at once apparent.

### Large Increases Everywhere.

The opening up of the trackless wastes of the snowbound Yukon to the enterprising and adventurous miner through the special delivery system, by which a heavy responsibility upon the postoffice. The difficulties of establishing a postal service to this far off land have, however, been overcome, and the regularity with which it is maintained is not the least creditable feature of the recent history of the department. In every branch large increases in the volume of transactions are reported, the mileage of conveyance of mails, the

### PRaise FROM A FOE.

It is not often that an approval from a political opponent can be quoted on the eve of an election. The following reference in *The Mail and Empire* to the author of the new militia act is all the more suggestive—

"Here is no military monster, no martinet laying down the law and binding it in red tape. Rather do we see a broad-minded man of the world, by profession a soldier, doing his utmost to harmonize warring interests. He approaches the business man, hat in hand, so to speak, and quietly offers to discuss with him some aspects of the great question of military defence. He does not order and swagger about in jangling spurs, but pleads only for an hour or so of one's spare time. He realizes that Canadians are not a military people, and that all their tastes are toward peaceful pursuits, but he points out the necessity of a measure of preparedness as a preventive of war. He makes the military business subservient to one's ordinary affairs, and does not insist that, at all costs, the citizen must make time to spend in rifle practice. He makes it as easy as possible for everyone who desires to do so to become familiar with the rudiments of soldiering. He has no abuse nor reproaches for those who refuse to discuss the matter."

In justice to *The Mail and Empire*, it should be explained that the approval was published under the mistaken notion that Lord Dundonald, and not Sir Frederick Borden, was entitled to the credit of having drafted the act.

number of postoffice savings banks in operation, and the volume of business in them, either as regards the number of accounts opened, the transactions recorded or the amounts deposited, all indicate that increased effort in the directions enumerated and in minor matters to meet the convenience of the public has been successful. In the internal administration of the department the efficiency of the service has been promoted by businesslike methods of dealing with the staff. Old regulations which had remained in force for a quarter of a century were revised and made applicable to present conditions. Especially effective were these changes in stimulating the whole staff towards greater efficiency, and an even keener appreciation of the responsibilities of the department to the public. Experience in the service was associated with merit and proficiency in the performance of duty as the road to preferment. Increased remuneration in all branches and an improvement in the conditions of service have also contributed toward increased efficiency and encouraged a spirit of emulation among the staff. As an illustration of the devotion to duty which characterizes the department, the fidelity of an official who when the trains were blocked with snow last winter shouldered his mail bag and struggled forty miles over the badly drifted road to deliver the treasured mail to the nearest point whence it could be despatched. Other instances where the railway mail service succeeded in getting mails through when the express lines were snowbound were numerous last winter, striking tributes to the efficient organization and endurance of the staff.

In a word, the Postoffice Department, under Sir William Mulock, having materially increased the service in every direction, having given deserved encouragement to country postmasters and the staff generally in the way of increased remuneration, and having materially reduced the rates of postage to the people, has succeeded in converting a deficit of \$780,000 to a handsome surplus.

### TAXES, REVENUE, PREFERENCE.

In his speech on the annual budget last session, Sir Richard Cartwright drew a careful, intelligent, and intelligible distinction between taxes and revenue. Speaking in reply to Mr. A. C. Bell, member for Pictou, N.S., he made the following remarks:—

But although there were these points of agreement between myself and my hon. friend, there are also points of difference between us. The hon. gentleman says that we increased the taxes. I want to call the hon. gentleman's attention to a little confusion of mind. Taxes and revenue are not the same thing, as he seems to have supposed. We did not increase the taxes; we greatly increased the revenue and greatly reduced the taxes. (Applause.) The effect of the British preference was far-reaching; it was enormously to reduce the rate of taxation in this country, both nominally and still more really. Then, sir, in the first place, as hon. gentlemen opposite now appear to admit, it went a very long way indeed to convert the

entire tariff into a revenue tariff. It did Canada a great deal of good indirectly by creating the best possible feeling towards us in the minds of our very best and largest customers, and indeed it may be said in many cases to have secured for us a substantial though not a legal, preference in the English market. For myself, I have always advocated the preference as being much more in the interest of the Canadian consumer than of the English producer, though I was quite willing to benefit the latter also if the opportunity should occur, and I admit frankly that I was very sorry that it was found necessary to make any change in it.

### RACE, RELIGION AND POLITICS.

On the day after the last general election, November 8, 1900, *The Toronto News* indulged in the following remarks:—

"In all its history Canada has never come through an election that left so many reasons for apprehension as the contest that closed yesterday. What the ultimate result will be of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's dividing the two races as he has done it would require a prophet to tell, but it is an intolerable condition for the English-speaking Canadians to live under the domination of the French. The future holds out no prospect for the realization of those ambitions of the possession of which the French-Canadians gave evidence yesterday. We cannot but regard the defeat of the Conservative party as a calamity to the people of Canada, inasmuch as it leaves in control of the Government men who have been proven to be unfaithful to their trust. But it is infinitely worse that the Government if they should hold power by reason of the massing of one section of the community, speaking a foreign language and holding ideals alien to the governing race in the country."

Of course *The Toronto News* is now under different ownership and management, but it has retained altogether too much of the prejudices of its former state of existence. A good illustration of this half-reformed condition is its treatment of Northwest autonomy and its gratuitous importation into it of the separate school question. Curiously enough, *The English Pall Mall Gazette* had on the same past election morning the following tribute to the successful Premier:—

"Sir Wilfrid Laurier is the living embodiment of the spirit required in Canada. It looks as if he might have as long a spell of power as Sir John Macdonald. Not only is this French-Canadian but enthusiastic British Imperialist statesman, one of the most inspiring and useful personalities in the empire, but the election attempts to turn race feeling to his disadvantage have deserved the severe defeat."

### THE DAYS OF THE NEW CANADA.

These are the days of the new Canada. We have put away the policy of obstruction and stagnation that made the substantial development of trade and industry impossible. We have adopted a policy that allows the freest play to all useful activities, and the consequent development of every productive industry.

The contrast between the present and the immediate past shows that the long light of the Liberals was not a waste of energy—that they did not take an exaggerated or distorted view of the importance of fiscal stability.

The Canada of 1896 had an aggregate trade of \$239,000,000. The new Canada has a trade of \$470,000,000. The Canada of the old regime had deposits in the savings banks and chartered banks aggregating \$183,000,000. The Canada of to-day has deposits aggregating \$423,000,000. The Canada of 1896 was a depressing exodus so keenly that the men who courageously alluded to it were condemned as deriding their country. Now we have one hundred thousand settlers a year coming into the Northwest, adding to the productive capacity of the country.

The Canada we have left behind had a customs revenue of \$19,000,000, so levied as to cause commercial stagnation. Today we have a customs revenue of \$37,000,000, so intelligently adjusted as to be a scarcely perceptible burden. The old Canada had an excise revenue of less than \$8,000,000, while the new Can-

### A FIREBRAND.

*Hamilton Spectator*, Oct. 11:—He must have been a stupid fellow or a joker who hung up in the Army the legend, "A Preference to British Kin," in welcome to a man who hasn't a drop of British blood in his veins, and whose heart, he boasts, is in France.

The Laurier idea in Quebec: No British person shall be Premier of Canada.

Speaking to a British audience last night, Sir Wilfrid did not say, as he did at Sorel the other day, "I am one of you."

The Grits will now tell us that because Sir Wilfrid did not mention it in his Hamilton speech, it is absurd to say that he and his Bourasas are running a fierce race campaign in Quebec.

Sir Wilfrid's speech last night was remarkable in one respect. For the first time in his political life he neglected, in an Ontario speech, to introduce the race cry by affirming boastfully that he was a French-Canadian and was proud of it. Some wise Ontario Grit has been coaching his leader.

ada has an excise revenue of \$12,000,000.

But the most striking contrast between the old and the new is found in Canada's place in the empire. Our participation in the defence of the empire in the hour of need and our recognition of Imperial unity in the preferential tariff have given us a position and standing in the councils of the nations that could never have been achieved under the old, narrow, obstructive and bucksteking regime. Let us show our appreciation of the worthy man under whose guidance we have achieved such worthy eminence.

### BEST IMMIGRATION POLICY.

Population flows as naturally as water from where conditions of life are onerous to where they are favorable. There can be no better immigration policy than a wise adjustment of public burdens and the opening of good opportunities for industry and commerce. Without these essentials the most elaborate system of immigration must inevitably fail, for men will be brought in by a road that will soon lead them out again.

Nowhere is the contrast between the present and the past more strongly marked than in the immigration policy. The Laurier Government has not only made conditions favorable for every line of useful industry, but has pursued a vigorous immigration policy, which has brought our advantages prominently to the notice of the best classes available in Britain.

During the past five years 313,000 immigrants came to the Dominion, as compared with 113,000 during the last five years of the Conservative policy. And our best immigration agents have been the successful settlers who have written home to their friends describing the broader opportunities of the new Dominion. Homestead entries from 1896 to 1903 aggregated 75,530, or 13,000 more than under the whole 18 years of Conservative rule.

The land sales by railway companies in the Northwest for the four years from 1892 to 1896 aggregated 411,608 acres for \$1,144,530, and for the four years from 1899 to 1903 7,700,212 acres for \$25,832,130.

The change has been accomplished by ceasing to needlessly burden agriculture with tariff impost, by simplifying land regulations, by releasing millions of acres from railway control, by holding the land for actual settlers, by encouraging industry, and by appointing competent men to make the claims of the Dominion known in the mother land.

### CONSERVATIVES FOR LAURIER.

The Quebec Conservative leaders are finding considerable difficulty in their campaign. Many prominent Conservatives in that city declare that they will vote for the Government. Col. J. Turnbull voiced the sentiments of a large body of Conservatives a few evenings ago in the Garrison Club, when he was heard to say that he was a Conservative and never voted for a Liberal in his life, but would vote for Laurier on the 9th of November next, and that those who voted differently would be voting against the interests of Quebec city—*Toronto News*.

## GOOD WORK OF FORESTRY MEN.

Forest Fire Rangers Furnish the Protection.

### PRAIRIE TREE PLANTING.

Excellent Showing of Department in Three Years.

Two Million Trees Sent to Settlers—Forest Reserves to be Used to Conserve Rainfall.

Ottawa, Oct. 12.—Mr. L. Stewart, the Dominion Superintendent of Forestry, has just returned to Ottawa from the west, where he has been for over three months looking after the work of his branch. In an interview with *The Globe* correspondent, Mr. Stewart gave some interesting details of his service. To meet the need of protection to the existing forests, a system of guardianship, with forest fire rangers, was organized and has already done splendid service. These forest rangers are selected from men residing in or near the district where they are employed, and at the close of each season the supervising officers make a general report of the work done under their supervision, and a few extracts from these are valuable.

Mr. James Leamy, the Dominion Crown timber agent in British Columbia, who has had charge there since the work was started, reported at the close of the first season's work in 1901 that he considers the work done by the fire rangers during that season was very efficacious, not only in putting out fires, but largely in preventing them. A very large quantity of timber would have been destroyed.

Mr. D. J. McDonald, Assistant Crown Timber Agent at Kamloops, reported the same year that the fire north and south of Revelstoke would have done no doubt a great amount of damage had it not been for the work of the rangers and those who were engaged for a short time assisting them, who fought the fire by way of cutting ditches through the moss and fire brakes through the timber; one ditch north of Revelstoke having to be cut almost two miles long to prevent the destruction of timber on berth 73, and that two other fires were handled in the same way.

### Big Fires Prevented.

The season of 1902 was also a very dry one, and again very little damage was done to the Dominion timber in British Columbia, whereas just beyond the present, and serious loss was experienced, and across the international boundary in Washington State most disastrous fires raged for weeks. The owners of timber lands are now dissatisfied with the cost of guarding and in this connection the testimony of two of the largest lumber companies is very conclusive. One of them says:—"In the district in which our limits are situated we had not a single fire last season, although there were two months of the driest kind of weather, and we attribute this result largely to the activity of the Government fire rangers, and feel that it would be a serious mistake not to follow up this important matter every year. Another writes as follows:—"Re fire wardens, we think that these men did very effective work last season in the prevention of forest fires, and strongly recommend our part the appointment of more of them each season."

### Good Work This Year.

During 1903 there was considerable rain in British Columbia and the western territories, and only a few fires were reported, with no serious damage. The present has been an exceptionally dry season in that part of the Dominion, and also in the adjoining States and territories, resulting again in great destruction to valuable timber where it was left unguarded. The danger that threatened our timber, the ranging staff was increased, and in certain cases outside men were employed in fighting fire where necessary. The result so far has been very little loss in this season of merchantable timber in our territory, with perhaps one exception, viz., along the Crown's Nest Pass in western Alberta, where certain limits owned by Senator McLaren have, it is feared, suffered to a considerable extent.

### Permanent Forest Reserves.

Another matter that is engaging the attention of this branch of the department is the setting aside of permanent forest reserves in advance of settlement. This is in itself a great work. Owing to the limited rainfall in the Territories it is of first importance that what precipitation is deposited should be conserved as far as possible, and this can only be done by preserving the forests at the sources of the streams. The proper management of these reserves is another matter coming up for attention. When it is considered that the Dominion possesses in its own right independent of the Provinces a vast area of timber land extending from Labrador on the east to Alaska on the west, and from the north boundary of Quebec, Ontario and the prairie sections of the Northwest north to the arctic regions, and that spruce timber now so valuable for pulp is found in every part of this whole region, it will be seen that it deserves the greatest attention.

### Trees For the Prairie.

A system of co-operation with the prairie settlers in growing forest trees on their homesteads was started three years ago, and is now assuming large proportions. Nearly 2,000,000 trees were sent out to settlers this season. These have up to the present been mostly grown from seed on the experimental farms at Brandon and Indian Head, but it was found wise to centralize this work at one place, and 100 acres about a mile south of Indian Head Station was selected. Buildings have been erect-

### SINGING OUT OF TUNE.

At Mr. Borden's dinner meeting at the Toronto News, dwelt on the fact that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had expressed himself in favor of Government ownership of all waterways, but not of railways; yet shortly after this statement the Government had bought a bankrupt railway, and Mr. Emerson had lately stated that they were going to buy another. Speaking for himself, Sir Mackenzie said he was opposed to Government running of railways, which was vastly different to Government ownership.

Immediately afterwards Mr. E. H. Hubba, on behalf of the Conservatives of Prince Edward, read to Mr. Borden an address, including the following paragraph:—

"With the Hon. Mr. Blair, we believe that were the Grand Trunk Pacific owned and operated by the people of Canada, it would regulate the transportation rates of all other railways crossing the Canadian part of the continent, the result being of inestimable advantage to every farmer and manufacturer, and indirectly every citizen of Canada. With an eager anticipation we look forward to an early date when you, as First Minister of Canada, will be able to carry such a policy to a successful fulfillment through a Government owned and operated railway from the Atlantic to the Pacific."

Mr. Borden has succeeded in hopelessly mystifying his followers on the railway issue. There are evidently Maclean Conservatives, who go for operation by the people, and Borden Tories, who don't want any bankrupt railways on any terms. The choir will have to train a little more. It is badly out of tune.

### ADEQUATE PROTECTION.

Once upon a time the people of a certain congregation made up their minds they would have no pastor who could not by his prayers secure for them at all times the kind of weather that suited them. They made known far and wide their determination, and thus otherwise eligible candidates for their pulpits were either kept from applying, or rejected, because they feared to undertake the unavoidable duty of providing the desired weather. At last one, more quick-witted than the rest, when asked if he would agree to assume the task, promptly replied that whenever they came to him with a unanimous request for any particular kind of weather he would secure it by prayer. He was immediately installed in the pulpit, which he continued to fill for many years, because the congregation never could be unanimous as to what it wanted. One is reminded of this old story by Sir Wilfrid Laurier's humorous comment in his Hamilton speech on the subject of "adequate protection":—

"Now, gentlemen, you have, as far as the policy of the Conservative party is concerned upon the fiscal question, you have the words. What is a word? What is a name? The word is the name, 'adequate protection.' What is adequate protection? I want to know what it does not mean. I want to know if there is any man who can define to me what is adequate protection. If there is any man in the audience or outside of it that can define to me and tell me what is adequate protection he would render me a great service—not to me only, but to Mr. Borden himself, the author of the phrase. Mr. Borden intended the expression, but Mr. Borden has never defined what he means by it. He simply used it. A certain gentleman of France, a man of great eminence, a great writer of books, wrote a letter to a friend one day. The friend could not decipher it, and he brought it to the writer, and he looked at the copy, at his own writing, for a few minutes, then he looked at his friend and said: 'Do you think that my eyes are better than yours?' It is just in that way. The writer of that letter could not decipher it. Mr. Borden has invented the expression, but neither he nor anybody else can tell the people what it really means. Adequate protection—notice it means everything to everybody. Those who are in the Conservative party that want the American tariff—I do not want the American tariff; I want the Canadian tariff—can say that is just what they want. There are men who say that adequate protection is too high. 'I don't want 50 or 75 per cent.; we will make it 10 per cent. That is my protection.' Others say, 'I want 10 per cent.,' and they say, 'adequate protection is my protection.' 'Let him come to office, let him try to please the men who are attracted by the words adequate protection, and you will have such confusion as the world never saw since the tower of Babel.'"

## A GOVERNMENT THAT DOES THINGS.

Critics think it smart to declare that the Government does not cause the sun to shine, the rain to fall or the fruit to ripen. That is true, but we need not concern ourselves about what the Government does not do.

The Government has established cold storage transportation from the farms in Canada to the British markets, making a complete chain from the refrigerator chambers in the creameries and the refrigerator car service to the cold storage warehouses at the chief points of export and the mechanical cold storage chambers on ocean-going steamships. This matter was neglected under Conservative rule, although Australia, New Zealand and the United States had similar services before 1896.

The Government has secured the removal of the cattle quarantine of 90 days in the United States. This embargo put Canadian cattle raisers at a serious disadvantage, and its removal, after negotiations by Mr. Fisher at Washington, resulted in a large increase in Canada's exports of cattle to the United States.

The Government has adopted practical methods in the distribution of agricultural information, so that every farmer can profit immediately by the knowledge gained through costly experiments.

The Government does not cause the fruit to ripen, but it protects the fruit from insect pests, gives information as to the best grades for various localities, provides for storage and transportation methods which insure the highest prices, opens markets for all lines of farm products and relieves the farmer of unnecessary burdens of taxation.

The farmers of Canada do not ask to be "coddled." They know that the man behind the plough is the arbiter of his own fortunes. There are things that the individual, no matter how industrious or far-seeing, cannot do for himself, however, and the farmers recognize that since 1896 those things have been better done than ever before.

The condition of rural Canada was never more satisfactory. On every hand farm mortgages are being reduced or wiped off, better buildings are being erected, and modern conveniences provided that make the life of women on the farm far more comfortable than in the past. Why should not the farmers of Canada vote for the Laurier Government?