

## IN ANOTHER'S HAND



## What is Thought at Ottawa Of Our Provincial Election

**The Borden Government Will Disclaim Responsibility for the Disaster to Its Donkey Engine---Has Sins Enough to Answer For---Seven of the Nine Provinces Will Now Have Liberal Governments.**

(By H. F. Gadsby.)

Ottawa, March 10.—Most prognosticators take the New Brunswick provincial election to be another bit of writing on the wall, but the Toronto News does not look at it that way. It is out to prove that straws do not show which way the wind blows. As the Toronto News, perhaps more than any other Conservative paper in Canada, gets its gospel straight from the Ottawa fountain head, its attitude toward Conservative disasters in the provinces may be accepted as the official one.

What is the official attitude of the Borden government toward the misfortunes of its political brethren in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia—seven provinces out of nine—all of which maintain Liberal governments? How does the Borden Government explain the debacles in New Brunswick, Manitoba and British Columbia, which within the last year have turned out Conservative governments to put Liberal ones in? Why, simply enough! They are going to argue that they're like the works of the watch—have nothing to do with the case.

### Known by Their Sins.

The sins of Conservative governments in New Brunswick, Manitoba and British Columbia are to be on their own heads. Most people were of the opinion that their close connection with the Borden government helped to plaster them with the Allison and other scandals.

If the Borden government played fair it would share the Roblin government's sins, the Bowser government's sins, and the New Brunswick government's sins, but the Borden government won't have it that way. It takes the ground that it has sins enough of its own and that the unlucky provinces will have to do their own repenting. The Borden government is not accepting any odium that can be unloaded somewhere else.

Most people have the right idea that

the result in New Brunswick was a sort of personal triumph for Frank Carvell, who had beared ex-Premier Flemming in his lair and fought him to a finish. But the News states that the province was corrupt anyway and that this is a welcome sign of a change of heart. In this way the blame is shifted from the New Brunswick government in particular to the province of New Brunswick in general.

### Thrown to the Wolves.

Similarly the late Roblin government is thrown to the wolves, the News declaring that any people that would stand for the Roblin government would show "a complete want of spirit and conscience." Evidently the News is out to bury Caesar, not to praise him. These open confessions are good for the soul, but bad for the morale of the Conservative party. The News does not include the Hon. Robert Rogers in its Manitoba repudiations. If it were questioned on this point it would probably say that the Roblin government went to the demerit bow-wows only after the Honorable Bob left it.

A kinder tone is adopted to the late Bowser government. In the process of saving itself from its friends, the Borden government will kick it downstairs too, but not so forcibly as it does New Brunswick and Manitoba. The News is inclined to divide the blame for Bowser's downfall into three parts—Sir Richard McBride, a bursted land boom and certain mistakes of administration. The News admits mistakes—for example land and financial exploitation—but considers that the "people themselves were more responsible than the ministers at Victoria." In short, it passes the buck again—puts it up to the common people. Incidentally one wonders if the people of British Columbia were more responsible than Sir Richard McBride for unloading a brace of asthmatic submarines on the Dominion government for about \$400,000 more than their catalogue price.

One way and another, the signs mul-

tiply that when a general election comes on the Borden government's policy will be to deny everything. It will even the high cost of living as the direct outcome of its high tariff policy. It will blame it on the war and a general shortage in the food supply.

Of course it will not go on to explain that perhaps 50 per cent. of the shortage is caused by its friends, the food barons, keeping the stuff in cold storage and doling it out in limited quantities at famine prices. The Borden government cannot be expected to injure its benefactors by using the War Measures Act against them.

Each and every food baron, thanks to the Borden government, has had a chance to get rich quick since the war started. They took it in turn. By gradual increase it was discovered just how much the people could stand and when the level was reached where the people refused to buy, the best previous maximum was fixed as the price until the people got a little poorer and the price had to come down again.

Sugar, you will remember, was allowed to act that way with no interference from the Borden government, although the sugar refiners' sources of supply remained unaltered by the war.

### Brought to Time.

Bread started to behave badly and that would have been a very serious matter indeed. The people realized that the Borden government wouldn't do anything about it, except perhaps to let the Hon. Mr. Crothers play battledore with it, so they took it in hand themselves. The housewives started baking their own bread and the boycotted bakers soon came to time. The bakers came to time first and the millers next. When the bakers got mad enough the price of flour took a tumble, thus showing that all things work together for good when they are not allowed to work together against the best interests of the consumer. But no thanks is due to the Borden government for the reduced price of bread. It did not lift a finger to help.

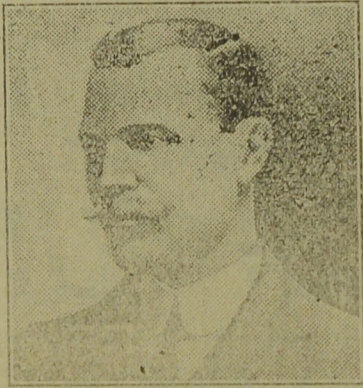
Owing to the splendid inaction of the Borden government, butter continues to have its own way—which indicates not that the butter is strong, but that the Borden government is weak.

The Hon. Martin Burrell has it in mind to be known as Butter's Best Friend. At all events he won't listen to any proposals to let oleomargarine in. The Hon. Martin Burrell is a better friend to butter than he is to the common people.

Speaking of Martin Burrell, there is his famous apple policy by and through

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which it is possible for Ontario people in an apple country like Western Ontario to get Ontario apples for five cents apiece, which is just what a prime California orange and an Oregon apple costs after paying freight from the Pacific coast, and three and three-quarters more than a banana costs after paying its way from the West Indies.

### Must Thank the War.

By means of this enlightened policy Ontario people are asked to eat British Columbia apples and no doubt British Columbia people are asked to eat Ontario ones. The longest way round is the shortest way home. Now that England has put an embargo on Canadian apples, the Canadian people may be able this fall to get Canadian apples at a more reasonable price—say two for five. But the Canadian consumer can thank the war for it, not the Borden government. According to the Borden government, all the home market deserves is the high prices and the scrubs.

Not to string it out too long—how about potatoes? In Canada potatoes are \$5 a bag. In war-stricken England, on short rations as she is, potatoes are a dollar and a quarter a bag. Such are the benefits Canada derives from the Borden government. Never was Canada so dear to her people as she is now!

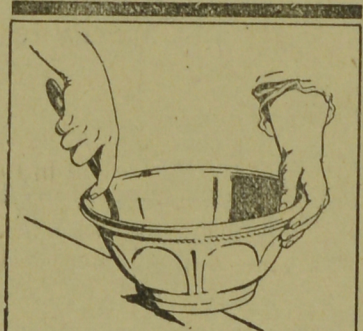
### POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

Self-love is the only kind that never gets cold feet.

Only a lot of cold cash can make an impression on a marble heart.

Kisses that are not intoxicating are the kind that drive a man to drink.

A woman can make a fool of almost any man if nature doesn't get the start of her.



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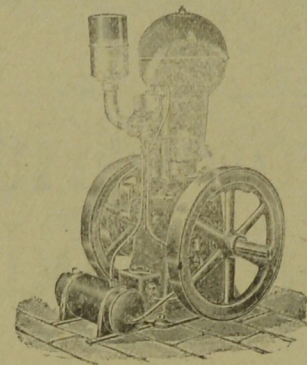
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