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RICHIBUCTO, N. B. JUNE 28, 1900. A NEGATIVE PLATFORM.

As we pointed out in our last issue, the Conservative party has been content to merely negative every action of their opponents without attempting to frame a policy upon which to appeal to the people of Canada.

1. "The Government" never "broke a contract for a fast Atlantic mail service," because no such contract ever existed, and the opposition of the Conservatives to such a service has had much to do with the delay in making a contract.

2. "The Government" never "broke an arrangement by which the Crow's Nest Pass Ry. was to be constructed for \$1,600,000 and made another that cost the country \$3,600,000."

5. "The Government" never "filled the Yukon country with officials whose conduct was so scandalous that the greatest journal of opinion in England said 'the relations between people and rulers in that section of the British Empire were everything that they should not be.'"

of coal lands which had been grabbed by a Land Company controlled by the C. P. R., were turned over to the Government in trust for the people of Canada; the price of the coal output from the balance of the coal lands fixed at a low price; freight rates on the Crow's Nest Pass Ry. placed under Government control; 3 cents a bushel taken off grain freight rates on the whole C. P. R. system which alone represents last year a saving to the people of \$750,000; other freights reduced from 10 per cent to 30 per cent.; and an agreement made that any other railway building up to the Crow's Nest Pass has the right of passage over the new railway.

3. "The Government" never bought from a political supporter at a price far above its cash cost "the Drummond County Railway and then bonused another railway to take trade away from it," as charged by the Gazette. The cost of the Drummond County Railway was \$12,000 a mile, while the engineers examined testified under oath that it would cost \$16,000 to \$17,000 a mile to construct it.

This, like the Crow's Nest Ry. charge is one that the Liberals may be proud of and certainly nothing has strengthened the confidence of the country in the Government so much as the purchase of the Drummond County Railway and the extension of the I. C. R. to Montreal.

4. "The Government" never "made a contract without tenders being asked, for the construction of a railway into the Yukon country, pledging as a bonus millions upon millions of square miles of land in the great gold bearing region, a contract so bad that the whole people revolted against it."

5. "The Government" never "instituted a splurge preferential tariff system from which Canada has not received and cannot receive any commercial advantage, and which cannot be made effective of its pretended purpose, except at the risk of Canadian industries."

9. "The Government" never "put an insulting 'no precedent' proviso in the order in Council authorizing the despatch of Canadian soldiers to the war in South Africa."

were committed have promptly punished the official. The fact is that with the problem of governing a section thousands of miles from the populated centres of Canada in which there was no telegraphic or mail accommodations, filled in large part with the off-scourings of American mining camps, the Government maintained order, established legal tribunals, built telegraph lines, provided mail accommodation and police protection, and all without calling on the Canadian people for a single dollar.

6. "The Government" never "refused a public, independent enquiry into the conduct of these officials though charges were made against them by name on the floor of Parliament by a member of the Privy Council." The Government had Mr. Ogilvy, whose name is a guarantee of honor and integrity in Canada, make a thorough public investigation of the so-called charges within two days after they received a copy of the charges published in the Yukon Nugget newspaper.

7. "The Government" never "bungled its tariff legislation so that Canadian grain was shut out of the German market." On the contrary the abolition of the German treaties while of immense benefit to Canada in other ways, did not decrease the export of Canadian grain to Germany.

8. "The Government" never "instituted a splurge preferential tariff system from which Canada has not received and cannot receive any commercial advantage, and which cannot be made effective of its pretended purpose, except at the risk of Canadian industries."

When the Conservatives were in power "Canada had nothing to do with Britain's brawls" to use their own leader's words, and it needed a Liberal Administration to give the first assistance ever rendered the Empire in her time of need.

The other eight charges are glittering generalities bristling with falsehoods which contradict themselves. In our next issue we will however take them up seriatim to prove to our readers that while this Tory champion in the language of Mark Twain is "a picturesque liar," he is neither ingenious nor difficult of refutation.

OTTAWA LETTER.

OTTAWA, 22nd June, 1900.—A spell of hot weather having set in there has grown up a strong disposition among the Conservative members to close up the business promptly and get away home.

It is understood that Sir Charles Tupper intends to leave for England at the end of the month, and if it had not been for this there is no telling how much longer the House would have been kept in session.

In a previous letter I referred to the charges which had been made in respect of the emergency food supplied to the Canadian soldiers who were sent to South Africa.

to the Minister. When the case was first brought an effort was made to show that the emergency rations were fraudulent; they were not what they were represented to be, and that the Minister had been guilty of culpable negligence in the matter.

The whole case will turn very largely upon the merits of the food in actual use, and as I intimated last week not a syllable of information has come from South Africa on the subject. No one knows at this moment whether the rations have been used by our soldiers, or with what result.

No one can say what is the precise value of any particular article of food in an emergency. The whole subject turns upon theories, and experts are by no means agreed in relation to actual values.

The charges made in the House contain the statement that the food purchased by the Government cost \$2 per pound, while it was not worth more than 30 cents. This allegation was based upon the fact that the Customs entry was at 30 cents per pound.

The sole aim which the Conservatives had in view was to reach the Minister of Militia; but in this they have entirely failed. The Minister acted from start to finish on the advice of his chief medical officer, who had made elaborate and thorough tests of the emergency rations.

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American war many frauds were imposed upon the Government of the United States and every one knows that in one of the Sudan campaigns the Imperial War Office was served with worthless bayonets.

On looking at the details of exports for the past eleven months, it is seen that \$8,613,218 was the increase in farm products, which rather disposes of the notion which Mr. Foster has tried to inculcate that our farmers were getting nothing out of the prevailing prosperity.

Mr. John R. Smith, Lake Stream, N. B., says: "From my own personal experience I willingly testify with good effects of Laxa-Liver Pills for Sick Headache, constipation."