

ROBLIN-ROGERS MACHINE ON THE ROCKS AT LAST

Autocratic Tory Rule Comes to an End in Manitoba--Something About the Graft Charges Preferred
By Mr. A. B. Hudson.

Sir Rodmond Palen Roblin has autocratically ruled Manitoba. Under the form of Parliamentary Government he and the Hon. Robert Rogers exercised power as unlimited as that of any Czar of Kaiser. Whom they would they exalted, and whom they would they cast down. They created and maintained a political machine which had no counterpart anywhere else in Canada. During re-

cent elections the ruffians who served them were supplied with blank warrants, something after the fashion of the "lettres de cachet" of the Bourbon Kings, and when any political worker of the opposite side became obnoxious his name was inserted in the blank warrant and he was arrested and removed from the scene of his activities, bail being denied. By such means a government that had long outlived its popularity and usefulness was kept in power and sustained as an efficient ally of the Conservative Administration at Ottawa, to which Mr. Rogers transferred his services in October, 1911, because he "knew how to win elections."

And now Sir Rodmond Roblin, with a working majority of seven in a House of fifty-nine, resigns, and a new ministry, with Mr. T. C. Norris, the Liberal leader, as Premier, is in process of formation, and will shortly make appeal to the electorate. What does this revolutionary change mean? Why does a government

Nervous Prostration and Heart Troubles.

Nervous Prostration, or Neurasthenia, is one of the worst forms of nerve trouble and brings about a general weakness of the whole nervous system.

The symptoms presenting themselves are headache, a feeling of depression, disturbed and restless, unrefreshing sleep, often troubled with dreams, fright when in crowded places, dread of being alone, horror of society, fright at travelling, muscular weakness, sense of fatigue upon effort, etc.

When the nerves become affected in this way the heart generally becomes affected too.

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which went to the country less than a year ago and was sustained by a majority in the House—if not of the popular vote—retire from office so hurriedly? The answer is to be found in the appointment of a Royal Commission on April 20 to inquire into expenditures in connection with the erection of the new parliament buildings. Mr. A. B. Hudson, one of the Liberal members for Winnipeg, made charges in the Legislature to the effect that Thos. Kelly & Sons, contractors for the work, had been greatly overpaid for "extras" resulting from a change of plans calling for increased use of concrete. One specific charge was that in certain caissons the contractor had represented that there were 35,996 yards of concrete, and payment had been made on that basis, whereas there were in reality only 25,599 yards. The illegitimate profit altogether in connection with this concrete work Mr. Hudson estimated at \$320,905.40. In a general statement, Mr. Hudson summed up the undue profits made by Kelly & Sons, amounting in all to over \$850,000 as follows:

Shortage in cement, 13,732 cubic yards, at \$23.45 per yard	\$320,905
Excess profits, \$6.95 per yard on 22,261 cubic yards	154,714
Excess allowance for piling	99,866
Excess profits on north wing	177,090
Excess profit on south wing	88,050
Excess profits, third steel contract	16,575
Total	\$857,200

The Royal Commission of Inquiry was appointed, it is understood, as a result of pressure exercised by the Lieutenant-Governor. Since its appointment endeavors have been made through the courts, to prevent the Commission—which is composed of Chief Justice Mathers, Mr. Justice Macdonald and Sir Hugh John Macdonald—from proceeding. These having proved futile up to the present, it may be assumed that the Roblin Government has resigned in the expectation of transferring the consideration of the parliament building scandal from the calm atmosphere of a court of inquiry to the polls, where the Hon. Robt. Rogers is still powerful. In fact, however, of the charges made by so reputable a man as Mr. Hudson, it is scarcely possible that even so well disciplined an army as that which serves the Roblin-Rogers combination in Manitoba could avert over-whelming defeat at the polls. It is stated in a despatch from Winnipeg that some members of the Roblin Government will resign their seats as well as their portfolios, and will not seek reelection, although disclaiming participation in wrong-doing. They evidently consider the handwriting on the wall too plain to be misinterpreted.

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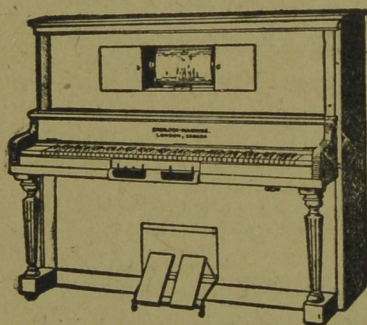
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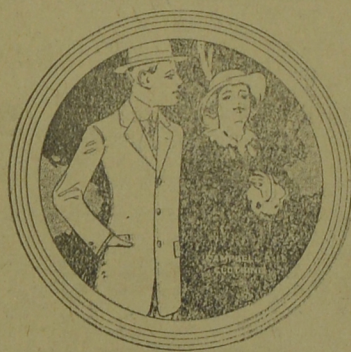
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"Never lock the barn door after the horse has been stolen" Do not cry over spilt milk" The same may be said in reference to Insurance. The fire at Barkers Point a short time ago that destroyed 3 houses and several other buildings might have been much worse. All that saved the Peppers Homestead was the fact that the dwelling had a **Metal Roof** on which the sparks alighted several times. Had the roof been of wood a serious fire would have been the result. "A stitch in time saves nine"

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