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TALK ABOUT THE NAVY.

Mr. Borden was significantly silent at Halifax, when among his friends, and with regard to the navy. It was the feature of the election, the issue that had most to do with the result in Quebec, and because Mr. Borden, in his second manifesto, gave some indication that he was leaning towards the nationalists and their views.

But if Mr. Borden was silent—and he may have desired an opportunity for a further consideration of the case with his government—the papers that supported him in the election have been quite discursive. The Montreal Star revives the idea of giving the admiralty a present of Dreadnoughts—one or two a year at ten millions each—and borrowing the money in England and having the ships built there.

The Ottawa Journal disapproves of this proposal. It does not see any sense in building warships, with Eng-

lish money, in England, at the expense of Canada, and without any cost to Canada outside of the original investment. The maintenance of the navy, or that part of it built by Canada, on its order, would be an item of expense which Canada has no right to transfer to the mother country.

The Montreal Star's scheme is the one which Mr. Borden projected when he broke away from the plan of a Canadian navy. And agreed upon, unanimously, by the commonsense. It is not his scheme now. The Journal advocates a Canadian navy, built in Canada, with Canadian money, which will be available when the heavy expenditures in the Grand Trunk Pacific are at an end, and to be maintained by Canada.

This is practically the scheme of the Laurier government, and the scheme which appeals to the patriotism of the average Canadian.

MR. ROWELL AND REFORM.

Mr. Rowell, the leader of the opposition in Ontario, has issued an address which embodies most of the things for which the liberal party stands. It is a distinctly progressive policy, and its meaning will be made more apparent as he is able to elucidate it from time to time. What is more, it will be added to as circumstances demand.

The policy of no man and no party can be fixed. The world moves, and the individual must move with it. The Whitney government has done some good things. It has improved the liquor license law, it has entered upon and made some progress in prison reform, it has ended the book monopoly and given the people cheaper school books, it has developed the Niagara power, thanks to the persistent energy and persuasion of Hon. A. Beck, and it has extended the railway which the Ross government commenced, against strong opposition, and so opened up part of New Ontario, the richest part of this rich province.

But there are many things the Whitney government has not done, and for some of that neglect it is being sharply called to account by the conservative press. New Ontario must be further developed. Its splendid clay lands must be accessible to settlers. Its mining interests must be protected. The people, in many ways, which cannot be detailed here, demand an attention they have not received, and an attention of which there is very little hope from the government. In six and a half years there has been practically nothing done for New Ontario, and it is proposed now that a commission shall be appointed to investigate and report. A policy of evasion of delay, of inaction, Mr. Rowell promises that the party that he leads will change off this, and he is a man who can be trusted.

What else does he propose? He will amend the assessment law, and give the municipalities which desire it the opportunity to tax land and not the improvements upon it. Sir James Whitney has denied them this. Mr. Rowell will revive and reform the education department, which is now in the hands of an incompetent minister. How the premier can tolerate the Payne rule, which is not satisfying to any one, is hard to conceive. The department clearly wants a shaking up.

The license laws are susceptible of revision. The three-fifth clause must go. Sir James Whitney says no, but he shall discover, sooner or later, that he does not express public opinion upon this point. The liquor evils are gradually disappearing, but they would go the faster if the majority ruled in this as in other matters.

The public ownership of telephones is demanded, and the people will approve of this. There are many independent lines in Ontario. They mean a great convenience to the people. Why should the province now own the system and extend it as the times require? Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan have their telephone lines, under provincial jurisdiction. Why should Ontario lag behind in this respect? Still more, why should the power question be one for the municipalities to push and develop? Why should a great province, and possessing many valuable water powers, some of them under provincial control, be handicapped by the inertia of any municipality? The premier long since undertook to give the people power as "cheap as air," and he would not have given them power at any price if left to himself. Mr. Beck has been bringing credit to the government through a commission, and some conservative papers fear that there will be a change for the worse if the commission be abolished and its business transferred over to a power department.

What the province wants, what it must have, and what it will get from the liberals, under Mr. Rowell, is a conservation of the natural resources, cheap power in every direction, railway expansion in New Ontario, good roads, education, agricultural and technical, for the benefit of the boys on the farm and in the shop, better laws and a better enforcement of them, a civil service that will be efficient and free from political eruptions, and mining laws that the public can understand and respect.

Some of the conservative papers say that Mr. Rowell simply endorses some things that Sir James Whitney proposes. And a great deal more. Mr. Rowell advocates some things that Sir James Whitney refuses the people. Our leader is willing to take advanced ground and give the people, at any time and in any way, the legislation which they demand, and sooner or later he will be in a position to fully gratify them.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Watch Sir James Whitney and see if he does not issue a second or supplementary address before the election. Things have been moving rapidly since Mr. Rowell became the leader of the liberal party in Ontario.

Lindsay has an industrial council, and an industrial commission has been appointed. Cheap power has been secured, and large sums have been subscribed to develop a boom. Another pointer to our people to get busy.

The Toronto World wants the Hydro-Electric Commission retained under Hon. Mr. Beck, while he may be made minister of power. But there is to be a power department, and would it and the commission not have to do with the same things?

So the British constitution is to be the basis and model of the government in China. How some Americans

must be disappointed, especially those who were telling us that the founders of the republic had, by their handiwork, been doing wonders for the world.

The conservatives of Ottawa are determined to force Sir James Whitney's hand on tax reform. Both candidates of the party are pledged to it, and must vote for tax reform if sent to the legislature. Will the premier surrender?

Some people do not like the idea of electing judges. They represent the political parties. Yes. But do not judges, when appointed by the government, represent political parties? Are not the men elevated to the bench usually the most active politicians? So that after all there is not a great difference between the American and Canadian practices.

TRAVERS NOT LIVING

IN ANY LUXURY IN THE JAIL IN TORONTO.

Governor Chambers Says Travers Gets No Whiskey That Was Not Ordered by the Jail Doctor.

Toronto, Nov. 8.—W. R. Travers is a Dominion government prisoner, and his detention at Toronto jail is at the request of the Toronto detective department and in the interests of justice. He will be a witness in the criminal assizes, when the Farmers' Bank cases come to trial there shortly. There is just enough truth in the story to make the newspaperman with the needed outlook relish it.

This spoke Rev. Dr. A. B. Chambers, governor of Toronto jail, referring to an article in a Hamilton paper, stating that W. R. Travers gets special favors, and was living in luxury at Toronto jail. It will be news to the general public to know that Travers is at Toronto jail. It was generally thought that he was at the provincial penitentiary.

According to a discharged prisoner, when Travers gets up in the morning he can look out of either of five windows which he has in his cell, while other prisoners are glad to get a glimpse of the sun through one small window. All other prisoners must make their own beds and clean out their cells. Not so with Travers. His "servant," as he calls him, must make Travers' bed, clean his cell and make him comfortable, while Travers smokes a good cigar and yokes about his imprisonment. Then he has a drink of whiskey. If any other prisoner in any jail were found drinking whiskey he would be punished severely and the man who gave it to him would be taken into custody.

Governor Chambers denied extravagance and distribution of tips. The prisoner spoken of, according to Dr. Chambers, was simply in charge of the hospital ward in which Travers is detained. Travers got no whiskey that was not ordered by the jail doctor.

THE WHIG'S PUZZLE.

Can You Guess What the Picture Represents?



What kind of jelly? The answer to Monday's puzzle was Gertrude.

PUBLIC OPINION

Another Warning. Peterboro Examiner. A man in San Francisco has died from excessive smoking at the age of 100 years. Please write plainly.

Railway Travelling in India. Toronto Globe. Three miles for a cent is about the rate of fare on a government railway in India. Still there is a large proportion forced to walk on account of the cost of riding.

The Ideal Referendum. Toronto Telegram. The sort of referendum that Canadians expect at the hands of Hon. H. L. Borden, is a chance to vote for the abolition of Bourassa, Monk & Co., as well as the demolition of the new Canadian navy.

Ministry No Attraction. Montreal Herald. Bishop Farthing suggests that Canadian fathers should encourage their sons to look to the ministry as a vocation. Excellent advice; but at the present scale of clerical salaries, the father should make quite sure first that he is never likely to be dependent on his son for his support in his old age.

Mr. White Too Fast. Montreal Gazette. Mr. White, the new minister of finance, is quoted as saying that he favors government ownership. He may study closely the record of the inter-colonial, on which more has to be spent every year than it earns, or of the Prince Edward Island railway, which eats up \$1.25 in running expenses to meet \$1.00 in revenue. It can be ventured that with his training this is not the kind of thing he likes.

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